

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the City Council, I am writing in support of a speed camera placed on Riverside Drive, per AB 645. I am the Artistic Director of the Elysian Theater at 1944 Riverside at Newell, I have contacted Mr. Soto-Martinez's team several times in the past and continue to urge the Council Members for safety improvements on Riverside Drive, which is a danger zone where speeding and insufficient lighting has led to two pedestrian fatalities due to collisions near the theater in the past five years. We love our neighborhood and we are proud to be a growing nonprofit creative community space. Now in our fourth year as tenants of 1944 Riverside, we see more and more people and more and more traffic along the street every day, and in particular at night. We are anxious for pedestrian safety. I see near-misses on the road constantly, and without improvements there will be more collisions and more deaths. The curbs on the South-West side of the street have been increasingly painted red over the last two years, beginning at Newell, past the theater, in front of the basketball courts/accessible restrooms, and toward Stadium Way, furthering the need for patrons of the the park, the theater, and the other businesses (there are at least eight with a two block radius, all on the south side) to park on the other side of the street, and far from the crosswalks at either Newell or Stadium Way. While the parking is dangerous in the day because of the speed at which cars and trucks fly down Riverside, it is extremely along the road at night. There is only one street lamp from Newell all the way to Stadium Way, and see our patrons, neighbors, and others walk to their cars, and open their driver side doors, in pockets of nearly full darkness. A speed camera near the school is one good step, but it is urgent to employ other safety improvements on this increasingly trafficked and extremely precarious stretch before another tragedy occurs on the street. Thank you. Jacquelyn