From: <u>Darryl Boyd</u>

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Kaluderovic; Zein Obaqi; Scott Behrendt; Brad Waller; Chadwick B. Castle

Subject: 500-600 North Prospect Ave. last nights City Council meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 7:13:26 AM

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## Good Morning.

I did not sleep well last night. Knowing that we have new City Council Members, I had hoped to be able to bring them up to speed on the nightmarish N. Prospect Ave. situation. I thought I had timed my statement at close to 3 minutes, and hoped for just a little leniency to be able to finish due to the urgent situation. Many of the neighbors who waited for hours last night for our turn had to leave. Council Member Obagi indicated that he wasn't even aware of what was going on. It tells me that our situation hasn't been discussed with the entire Council and has not been taken seriously enough.

Last night was just another frustration added to our list here. City Government, Council Meetings, Politics is not my thing. It never was and this is not something I am getting any enjoyment from. But in the past year I haven't had a choice but to stand up for me and my family first, and for what is right for this street and the residents.

Below is my statement from last night, I hope that you will all read it. It's just around 3 minutes, maybe slightly over. The residents here on the 500-600 block of N. Prospect Ave. deserve much better. We are tired of being treated like the trash that litters the median. We see budgets, funding, and grants for all kinds of meaningless projects that have nothing to do with safety or quality of life for residents and homeowners like us. We are not sub-humans, we are good people with families, kids, jobs, and businesses.

I think most of us love our City of Redondo Beach, but where is the love for us? It's getting much harder when we are being ignored, not treated respectfully, and skipped over for funding that should have been budgeted for safety and improvements here years if not decades ago. Please consider what we are going through here. Please give us the protection and peace of mind we deserve as residents and taxpayers. Please treat us better.

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Good Evening Council Members and Mayor Light. And Mr. Waller, a fellow Car Guy.

My name is Darryl Boyd. My wife Amy and I purchased our home at 521 N Prospect Ave. in April 1993 so we have lived there for 32 years now. At that time there was less traffic on North Prospect Ave., the median was maintained with healthy foliage, and it was very private. Over the years and turning into decades now, the City of Redondo Beach completely neglected the upkeep and maintenance of the North Prospect Ave median. The foliage became diseased and died, trash thrown out of cars never picked up, it became a

complete eyesore and remained that way for many years.

In June of 2024 The City decided abruptly, with no notice or any conversation with the residents here, to completely remove all of the dead shrubbery on the North Prospect Ave. median. It completely stripped us of any privacy & any bit of sound deflection, even though not much, that we had left. The City had no plan & many months went by until I initiated a movement on our street to bring the matter to the City's attention to try & get something done about it. It has taken longer than this neighborhood hoped for, but some progress has been made regarding the foliage, although I am not completely sold on the type and maturity that has been selected.

We have a major traffic and noise problem along with the privacy issues. The stretch from Beryl St. to the BCHD traffic signal has become a runway or a dragstrip for speeding cars flying down that hill at Beryl St. Flying through that stretch at least double the speed limit constantly. People don't just drive, they are gunning and grinding through here. My neighbors on the North end of the street in the 600's will attest. Increased traffic over the decades. But in the past 5 years the demeanor of drivers has become more reckless and more rude. We have not seen enough attention being paid by the City of Redondo Beach to dealing with impatient and speeding drivers or this entire situation.

There has been an increase in very loud exhausts from modern muscle cars and there is a rash of drivers with illegal exhausts, and we are talking about actual exhaust cutouts that are ultra loud and cause a backfiring effect. Most of you know me as a Car Guy and I love a healthy sounding ride. But some of these cars are louder than even typical Classic Muscle Car or Street Rod exhausts. I happen to know. These are on daily driven cars all over the place now, this is the modern car culture, and we see many of the same cars going through here daily. Some are even employees over at BCHD.

The BCHD and Silverado Buildings at 514 N. Prospect Ave. forms a V shaped sound reflector that points directly at our homes. Every car and motorcycle entering and exiting from there is amplified and shot right back at our direction. When you add the 2 lanes of traffic in front of BCHD heading Northbound gets even worse. Add loud booming audio and cell phone conversations from vehicles with their windows down as early as 5:30am. Super bikes screaming through here, constant Ambulances heading to BCHD and Silverado. Buses and 18 wheelers rolling through here, bouncing and screeching brakes.

It has created a tornado of noise constantly surrounding my home from top to bottom, front to rear. There is no escape, there is no solace any longer. It's a crazy, non-stop noise nuisance that has deeply affected our quality of living. My home office faces Prospect and it has become nearly unusable any longer due to a constant assault of noise.

We have cars flying past our home and then we get the 2 lanes of Southbound traffic and

the left hand turning lane to BCHD backing up in front of our home. Sometimes it's 25 to 30 cars backed up in front of our home with people gawking down on us. For nearly a year we have had no privacy on this street. I can't work in my garage, in my driveway, wash a car, get into a car, do gardening, take my trash in or out, without an audience. The same for my daughters and my wife. We are tired, we have been living in a nightmare here. This entire situation for the past year has caused us stress and anxiety on a daily basis.

The 500-600 block of Prospect Ave. needs better traffic enforcement from RBPD. And violators made to be an example to start deterring others. Speed tables on main Prospect was an idea that was discussed and could be a viable part of a solution. Somehow that idea has gone dark. Mayor Light? We have already had a car fly over that median, take out a light pole, flip and land in between my home at 521 and the McGarry's home at 523. Foliage alone will do nothing to prevent this from happening again. The next time could be fatal. Besides foliage we need a safety and sound barrier. We need real traffic calming, and we need a wall.

The City has estimated a safety and sound wall at a height of 24 feet on the North Prospect Ave. median at a cost of approx. \$3.1 million dollars. This is an exaggerated wall height and an extremely exaggerated number. Mark Nelson has provided data and an estimate is more like \$370K for a 6 foot wall and \$494K for an 8 foot wall. Keep in mind that we probably only need this wall on the main median which runs from 619 to about 515. The residents in front of the 2nd shorter median at the BCHD signal and bus stop up to Diamond Street might have different ideas for their end.

I am asking that the City Council please pass and fund a proper budget to give the Residents of North Prospect Avenue their privacy, safety, quality of life, and a less stressful living situation back. Our situation here is an urgent matter. Thank You for your consideration.

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Darryl Boyd - Broker/Owner, MRP, SFR, CPTS
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