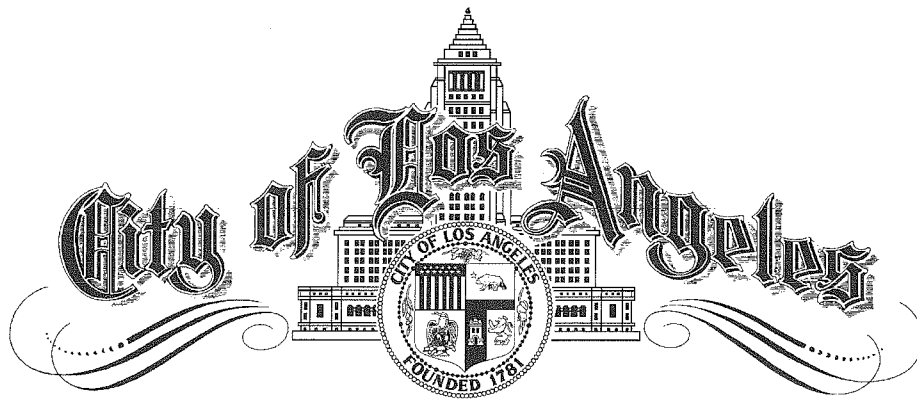


CITY HALL
200 N. Spring Street
Room 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7007
Fax (213) 847-0707



DISTRICT OFFICES:

Pacoima Office
13630 Van Nuys Blvd.
Pacoima, CA 91331
(818) 756-9115
(818) 756-9270 Fax

Sylmar Office
13517 Hubbard St.
Sylmar, CA 91342
(818) 756-8409
(818) 362-4857 Fax

RICHARD ALARCÓN

Councilmember
Seventh District

June 20, 2012

Mr. Jaime De La Vega
General Manager
Department of Transportation
100 South Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Safety of Horse Riders and Horses – Council File No. 12-0307-S1

Dear *Jaime* Mr. De La Vega:

On May 30, 2012, I presided over a special meeting of the Arts, Parks, Health and Aging (APHA) Committee to consider several council motions I have sponsored related to issues and concerns of Los Angeles's equestrian community. At the meeting, I heard significant public testimony from the equestrian community. Attached is a copy of my motion (under Council File No. 12-0307-S1) requesting a report on collisions involving horses and vehicles, and a plan to install at-grade road crossings where appropriate as public safety measures.

As a follow-up to the special meeting, I requested input from stakeholders on identifying specific locations which are utilized by the equestrian community and which they believe present safety hazards to horse riders, horses, bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists. In recent months, there have been collisions involving riders on horseback attempting to cross a street to a nearby equestrian trail which in many cases are only accessible by crossing a public street.

I would like to request LADOT in consultation with the Departments of City Planning and Recreation and Parks to review the attached list and map of street corridors and intersections which are based on community input. I invite LADOT's expert evaluation of the street intersections and corridors in terms of enhancing the safety of horse riders, horses, bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists; and request LADOT to present



Mr. Jaime De La Vega

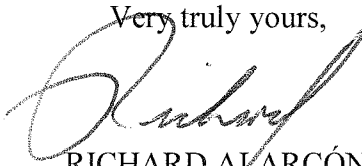
June 20, 2012

Page 2

its preliminary findings and recommendations to the APHA Committee at its regular meeting on August 7, 2012.

Please contact Gerald Gubatan of my staff at (213) 473-7007 if you have questions or need more information. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Richard Alarcón', written over a horizontal line.

RICHARD ALARCÓN
Councilmember, 7th District

RA:ggg

cc: Selwyn Hollins, Brian Gallagher, Department of Transportation
Michael LoGrande, Kenneth Bernstein, Anita Cerna, Department of City Planning
Dale Gibson, Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee
David DiPinto, Shadow Hills Property Owner's Association
Adam Lid, Office of the City Clerk

12-0307-51

ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH & AGING

ARTS
TRANSPORTATION

MOTION

MAY 09 2012

The City of Los Angeles has a large equine community, with thousands of horses and over 90 miles of equestrian trails, making horse riding one of the leading recreational activities in the City.

Many of the city's existing trails, some of which are operated by the Department of Recreation and Parks, are accessible only by main roads and highways, with very few crossings, leading to unsafe conditions for horses, their riders, and drivers using the roads.

According to members of the City of Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee, there have been several collisions between horse riders and motorists in the past few months involving riders on horseback attempting to cross a street to a nearby equestrian trail, particularly along Foothill Boulevard.

Street crossings ideally should be avoided where possible but would be safe to use if they are appropriately marked and controlled. The City should work to improve the safety of horses and their riders by installing at-grade road crossings at locations with a high number of collisions between horses and vehicles. Designing and constructing at-grade road crossings will require evaluating safety issues, trail user needs, design parameters, environmental concerns, and cost.

