

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Robert Gutierrez

**Date Submitted:** 08/27/2023 04:48 PM

**Council File No:** 21-1072

**Comments for Public Posting:** Sunset for All I am writing the council today to urge the completion of the Sunset for All proposal to make bike lanes on Sunset blvd parking protected and to extend these protections to the Vermont/ Santa Monica blvd metro rail station. I am a Silver Lake resident and live above Sunset blvd. in the center of the proposed project area. This stretch of blvd attracts tons of economic activity and generates a disproportionate tax revenue for its size. It attracts shoppers and visitors to stroll our stretch of road despite the loud traffic noise, the stress of proximity to impatient, aggressive and often reckless driving and relatively sparse parking. What attracts so many to our neighborhood is that the pedestrian experience, although lacking, is one of the better ones the city has to offer. This proposal would create a barrier to protect pedestrians and cyclists and break down the sense of unease that people feel when intermingled with loud and aggressive car traffic. People clearly stay longer in environments where they feel comfortable and people are attracted to congregate where others are already present. What Sunset blvd could use is more foot traffic and less car traffic. And businesses generate more sales from access to foot traffic than they do from access to parking. The Sunset for All proposal could fortify the already above average pedestrian experience at very little cost and should be implemented immediately. Many new large scale developments are under way on stretch of road and Sunset for All could better position the city and local residents to optimize the returns on these investments. Other than construction costs, the only disadvantage that the neighborhood faces is the loss of very few parking spaces. Residents of the neighborhood don't park along Sunset and prefer to walk to local establishments when we can, despite the noise, stress and dangers. An additional buffer and barrier against them would pay dividends. Many studies have shown that foot traffic is a much better generator of business than parking spaces. Once again I urge you to act swiftly in implementing Sunset for All. Thank you for your time, Robert Gutierrez