

Dear Councilmembers Ryu and O'Farrell,

I want to keep the current lane configuration along Rowena Avenue, as well as implement a number of additional safety improvements to this and adjacent streets. A recent Rowena/Waverly/Angus Cut-Through Traffic Study, commissioned by Councilmember Ryu, suggests changes to Rowena, and I want to make it clear that I oppose any change to Rowena's current lane configurations.

Several years ago, the City restriped Rowena to remove a mixed-traffic travel lane in each direction, replacing it with a single travel lane in each direction, a new middle turn lane, and new bike lanes in both directions. These improvements have reduced speeding and reduced injuries all while the number of motor vehicles traveling along Rowena increased. In other words, the improvements are working as intended. And we can do even more – but we should not revert any portion of Rowena to a less-safe configuration, which will endanger our children and people biking along this street.

Some of the improvements from the study that I would like to see implemented on Rowena and surrounding streets include:

- Adding marked crosswalks and pedestrian-controlled signals at Avenal and Rowena and/or Herkimer and Rowena, where a large number of pedestrians already cross daily;
- Adding more lighting where there continues to be poor visibility along Rowena – namely in front of and across the street from Edendale Grill and the Wolf Down restaurant where both valets and customers often cross and at the corner of W. Silver Lake and Rowena
- Designating parts of Angus as a one way street with appropriate signage and barriers, which would effectively stop “cut-through” traffic without too much disruption for residents;
- Adding a physical barrier at Waverly and Rokeby, which would reduce cut-through traffic traveling to/from Rowena; and,
- Adding peak-hour turn restrictions onto Angus and Scotland at Griffith Park Blvd during rush hour.

I additionally would like to see the following safety improvements implemented:

- Adding a Leading Pedestrian Interval at the light at W. Silver Lake and Rowena. This will give those crossing Rowena a safe head start before car traffic can enter the intersection. Adding a “No Right Turn on Red” sign between 7 am & 9 am and 2 pm & 4 pm would further make this intersection safer for the students at Ivanhoe and their parents;
- Adding a traffic signal at Waverly and Glendale to create a safe crossing for students and parents at P.L.A.Y. preschool;
- Adding a pedestrian-controlled signalized crosswalk mid-block on Rowena between W. Silver Lake and Lakewood, which would serve patrons of the restaurants and retail shops on Rowena.

Finally, should either of your offices pursue any changes to Rowena's current lane configurations, I expect you to demonstrate how this would improve safety and cut-through traffic. The study commissioned by Councilmember Ryu makes no assertion relating to cut-through traffic, and it also does not address the question of safety impacts along Rowena that will result by adding back mixed-traffic travel lanes. The current lane configuration has demonstrably improved safety; therefore, eliminating some or all of it would necessarily make our streets less safe.

I look forward to hearing about your support for the safety improvements along Waverly and Angus, and for keeping the life-saving lane configuration on Rowena. I will be staying updated on this issue and participating at every opportunity I can to ensure that your office understands and appreciates the importance I place on the safety of Rowena as it relates to my own well-being and the well-being of my family, friends, neighbors, and community.

Thank you.

Best regards,

NAME

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