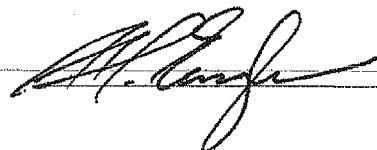
I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct Department of City Planning, with assistance from the Department of Transportation and Department of Recreation and Parks, and input from the Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee, to report to the Arts, Parks, Health and Aging Committee and the Planning and Land Use Management Committee on collisions involving horses and vehicles, including horse with vehicle collision and injury data, locations, and a plan to install at-grade road crossings in trail locations which will enhance safety, avoid collisions, and ensure that horse riding remains a leading recreational activity in the City of Los Angeles.

ORIGINAL

PRESENTED BY:


RICHARD ALARCON
Councilmember, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



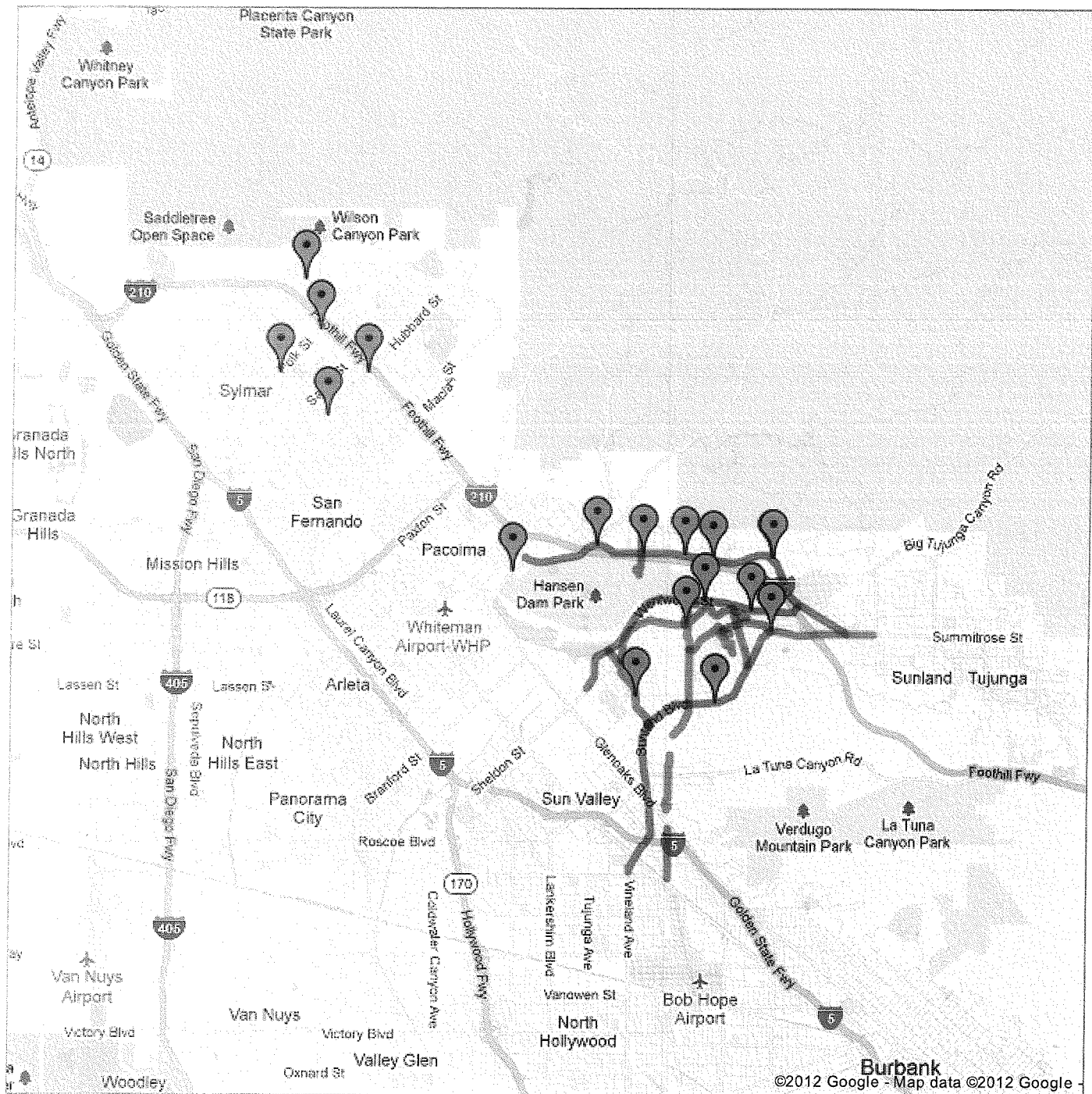

MAY 9 2012



Get Google Maps on your phone



Text the word "GMAPS" to 466453



Equestrian Incident Locations

Key:

