

SANTA MONICA

Safe Streets Alliance

*Safe, livable, and sustainable streets are welcoming to everyone
and strengthen our community.*



Ms. Lane Dilg, Esq., Interim City Manager, City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

cc: Mayor McKeown, Mayor Pro Tempore O'Day, and Councilmembers Davis, Himmelrich, Jara, Morena, and Winterer

Dear Interim City Manager Dilg:

Congratulations and a warm welcome on your appointment as Interim City Manager. Thank you for taking on the critical challenges ahead to help guide our City in this difficult time. We are writing to offer our support and commitment to join you in helping to shape our city's collective future. We wish to contribute problem-solving ideas in support of restructuring our finances during the immense and unprecedented challenges being confronted by the City. As long time community, safe streets and climate action advocates, we have worked closely with council and staff on programs supporting and helping to shape our community's and council's adopted visions and goals. We understand the dedication and leadership that it takes to turn commitments into reality while addressing the funding, regulation and implementation challenges.

Based on our experience, we're contributing our evaluation and insights about how the complexity of managing our streets as an essential, critical function involves diverse daily tasks, demanding swift attention to keep our streets safe and moving to meet the needs of residents, businesses and visitors. We realize the sudden budget shortfalls are grave, compelling us to recommend a range of strategic revenue generating solutions. We must be dauntless at this historic moment and not let opportunities to shape a better future with a new economy go unanswered in the wake of tragic losses.

How we decide to restructure from the devastation of this crisis will define us and determine whether we are successful as we move forward into the future. Mobility - the movement of people, goods and services - is inseparably connected to the foundation of our economic recovery and environmental stewardship and resilience. When things are working smoothly, mobility - invisibly and seamlessly - supports each and every aspect of our success, our safety, emergency response and vital economy. We must be swift and strategic and not lose sight of the very foundation and values that have established Santa Monica's wellbeing and prosperity.

As dynamic conditions for taking action persist, we must maintain the capacity to respond with courage and care. Together we can navigate tumultuous seas wisely. From the community, we are steadfast and support the best in us to rise.

With respect,

Handwritten signatures of Cynthia Rose and Cris Gutierrez in black ink.

Cynthia Rose and Cris Gutierrez
Co-Chairs, Santa Monica Safe Streets Alliance

p.s. Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 classifies transportation infrastructure and services as essential government functions; State Public Health Officer further designation clarifies Transportation Services “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers”. The Department of Homeland Security lists 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors: one of which is the Transportation Systems Sector. Keeping our streets safe and our recovery secure, at the time when the COVID -19 emergency is converging with the climate crisis, means that tough and thoughtful decision-making must adhere to our City’s and state’s climate priorities and strategies. The attached California Legislature letter to the state’s “Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery” sets out that urgency clearly.