



November 15, 2017

Councilmember José Huizar
2035 Colorado Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90041
Attn: Sean Starkey

Re: Traffic Safety - Yosemite Drive

Dear Councilmember Huizar:

On October 6, 2017, a car driver struck two Eagle Rock High School students while they were crossing at a marked crosswalk at the intersection of Yosemite Drive and Vincent Avenue. The students were rushed to a hospital, with one of them suffering a concussion and a fractured knee. The collision, while jarring, is not unique. Several traffic crashes have occurred in recent years on Yosemite Drive. In fact, the section of Yosemite where the incident occurred is part of a citywide "High Injury Network," meaning it one of the most dangerous street segments in the entire city according to analyses from the Department of Transportation. As such, traffic safety concerns on Yosemite Drive are not isolated to a single intersection, but rather reflect a broader problem requiring a corridor-wide approach.

In light of traffic safety concerns on Yosemite Drive, as highlighted most recently by the incident that occurred on October 6, 2017, TERA would like to see appropriate, short-term measures to improve safety along this important neighborhood corridor, including but not limited to:

- upgrading existing standard crosswalks to continental crosswalks at signalized and un-signalized intersections
- installing "State Law Yield to Pedestrian" signs at un-signalized, marked crosswalks

In collaboration with local partners and stakeholders, TERA would like to explore long-term safety solutions as well which may require greater community input, discussion, and funding. Potential long-term safety measures to consider could include:

- Curb extensions
- Bioswales
- Bike lanes
- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)

- Crossing refuge islands
- Other context sensitive traffic calming measures

Installing pedestrian safety and traffic calming measures would be consistent with existing City policies and goals. The City's Mobility Plan 2035 identifies Yosemite Drive as part of a "Neighborhood Enhanced Network," meaning the street intended to prioritize active travel and neighborhood safety on this residential street. As noted previously, a portion of Yosemite Drive is also included in the City's Vision Zero "High Injury Network" due to the many severe crashes that occur on the street. Yosemite Drive is also identified in the City's 2010 Bicycle Plan as a neighborhood bike route. These various designations reflect an opportunity to address neighborhood safety concerns while implementing broader City policy initiatives.

I look forward to working with your office, as well as other stakeholders, to address these concerns and improve safety for students, pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. Thank you, as always, for serving our community.

Sincerely,



Greg Merideth
President

cc: Lisa Kable-Blanchard, President, Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council
David Greene, Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council
Mylene Keipp, Principal, Eagle Rock Junior/Senior High School