

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to conducting a feasibility study in connection with closing Grand Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street, Broadway between 3rd Street and 4th Street, and Traction Avenue between 3rd Street and Hewitt Street to car traffic.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (De Leon – Price):

1. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to report in regard to the resources needed to conduct a feasibility study, in coordination with community stakeholders, of closing Grand Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street, Broadway between 3rd Street and 4th Street, and Traction Avenue between 3rd Street and Hewitt Street to car traffic, limiting the streets to transit, cyclists and pedestrians only.
2. DIRECT that the feasibility study consider a phased-in approach that initially closes identified segments on select days and times only and increases closure durations pending successful implementation of the pilot site selection criteria and provide a list of suitable pilot program.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On October 19, 2021, the Transportation Committee considered a Motion (De Leon – Price) relative to conducting a feasibility study in connection with closing Grand Avenue between 1st Street and 2nd Street, Broadway between 3rd Street and 4th Street, and Traction Avenue between 3rd Street and Hewitt Street to car traffic. According to the Motion, as the fastest growing neighborhood in Los Angeles and a job hub for Southern California, Downtown Los Angeles is a key player in the development of the region. With a dramatic increase in housing production and regional destinations such as The Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Downtown has been considered the place to be and an example of what Los Angeles can be.

The rapid growth in Downtown has dramatically increased the amount of people who walk on its streets every day. Combined with a multitude of restaurants and shops that line Downtown's streets, pedestrian friendly has become the new normal. This has increased the demand for car free areas, as evidenced by the first Ciclavia taking place in Downtown. While one-off events are welcome, a more permanent car-free experience is needed for high pedestrian volume locations within Downtown. The city should examine locations in Downtown that can be closed to vehicular traffic in order to provide additional space for pedestrians and prioritize any travel lanes for transit vehicles only. After further consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the

Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion, as detailed above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Transportation Committee

COUNCILMEMBER VOTE

BONIN: YES

KORETZ: YES

BUSCAINO: ABSENT

ARL

10/19/21

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-