April 19, 2019

Councilman Joe Buscaino, 15th District
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street, Room 410
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Department of Transportation
Attn: Crystal Killian, Transportation Engineer
crystal.killian@lacity.org

Re: San Pedro Intersection at Capitol Drive and Barrywood Avenue

On April 8 2019, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council passed a motion regarding a perilous intersection at Capitol Drive and Barrywood Avenue.

The “T”-intersection at Capitol Drive and Barrywood Avenue has become an increasingly busy and perilous neighborhood junction. Neighborhood vehicle and pedestrian traffic from hundreds of nearby homes and from the Target Store one-half block east of the intersection often comes into perilously close contact with the hundreds, if not thousands of vehicles traveling westbound from Gaffey Street, or eastbound after coming down a long hill from Western Avenue.

The issue becomes more acute because the intersection serves as the main pedestrian crossing to Harbor Highlands Park, which has become a far more heavily-used recreation facility in recent years than in the past.

The three-way stop signs currently at the intersection are routinely “blown-through” by all types of vehicles heading east toward Gaffey Street or west toward Western Avenue. Additionally the bike lanes on both sides of the street and the reduction of one traffic lane eastbound have narrowed traffic lane space and helped create difficulties with the turn radius from Barrywood to eastbound Capitol. There is only one crosswalk across Capitol Drive, on the less widely used corner leading to the park.

Serious crashes at the intersection and the near-monthly takedown of the center island stop sign on Capitol Drive have caused the community deep concern.
The net result is a frankly hazardous situation for pedestrians and vehicles, and is the definition of an accident waiting to happen.

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests a full study of the safety concerns surrounding this intersection, and urgently requests the installation of a three-way traffic signal at the intersection. Let us not wait for an avoidable tragedy to occur.

We request a response within one month from the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Ray Regalado, President
On behalf of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board