

RECEIVED ON: January 25, 2022

RE: Corner of Palm Ave & Howard (Greenway Trail Intersection) Citizen Report



*Exhibit 1 - The Corner of Palm Ave & Howard (Greenwood Trail) **Notice the paint has worn off 80%***

Hello Esteemed Whittier City Council members and the honorable Whittier PD. On Wed Jan 12th, 2022 at around 12:30PM, I was almost run over by a lady in her 50s driving a black Honda Pilot mini-SUV southbound on Palm Ave. The situation was that I was out on my lunchtime jog, running west-bound on the Greenwood Trail, I always stop at all corners (even if there is a traffic light) and I check for hazards including cars motorcycles bikes, etc. The lady did stop at the stop sign and when I confirmed her wheels were fully stopped (I always look at the tires and wheels of vehicles) I proceeded to job into the intersection (I don't typically walk) as I was about 60% of the way. The lady proceeded to accelerate at a rapid pace away from the stop sign, and caused me to pull evasive maneuvers to prevent her taking me under her car (which was to basically catapult using her cards hood for leverage to help me clear her vehicle) I did not fall but a neighbor saw me and asked if I was ok. The driver, she did not stop or check on me at all, and when I pulled my phone out (rather slowly I have to admit) I did not get a chance to take a photo of her rear license plate. Anyhow, I am ok. There was a witness to this though, if you need someone to collaborate the story I am telling you is truthful and accurate. That being said this enlightened me to bring up many points to you

Action Points That I would like the City Council and Whittier PD to Consider:

- 1) The crosswalk is supposed to be as shown in the photo below of apple maps (exhibit 2) **yet it is 80% invisible in the daylight because the paint has worn off.** Request that it be repainted in bright white so no one gets run over there.

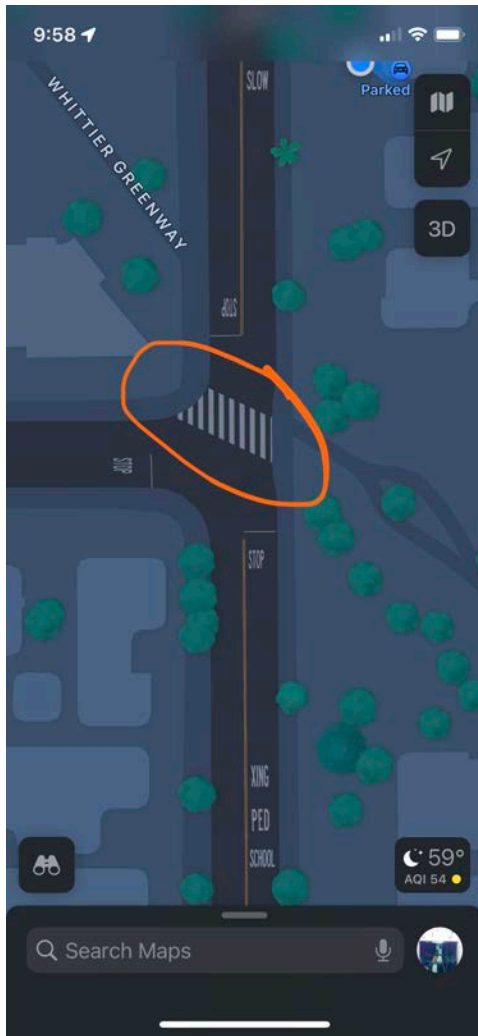


Exhibit 2 - Photo of Crosswalk as it is supposed to be (credit: Apple Maps)

- 2) **Request Flashing RED LED lights on the “STOP” sign, for increasing the safety of this pedestrian intersection.** Since I live on Palm Ave. and close to this intersection I can also report that after 8PM, quite a number (2-5 people per week) run this STOP sign , they do not stop there at all at night. Please consider adding red flashing leds on both stop signs. See Exhibit 1 to see there’s no lights.

3) **Consider installing speed bumps at this intersection** : After discussing my experience with the neighbors on palm (we have a group text chat) someone mentioned “speed bumps are long over due” . I thought this was a great idea and have included a photo you can submit as a suggestion of the location for the speed bump (s) please see exhibit 3 below , my finger is pointing at where the speed bump should be or could be located at for southbound traffic.



Exhibit 3 -- Photo of proposed speedbump to slow cars down and to remind them there is an upcoming pedestrian crosswalk that is rather busy (the trail)

4) **Adding a Flashing Blinking Crosswalk for safety (amber LEDs)** You may also consider adding a safety blinking amber LED Crosswalk to this intersection. I have seen this style of safety crosswalk **in other parts of the Greenwood trail, but NOT on PALM AVE.** Please consider bringing a flashing sidewalk in order to add more safety to Palm Ave crossing of the Greenwood Trail.

5) **Consider moving back the stop signs, in order to create more “air gap” between vehicles that stop and people that are crossing , to increase reaction time of pedestrians, visibility of drivers, and likely decrease accidents (due to more visibility and more air gap between cars and pedestrians) .** Lastly , and I don't have a picture or exhibits for this, but the city may consider moving back the stop sign and the stop line, for example moving the stop line and stop sign back an additional 10-15ft may increase visibility. Having a larger air gap would provide pedestrians more time to act if something like what happened to me would happen to them.

CONCLUSION : That's it , my suggestions are 1-5 and now I would like to close with Exhibit 4, showing how really deteriorated the crosswalk paint is, you can see it is almost invisible. The city needs to do a better job painting and repainting these crosswalks, citizens lives are at stake here. Certainly the City has to consider the ramifications of possible liability issues of crosswalks that are unpainted or where the paint has deteriorated enough to be not visible, should a fatality or major accident happen, the City could be found liable, and as a concerned citizen I would like the City to keep and hold as much money as possible instead of lose it for some minor oversight such as a safety one.

That being said, I leave it all to your capable hands and minds, looking forward to seeing some much needed safety upgrades at this reported intersections. I would like to close for thanking you all for what you do. May God Bless our city council, city employees, our Whittier PD, and The United States of America.

I can be reached via email at sfidalgo@icloud.com by phone or on my cell (310)691-6636 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sergio F. (Whittier citizen / resident)



Exhibit 4 — Deteriorated Crosswalk Paint making almost illegible to read.