

Mr. Tim Conger
Senior Transportation Engineer
100 S. Main St., 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Wilbur Avenue Speed Limit

Dear Mr. Conger:

The Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC) has reviewed the LADOT proposal to raise the speed limit on parts of Wilbur Avenue, as outlined in your letter to Pamela Bolin dated October 29, 2018. This proposal was met with unanimous disapproval by the NWNC board during our November 13 Board Meeting.

We understand that the city speed limits, per CVC Section 21400, must be based on the speed of 85% of cars surveyed. This logic is flawed, as it allows speed limits to be increased on smaller roads, like Wilbur, where current speed limits are not readily enforced, and there are very few visible speed limit postings. Just because 85% of motorists are speeding does not necessarily mean their speeds are appropriate.

Your letter's sixth paragraph states that "The role of LADOT is to ensure that...the speed limit does not compromise traffic safety". During the NWNC meeting, several board members living on or near Wilbur anecdotally noted the high rate of accidents and racing cars witnessed on Wilbur.

My own back yard borders Wilbur, near Chatsworth street, and over the past three years I have witnessed two severe accidents and heard others. The racing and accidents are a constant complaint among my neighbors. My wife was waiting on Wilbur at a red light, and a speeding driver rear-ended her causing a four car accident, totaling two of the cars and sending my wife for 3 months of physical therapy. It is the opinion of the board that increasing speed limits on Wilbur will only serve to increase and encourage careless driving, and endanger the safety of the public.

We sincerely request that LADOT reconsider the policy by which speed limits are established, and the proposal to increase the speed limit on Wilbur Avenue.

Respectfully.

Northridge West Neighborhood Council

By Gregory Kromhout, V.P. Administration, Northridge West Neighborhood Council

Cc: Councilmember Mitchell Englander