

**DIRECTORS MOTION:** April Peterson & Carolyn Honda

**TITLE:** Marina Central Park Feasibility Study- Community Impact Statement

**PURPOSE:** To request that Traci Park, and the Department of Planning oppose the funding of the Marina Central Park Feasibility Study

**BACKGROUND:** Urban design firm, SWA, and Los Angeles nonprofit, Streets for All, have partnered and created a project called [Marina Central Park](#). The project will change the Marina Freeway (CA-90) into a 128-acre multi-use park to be comprised of a park, housing and fewer transportation lanes.

A \$2 MILLION DOLLAR feasibility study is requested. This project would be an extreme negative impact on the neighborhoods of Del Rey, Playa Vista, Fox Hills, Ladera Heights, Westchester, Villa Marina, Marina del Rey and Mar Vista. The freeway is used daily for approx. 80K residents who use it to move east and west from the Marina del Rey and neighboring neighborhoods to get to the 405 fwy and to get to areas of work and business including Fox Hills, Ladera Heights, etc.

Background on the Marina Freeway:

It is currently 3.1 miles long, built from the Slauson Blvd., intersects with the 405 north and south, and to Marina del Rey.

The 90 Freeway handles a considerable volume and connects the 405 to the Marina area along with the increasingly dense surrounding areas.

Removing the freeway would force cut through traffic to surrounding surface streets including those within Del Rey, Playa Vista, Fox Hills, Ladera Heights, Westchester, Villa Marina, Marina del Rey and Mar Vista, which are already overburdened with traffic due to rapid growth. Those neighborhoods consist of small narrow family residential streets. Cut through traffic would ruin the quality of life and tone of the neighborhoods that are very important to the community. Cut through would also compromise the safety of the residents, as drivers would be frustrated and in a hurry.

The project leadership- the Architect firm SWA and Streets for All are planning to apply for a federal grant, Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant, which is specifically to fund projects that are “removing, retrofitting, or mitigating highways or other transportation facilities.”

While this feasibility study has the support from many people with power across the city and across the state, feedback from the surrounding neighborhoods, including Del Rey, Playa Vista, Fox Hills, Ladera Heights, Westchester, Villa Marina, Marina del Rey and Mar Vista, is also critical to be shared. Many times, our neighborhood has seen the acquiescence to feasibility study, turn into a pilot and then to an installed project, serving a specific agenda, that is not reflective of the current neighborhood’s desires.

If our neighborhoods desire is to retain the 90 freeway, then an expensive feasibility study proposed by SWA and Streets for All is not needed. We also need to mention that the two entities that imagines this project, would also be the recipients of the 2 million dollar grant and would also conduct the study. Needless to say, it seems that the study would be skewed from the start.

While the Marina Freeway does not directly cross through our neighborhood there are still many potential impacts on health, housing, mobility connectivity, and sustainability for our neighborhood.

Therefore, Mar Vista Community Council opposes the pursuit of a feasibility study.

**THE MOTION:** The Mar Vista Community Council opposes the pursuit of a feasibility study for the Marina Central Park project as the existing freeway serves as vital transportation link on the Westside for residents, businesses and visitors, and should remain as a freeway. An expensive study is not needed to allow it to remain a freeway.

**DIRECTED TO:**

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