

From: Lisa Novick <lisa.novick@att.net>  
To: cityclerk@longbeach.gov,  
Date: 09/30/2013 09:05 PM  
Subject: Please Vote NO on the 710/210 Freeway Connection

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Dear City Clerk Herrera,

I am writing to urge a **NO** vote on the proposed 710/210 freeway connection. The proposed tunnel connection is an antiquated 19<sup>th</sup> century “solution” to the congestion at the end of the 710 freeway. Better, forward-thinking solutions exist: clean, electric light-rail; bus rapid-transit; and Transportation System and Transportation Demand Management. All these approaches would make it possible to move people to their destinations through the existing “gap” without literally paving the way for thousands more trucks to foul our air EVERY DAY along the 710 and 210 freeways.

I live in La Canada, and two of our public schools are literally adjacent to the 210 freeway, with four other schools within a quarter mile. The particulate air pollution is already a public health issue in our town. Our children have higher rates of asthma than children in many other cities, despite our relative affluence, good living conditions and medical care. I shudder to think of the devastating health impacts to our children if the 710/210 freeway connection goes through, which would put THOUSANDS MORE TRUCKS per day on the 210 freeway through our town due to the planned expansion of the ports of Long Beach and LA, if the freeway connection goes through. Public health officials say that anyone living within a half mile of a freeway is at a much higher risk for many health problems due to the toxicity of the emissions. **What does it say about us, as stewards of the next generation, if we approve the 710 tunnel extension when other alternatives are possible that will not detrimentally impact the health of our children?**

Building this freeway will not lessen freeway congestion as proven by the Missing Link Truck Study commissioned by SCAG (<http://tinyurl.com/q2398ox>) and by the LaCanada Flintridge analysis (<http://tinyurl.com/ohfs2qo>). Cut-through street congestion in the immediate area of the freeway will be a direct result of the tolls required. Regional air quality degradation that adversely affects the health and quality of life issues will occur due to the increase in truck traffic on the 710 and 210 freeways (see planned Long Beach/ LA ports expansion <http://tinyurl.com/gbpkrah>). The 210 Freeway has become a parking lot at various times of day since the 15 was connected to the 210. The 710 freeway connector would add 140,000 MORE vehicles -- this is no solution to congestion issues. This proposed extension is bad all the way around!

I urge you to demand progressive, outside-the-box thinking for the solutions to transportation issues in our region and to **REJECT the 710 freeway extension.**

Yours sincerely,  
Lisa Novick  
1111 Uintah Street  
La Canada, CA 91011  
(818) 952-4163