

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: As a graduate from CSUN, I always found myself on Reseda Boulevard. I would bike 7 miles to campus 4-5 days a week, and Reseda Boulevard was by far the safest corridor for riding after the conversion to protected bike lanes. Whether I was headed home or going out to grab lunch from one of the local businesses, the protected bike lanes and green paint offered me added safety and ease of mind. I currently work in roadway transportation engineering, and I am actively working towards getting my professional license in the state. Protected bike lanes (also known as Class IV bike facilities) offer safety in the dense urban and suburban environments. In addition, this level of accessibility helps increase bicycle traffic to local businesses. As far as vehicle traffic and behavior, I have not seen navigational problems from vehicle users. The striping clearly demarcates vehicular paths, however I do think the parking striping can be improved, particularly in no-parking buffer zones. Green paint at intersections and driveways helps drivers think twice before they can potentially end a bicyclist's life. Parking adjacent to vehicle lanes is commonplace throughout the nation, and not a problem at this site. The bollards and striped buffer offer protection against bicyclists getting 'doored'. That is, a vehicle opens their door to step outside, only to have perfectly timed in that a bicyclist crashes straight into the door. Overall, these improvements help the most vulnerable users cross high-conflict zones and have a more pleasant experience in their community. The more invulnerable users must make more safety-conscience and informed decisions. Human errors and therefore traffic problems will always exist, but these protected bike lanes help mitigate and substantially decrease the severity of these errors. I have read the horror stories of bike vs car accidents, and never has a single one been about the vehicle driver. Reseda Boulevard, especially along this stretch next to such a diverse community, should be safe for everyone. The City of Los Angeles' Green Streets Initiative has helped improve just that, and I hope to see future expansions along the corridor.