

Communication from Public

Name: Philip Owens

Date Submitted: 02/04/2025 12:55 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S35

Comments for Public Posting: A serious discussion needs to be had about the diametrically opposing needs of emergency vehicle access on Red Flag Parking restricted streets during Red Flag Days, yet needing families to be able to evacuate very quickly, while their cars are parked some distance away. On Jan 8th 2025, when the Sunset Fire started, I had to run approx 1/2 mile from my home on Gould Ave to Kirkwood Drive to retrieve my parked car so that we could evacuate, while the smoke and flames were appearing across the canyon above Mt.Olympus. But much more concerning, during the night in the next Red Flag period at the end of January, a vehicle fire occurred on Laurel Canyon Blvd, immediately below our house. That fire was quickly extinguished, but had it happened during the 1/8 windstorm, Laurel Canyon would have been engulfed in flames incredibly quickly and we would have likely had less than five minutes to evacuate. Again, our car was parked on Kirkwood, because it was a Red Flag Parking period. Because that would have been in the direction of the flames, we could not have reached it. This particular event would likely have led to a considerable loss of life on Gould Ave, Mannix Ave, Little Laurel Canyon Blvd and adjacent streets, had it happened during the massive windstorm.

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Thomas

Date Submitted: 02/05/2025 11:44 AM

Council File No: 25-0006-S35

Comments for Public Posting: Writing to voice my full support for the motion to improve and expand the red flag warning system. The more that I hear from public health experts regarding the air quality in the wake of the fires, the more that I am convinced something like this is deeply necessary. Personally I am very concerned for the health of the kids in schools all over the city. LAUSD Schools rushed back to outdoor play, and when I spoke to my own kids' school officials, as well as the OEHS, I have been startled by how they have been unable to answer what I saw as basic questions -- such as above what AQI level are indoor play protocols triggered, and what is being done to monitor the wind and air quality situation as cleanup efforts ensue. An expanded red flag warning system would help parents and school officials to keep our children safe as healthy and would also help keep all of our citizens safe and healthy. Thank you, -Andrew Thomas

Communication from Public

Name: Michael MacNeil

Date Submitted: 02/04/2025 11:12 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S35

Comments for Public Posting: Red Flag parking restrictions are completely backward. After years of complaining, I finally gave up. They DON'T make our streets safer, they DON'T make the traffic smoother, and they DON'T allow the fire department to drive faster on the last block of their journey. They ARE, however, tortuously burdensome for the residents. Beyond outrage, I have stopped any more seemingly futile attempts to explain the situation to policymakers.... :(