



## PUBLIC COMMENT

# MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION MEETING

August 20, 2024

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Distributor	Document
1	<b>General Public Comment</b>	South Pas Active Streets	Email to Commission

## Comment on Agenda Item 2: Marengo Ave Safety Assessment

South Pas Active Streets <[REDACTED]>  
via gmail.com

Mon 8/19/2024 8:18 PM

To: MTIC Public Comments <mticpubliccomments@southpasadenaca.gov>

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Dear Commissioners,

We are writing to comment on Agenda Item 2 of the August 20th, 2024 MTIC meeting (Marengo Avenue Safety Assessment).

We thank the city for initiating this study. Marengo Avenue, as with many of our city's streets, knows the danger of streets that prioritize vehicular convenience over our safety. We believe the traffic calming measures are urgently needed throughout our city. No street knows this better than Marengo, which suffered the recent tragic loss of lives at the hands of a reckless driver.

However, we are disheartened to see that the proposed plan relies heavily on law enforcement rather than engineering solutions. Despite hundreds of tickets issued by the South Pasadena Police Department, speeding and reckless driving persist on Marengo. This study notes that 7%, one in 14 drivers, is speeding over 35 mph on Marengo – that's 200 people per day. Enforcement cannot catch them all, unless it is automated -- this is still years away from a reality.

We can build a safer road environment today with proven traffic calming measures. We urge the commission to prioritize the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists by implementing a more robust traffic calming plan. Speed humps, raised crosswalks, leading pedestrian intervals, and bulb outs are proven strategies to slow traffic and improve safety. Pasadena is aggressively implementing these measures and its residents are living better lives because of it.

Ironically, this study recommends placing one of the most vulnerable road users in new jeopardy by suggesting that 190 feet of bike lane be removed. Members of our group ride north on Marengo Ave as part of a "bike bus" to Marengo Elementary School. They already feel endangered by the fact that the bike lane disappears as riders approach Huntington from the south and north. The suggestion of removing 190 feet of bike lane north of Huntington is completely counterproductive and will only increase the risk for families trying to get to school. The report provides no measurement of the road width and why it is too narrow to include the bike lane. We ask the city to consider realigning the bike lane near the red curb. This would allow the one lane near Huntington to be preserved and allow the city to fully implement the lanes for both north and southbound cyclists. This intersection is wide enough to accommodate these changes, and it is disappointing that the report failed to consider this opportunity to improve safety.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to South Pasadena.

South Pas Active Streets