R-24 CORRESPONDENCE - Rock Miller

Rock Miller, P.E.
Orange CA 92869

November 29, 2015

Honorable Robert Garcia, Mayor Long Beach City Council

RE: TERMINAL ISLAND FREEWAY TRANSITION PLAN [GREEN TI]

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

As an experienced transportation planner and engineer, I am writing in support of the Terminal Island Freeway decommissioning. I have nearly four decades of experience working in transportation planning, design and traffic engineering in Southern California. In 2012, I was voted to serve as the International President of the 15,000-member Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). My work includes a wide variety of unique transportation projects, transportation policy plans, standards, and complex transportation studies.

I am very familiar with Long Beach and appreciate the City's goals toward improving livability for its residents. My work in Long Beach has included the planning and design of a number of pilot active transportation projects including the protected bike lanes in Downtown, the Vista Street Bike Boulevard and various street reconfigurations to increase safety and accessibility. I am aware of how some of Long Beach's under-utilized civic assets can better serve the community. These include the city-owned portion of the Terminal Island Freeway in West Long Beach. This roadway serves exceptionally low volumes of traffic, and alternative truck routes are available. Its decommissioning and repurposing of the land can create opportunities for active mobility options and provide ability to complete West Long Beach's local street grid. There is also a potential that decommissioning could actually improve performance of the transportation network.

Such a project would require further deign and study to determine what changes need to be made not only to the Terminal Island Freeway, but parallel and adjoining infrastructure. Study should be completed to determine the optimum design to best balance the local and regional transportation network, as well as best serve the surrounding community. I encourage the City Council to adopt the Green TI plan and take the next steps to determine how to make this community vision a reality.

Sincerely,

Rock Miller, P.E.

Registered Civil Engineer #29493 Registered Traffic Engineer #1139

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