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Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Counclman Mike Bonin
Councilman Paul Koretz
LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds
CA Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager
CA Assemblymember Richard Bloom
CA Assemblymember Autumn Burke
CA State Senator Ben Allen

February 2nd, 2021

Dear City & State Officials,

Many Westside Councils have expressed ongoing concerns about ride sharing companies on our streets.

While ride sharing has obvious benefits to many stakeholders and provides employment opportunities for countless drivers, there are outstanding questions as to how these services use our local streets. There is currently no quantifiable way to understand the impact ride sharing vehicles have had on our local traffic patterns and articles and studies from other cities show concerning data on the impact of these services on local congestion, pollution, and traffic patterns. While COVID has changed our transportation patterns and demands markedly, this is an issue that will return in full force in the near future.

Studies that have been conducted in other cities (New York, Seattle, San Francisco and more) show a concerning increase in congestion and pollution from ride sharing vehicles and demonstrate the need for a more comprehensive understanding of these ramifications in Los Angeles. It is only with a scientific set of data that our City can understand how to plan our transportation network around those using it. Further, it's obvious that the type of data needed for such a study is readily available due to the technological platform these companies use to operate, and that such data can and should be used with the utmost privacy shields to protect end users and individual drivers.

Therefore, the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils has passed, by a majority of voting councils in our Alliance, the following motion:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils requests that the State of California mandate that localities be empowered to assess the impact on traffic and congestion of ride sharing services by mandating comprehensive data from ride sharing companies available for study. Data should include time spent on the road to and from their homes and between rides for all ridesharing drivers as compared to traffic that would be generated by private vehicles making each trip. The results of this survey should guide both local and state policy in regards to ridesharing and better understand our transportation system. Using such data, the City of Los Angeles should then establish benchmark dates prior to and after implementation of each ridesharing platform and study in a scientific manner using all data available to determine if ride sharing vehicles add to or lessen congestion within the City of Los Angeles.

This language has been approved by the following Councils: Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC; Brentwood CC; Del Rey NC; Pacific Palisades CC; Westside NC; Westwood CC; and the Westwood NC. A modified version that maintains the spirit of the above motion has been passed by the Mar Vista CC.

No member Councils have opposed this measure or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the above motion.

Sincerely,

Matt Wersinger

Chair

Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

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