

RWNA TRAFFIC MEETING SUMMARY

OCTOBER 28, 2024, 7PM (ZOOM)

(Compiled from notes and the meeting recording by Alysoun Higgins, who chaired the meeting.)

Attendees (arriving at various times): Gregory Cherry, Barbara Coad, Dana Barker, Nona Friedman, Mashawn Nix, Bruce Doering (North Ridgewood Place); James Auld, John Kaptein (200 South Wilton Place); Brian Terr, Bob Reeves, Alysoun Higgins, Tom Lawson, Andrew Chi (Wilton Drive); Mary Sandoval (North Wilton Place); Chris (last name and residence unknown)

Introduction of Traffic Committee: Kate Corsmeier, Nona Friedman, Mashawn Nix, Sarah Bynum, Brian Terr, Bob Reeves and myself.

Description of traffic problems, notably the cut through traffic on Ridgewood Place and Wilton Drive during rush hours. Specifically

- Cars racing down Ridgewood at a high speed to get to Wilton and 2nd St to rejoin Wilton Place,
- Disregard of speed limits,
- Disregard of stop signs at Council/Ridgewood, Ridgewood/1st St, and Wilton Drive/Ridgewood Place
- Flying down the chute at Wilton Place and Wilton Drive with no regard to pedestrians

Presentation of CD13's proposed traffic solutions as written in Rogelio Pardo's 9/23/24 email summary (with editing by me to include committee's general reaction to ideas and to make it more easily readable):

Traffic Flow

- 1. Wilton Pl/1st St: Explore Closing Southbound entrance to Wilton Drive from Wilton Place.**
We thought this was a good idea. CD 13 to ask LADOT to explore designs and timeline given existing resource constraints. Will be bollards and paint.
- 2. Wilton Dr/2nd: Explore Forced Right Turn from Wilton Dr to 2nd Street to remove functionality of Wilton Dr as a cut through option.**
We also thought this was a good idea and CD 13 asked us to engage with neighbors to socialize the idea.
CD 13 to ask LADOT to explore designs and timeline given existing resource constraints.
- 3. Wilton Dr/2nd: Shorten traffic light cycle for Wilton Dr at Second Street**
We liked the idea of making signal timing challenging during peak congestion hours of 4pm-7pm.
CD13 to ask LADOT to determine the shortest possible cycle and implement.
This is an easy, low effort way to discourage drivers and is easily reversed if it isn't effective. There will be a learning curve before drivers realize no time is saved.

4. **Wilton Pl/Council: Prohibit Southbound right turns onto Council from Wilton Pl. Additionally prohibit left turns from Beverly onto Ridgewood Place.**

CD13 believes LADOT will not prohibit Right turns to Council or left turns onto Ridgewood Pl because they believe it has a limited impact without consistent enforcement.

We feel the signs could be effective and we'd like to continue to push CD13 on this.

Speed Humps recommended as an alternative.

Speed Humps

This is something each block needs to decide for themselves. DOT's speed hump program [website](#) provides an overview of the process. They suggested we engage with our local Neighborhood Council to submit application(s). If a block is interested they can sign up to get updates when the application window opens by emailing LADOT's program administrators directly at: ladot.newspeedhump@lacity.org

Enforcement

CD13 is supposed to be requesting speed enforcement on Ridgewood Pl between Beverly Blvd and 1st St - especially between the hours of 4-7pm, as available. I have not observed any enforcement but maybe others have.

Comments

Review of proposed traffic solutions to allow attendees to comment and voice support or objections. Also invited other traffic calming suggestions:

No one had any objections to the presented solutions.

James felt there was no downside to engaging in any type of traffic calming. Nona pointed out the forced right turn at 6th St and Hudson as an example of what a forced right at 2nd St would look like. Nona, supported by a few others, suggested closing Wilton Drive completely. James offered that LADOT does not like to stem the flow of traffic unless it's a street that "doesn't go anywhere" like the east-west portion of Wilton Drive. General consensus is we should continue to push for no turn during certain hours signs ("No right turn between 4pm-7pm" at Wilton Place and Council, "No left turn between 4pm-7pm" at Beverly Blvd and Ridgewood Place).

Dana suggested installing traffic circles like they have in West Hollywood (picture of one at Hayworth and Oakwood shown on screen). These would go at Ridgewood & Council and Ridgewood & 1st St. Mashawn pointed out she would not be able to exit her driveway if there was one at Council. General enthusiasm for the idea overall except for one at Council due to Mashawn's driveway access.

Another idea suggested was prevent cars from entering Council from Wilton Place by placing bollards blocking the west bound lane of Council. Alternatively, the idea of making Council one way going east was floated.

Discussion about adding a flashing red to make stop signs more visible. Are they effective?
Question to be posed to CD13.

Mary pointed out bollards in the middle of Romaine just east of Wilton Place. This seems to be very effective in slowing cars as they turn onto Romaine. General enthusiasm for the idea. Need to discuss where it would be effective.

No one has noticed any speed enforcement on Ridgewood Place or a shortened light cycle at Wilton Drive/2nd St during evening rush hour. We will follow up with CD13 on this.

James talked about his and Mary's efforts to calm the traffic on 200 South Wilton Place. They are under assault from speeding cars who use the entire of width of the street to get ahead. Cars have used the center lane and the parking lanes to race to make the light. Residents' cars have been hit, it's dangerous for pedestrians, bicyclists and other motorists. They've worked with Rogelio and Karla from CD13 and received striping to demarcate street parking and two bollards on the north end of the block in the center lane. Still isn't sufficient, more needs to be done. Discussed joining efforts to stream line our communications and work with CD13.

Before adjourning there was brief discussion on the streetlight outages on the east side of Ridgewood Place and Wilton Drive. Shared the tireless efforts of Brian and Sheila. Asked everyone to submit street light repair requests through my311.org to give Karla the data she needs to push BSL.

Adjournment