



Catherine Palmer <council@babcnc.org>

Opposition to BAG Gating

Seth Stuart <seth@sethstuart.com>

Wed, Aug 24, 2022 at 3:36 PM

To: Travis Longcore <tlongcore@babcnc.org>, rschlesinger@babcnc.org, council@babcnc.org

Cc: paul.koretz@lacity.org, Jarrett Thompson <jarrett.thompson@lacity.org>

Travis & Robert,

Although I've had the opportunity to convey my position on this matter in the couple of zoom calls I've attended in my capacity as Vice President of the Bel Air Ridge HOA Board of Directors, I wanted to make sure my opposition was registered yet again prior to this evening's meeting. For reference, I also attach my October 2021 correspondence to Councilman Koretz, as it goes into specifics about many of the points that I know you're all too aware of.

It is beyond clear that Bel Air Glen (BAG) desires to privatize their streets for the primary purpose of increasing home values. While it is true that prohibiting the general public from using the streets will inherently increase safety on those streets (which BAG claims as its primary impetus), the fact remains that the volume and duration of cut through traffic simply does not create the dangerous conditions they claim exist, and have repeatedly failed to prove. In fact I have sat at the intersection of Angelo and Woodwardia on a number of days and witnessed only a handful of cars backed up at any given time, and those cars cleared out with each cycle of the Mulholland / Beverly Glen traffic signal.

The bottom line is the non-neighborhood traffic that transits BAG - for a short duration on weekday afternoons - does not even come close to the traffic experienced by many other neighborhoods in Los Angeles, including just across Beverly Glen on Nicada Drive. We all want to see effective solutions to reducing traffic in our city, but simply walling off an entire neighborhood is beyond unreasonable.

- It is unreasonable that BAG has refused to propose or engage with DOT to implement alternative and less-drastic measures.
- It is unreasonable that the proposed gating would leave no signalized means of ingress or egress for the few streets that remain open to the public (which serve a city park in addition to adjacent residents).
- It is unreasonable that BAG still refuses to acknowledge that access should be granted to members of the neighboring Bel Air Ridge HOA who live west of Beverly Glen but hold an ownership interest and engage in the daily use of its many recreational facilities adjacent to the proposed gating.
- It is unreasonable to claim that the cut-through traffic is so great that it warrants such drastic measures, but at the same time is so insignificant that such measures would have negligible impact to the remaining open streets.

And when the neighborhood in question also falls within the Mulholland Scenic Parkway, which subjects its residents to incredibly stringent criteria designed to protect and preserve the area for the benefit of the general public, the resounding answer to a proposal that effectively removes the area from the public domain, should be a resounding no.

Thank you again for the time you've taken to investigate understand this complex situation, and for considering disapproving BAG's proposal.

Very truly yours,

Seth Stuart

seth stuart
310.245.6778

 Koretz 10.2.21.pdf

8/24/22, 4:51 PM
2199K

Bel Air/Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Mail - Opposition to BAG Gating