Blue marker: specific intersection

Purple line: entire street

Unlisted · Open Collaboration · 123 views

Created on Jun 4 · By · Updated 2 days ago



Mary Bell Ave

Bert Bonnet incident - 2 years ago, Bert was riding up MaryBell, a car sped past him spooked horse into storm drain - horse was euthanized

-  Orcas Ave
Rider sees car speeding up Orcas and gives visual hand signal to slow down, car speeds up and honks passing horse and rider. No incident reported, monthly if not weekly incidents with different drivers.
-  Bridge on Foothill Blvd
2 people killed at the turn to the bridge on Foothill Blvd. - 2 years ago
-  Bridge on Foothill Blvd
biker killed at the turn to the bridge on Foothill Blvd. - 1 year ago.
-  Wentworth St & Wheatland Ave
Needs crosswalk and signage: This is where the community use to have a crosswalk and DOT removed it. We also need a street light for crossing here. High speeds and no one slowing down!
-  MaryBell Ave & Wentworth St
Need crosswalk and signage
-  Art St & Stonehurst Ave
Needs signage: Horses walk along Stonehurst to the trail that was put in but have to walk in the street on Art Street. This crossing takes horses to Stonehurst Park arena
-  McBroom St & Wheatland Ave
Needs signage: Going down to Sunland [the extent of Wheatland Ave south of McBroom?]. Many horses walk along the roads up and down both McBroom and Wheatland.
-  Foothill Blvd & Orcas Ave
Needs signage: Major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam
-  Foothill Blvd & Wheatland Ave
Needs signage: Major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam
-  Foothill Blvd & Christy Ave
Needs signage: Major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam
-  Foothill Blvd & Osborne St
Needs signage: Major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam, I don't know if there is a horse height button here but if not it needs one
-  Osborne St & Dronfield Ave
Needs signage and add horse height button: Major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam
-  Stonehurst Ave
Needs signage
-  Sunland Blvd
Needs Signage. Also, reduce speed limit, and limit truck weight to that in place on La Tuna Canyon
-  Wheatland Ave
(East and West) Needs Signage
-  Wheatland Ave cont'd
(East and West) Needs Signage
-  Wheatland Ave cont'd
(East and West) Needs Signage
-  Wheatland Ave cont'd
(East and West) Needs Signage
-  McBroom St
Needs signage
-  McBroom St cont'd
Needs signage
-  Johanna Ave
Needs signage
-  Wentworth St
Needs signage
-  La Canada Way

-  Needs signage
La Canada Way cont'd
Needs signage
-  Glenoaks Blvd & Hubbard St
Needs signage: has a lot of vehicle and horse traffic
-  Polk St & Glenoaks Blvd
Needs signage: has a lot of vehicle and horse traffic
-  Foothill Blvd & Polk St
Needs signage: has a vehicle and horse traffic
-  Bledsoe St & Olive View Dr
Has a lot of vehicle and horse traffic. Olive View Hospital has expanded and obliterated the trail that went past the front of the hospital into the hills via the Saddletree ranch trailhead. Would be nice to get the horses out of the street there but I know it's hard to get it back if not impossible. It started out being blocked due to construction and now it seems a permanent thing.
-  Hubbard St & Foothill Blvd
Need to get horse out of the street [*trails?*]
-  Foothill Blvd in Lake View Terrace
Needs trail: The Lake View Terrace community has requested an equestrian trail along Foothill Blvd for over 30 years
-  Sunland & La Canada Way
Needs reduced speeds, more signage and warning lights for safety from the 210 fwy (Sunland exit) all the way to Glenoaks Blvd
-  Sunland Blvd & Wornom Ave
Needs reduced speeds, more signage and warning lights for safety from the 210 fwy (Sunland exit) all the way to Glenoaks Blvd

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK: LOCATIONS POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS TO HORSE RIDERS AND HORSES

	Location		Comments: Description of Conditions or Incident		Suggested Solution:
	Street Intersection or Name	Closest Major Street and/or Community Name	Description	Reported by:	
1.	Mary Bell Ave.	Wentworth St.	Two years ago, Bert Bonnet was riding up Mary Bell Ave.; a car sped past him, spooked horse into storm drain. Horse was euthanized.	Margie Beeson	
2.	Orcas Ave.	Foothill Blvd.	Regular incidents involving different motorists in which a horse rider sees a car speeding up Orcas Ave. and gives visual hand signal to slow down; car speeds up and honks passing horse and rider.	Same as above	
3.	Bridge on Foothill Blvd.	Foothill Blvd.	Two years ago, two people were killed at the turn to the bridge on Foothill Blvd.	Margie Beeson Same as above	Re-stripe travel lanes to a single lane with parking on both sides. Decrease posted speed limit to 45 miles per hour.
4.	Bridge on Foothill Blvd.	Foothill Blvd.	One year ago, a bicyclist was killed at the turn to the bridge on Foothill Blvd.	Margie Beeson Same as above	Install bicycle lane.
5.	Wentworth St and Wheatland Ave	Wentworth St	Motorists travel at high speeds.	Margie Beeson, SHPOA	Install crosswalk, signage, and signalization. Note: The location previously had a crosswalk; DOT removed it.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK: LOCATIONS POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS TO HORSE RIDERS AND HORSES

