

Sarah Godinez

From: Brian Yamaguchi [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 1:15 PM
To: City Clerk
Cc: Brian.Yamaguchi
Subject: Public Comment - Agenda Item AR-2 - Monrovia Comprehensive Street Improvement Project

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Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong support for the implementation of parts of the Pedestrian Safety Plan, specifically the Crosswalk Striping/Decorative Treatments section, which was approved by Council on September 2, 2022. As the Monrovia Comprehensive Street Improvement Project progresses, I urge the City Council to take this opportune moment to introduce higher visibility markings, such as continental crosswalks, in the upcoming street repaving efforts.

The Crosswalk Striping/Decorative Treatments section of the Pedestrian Safety Plan emphasizes the importance of the crosswalk design's impact on its effectiveness. Continental crosswalks, with evenly spaced large white (or yellow for Safer Routes To School locations) bars that are perpendicular to the pedestrian path of travel and without parallel lines in the same direction, have proven to enhance pedestrian safety in various cities. These crosswalks create a clear visual pattern that is easily identifiable as a pedestrian facility, making pedestrians more visible to drivers. Furthermore, by implementing the stop bar for vehicles five to eight feet behind the crosswalk, the delineation of the pedestrian crossing area is significantly improved.

I have recently observed that during the paving project at Mountain Avenue and Royal Oaks Drive, the contractor installed the older style of crosswalks with two parallel stripes. This missed opportunity to apply the pedestrian safety plan's recommendations raises concerns about the city's commitment to prioritizing pedestrian safety and embracing modern approaches to traffic management.



Considering the upcoming repaving of streets, the need for crosswalk repainting is inevitable. This presents a cost-effective and practical opportunity for Monrovia to align with the approved Pedestrian Safety Plan and introduce the visually effective continental crosswalks. By doing so, we can take a proactive step towards ensuring safer pedestrian experiences and minimizing the risk of accidents at various intersections throughout the city.

I understand that street improvement projects are complex and require careful planning, but investing in pedestrian safety is essential for fostering a vibrant and thriving community. By adopting the continental crosswalk pattern, Monrovia can lead by example and inspire other cities to prioritize pedestrian safety in their urban planning initiatives as well.

I kindly request that the Council seriously considers my plea to implement the Pedestrian Safety Plan's recommendations during the Monrovia Comprehensive Street Improvement Project. Let us work together to create a city where all residents and visitors feel safe while walking and crossing our streets. Together we can improve safety, reduce lawsuits, practice fiscal responsibility and save lives.

Sincerely,
Brian Yamaguchi