6.	Mary Bell Ave. and Wentworth St.	Wentworth St		Margie Beeson, SHPOA	Install crosswalk, signage.
7.	Art St. and Stonehurst Ave.	Sunland Blvd	Horses must walk on Art St. before entering trail on Stonehurst Ave. en route to the Stonehurst Park arena	Margie Beeson	Install signage.
8.	McBroom St and Wheatland Ave. (West and East)	Wentworth St, Sunland Blvd	Horses walk along the public streets up and down both McBroom St. and Wheatland Ave.	Same as above	Install signage.
9.	Foothill Blvd. and Orcas Ave.		Location is a major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam Recreation Area.	Same as above	Install signage.
10	Foothill Blvd. and Wheatland Ave.	Foothill Blvd	Location is a major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam Recreation Area.	Same as above	Install signage.
11	Foothill Blvd. and Christy Ave.	Foothill Blvd	Location is a major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam Recreation Area.	Same as above	Install signage.
12	Foothill Blvd and Osborne St.	Foothill Blvd	Location is a major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam Recreation Area.	Same as above	Install signage with horse height button.
13	Osborne St and Dronfield Ave.	Osborne St, Foothill Blvd	Location is a major crossing for horses into Hansen Dam Recreation Area.	Same as above	Install signage with horse height button.
14	Stonehurst Ave.	Wentworth St	Location is a major	Nikki Ahten	Install signage. Motorists need

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK: LOCATIONS POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS TO HORSE RIDERS AND HORSES

			roadway entering the equestrian community.		to be alerted and educated to share the road with the horses.
15	Sunland Blvd.	Sunland Blvd		Nikki Ahten, SHPOA	Install signage. Motorists need to be alerted and educated to share the road with the horses. Reduce speed limit. Limit truck weight.
16	Wheatland Ave.	Wentworth St., Sunland Blvd		Nikki Ahten	Install signage. Motorists need to be alerted and educated to share the road with the horses.
17	McBroom St.	Wentworth St., Shadow Hills		Same as above	Install signage. Motorists need to be alerted and educated to share the road with the horses.
18	Johanna Ave.	Wentworth St., Sunland Blvd Shadow Hills		Same as above	Install signage. Motorists need to be alerted and educated to share the road with the horses.
19	Wentworth St.	Glenoaks Blvd, Foothill Blvd Shadow Hills		Same as above	Install signage. Motorists need to be alerted and educated to share the road with the horses.
20	La Cañada Way	Sunland Blvd Shadow Hills		Same as above	Install signage. Motorists need to be alerted and educated to share the road with the horses.
21	Hubbard St. and Glenoaks Blvd.	Sylmar	Location has significant vehicle and horse traffic.	Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee	Install signage.
22	Polk St and Glenoaks Blvd.	Sylmar	Location has significant vehicle and horse traffic.	Same as above	Install signage.
23	Foothill Blvd and Polk St.	Sylmar	Location has significant vehicle and horse traffic.	Same as above	Install signage.
24	Bledsoe St. and Olive View Dr.	Sylmar	Location has significant vehicle and horse traffic. Olive View Hospital has	Same as above	Install signage. Install horse trail.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK: LOCATIONS POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS TO HORSE RIDERS AND HORSES

			expanded and obliterated the trail that went past the front of the hospital into the hills via the Saddletree ranch trailhead.		
25	Hubbard St. and Foothill Blvd.		On New Year's Eve 2012, a motorist hit a horse rider as he was loping through the intersection.	Same as above	Install horse trail.
26	Foothill Blvd.	Lake View Terrace		Margie Beeson	Install horse trail.
27	Sunland Blvd and La Canada Way	Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills		SHPOA	Reduce speed limit. Install signage. Install warning lights for safety from the 210 Freeway (Sunland Blvd. exit) to Glenoaks Blvd.
28	Sunland Blvd. and Wornom Ave.	Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills		SHPOA	Reduce speed limit. Install signage. Install warning lights for safety from the 210 Freeway (Sunland Blvd. exit) to Glenoaks Blvd.