To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City
From: Councilmember Harrison

SUBJECT: Budget Referral for the evaluation and implementation of a smaller traffic circle at the intersection of Allston and California

RECOMMENDATION
Refer to the City Manager to assess and identify improvements to the Allston and California intersection. The large traffic circle is less than the customary 18 feet from the crosswalk and requires automobiles to veer toward the crosswalk. Our office requests that the Department evaluate the construction of a smaller traffic circle at Allston and California that would provide a minimum of 11’ between the crosswalk and the edge of the circle. Along with this, we request new traffic counts be collected while all schools are in session to update the 2013 analysis for consideration of an all-way stop at this road junction. This would increase road safety by assuring that vehicles enter the intersection at lower speeds. Both of these factors should be considered and addressed in improvements to be recommended for this intersection.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION
Cost of improvements to be determined. The estimated cost for reconstructing a smaller traffic circle is about $33,000. These estimates were presented to us by the Transportation Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
No ecological impact.

BACKGROUND
Allston and California is a congested intersection filled with traffic, bicyclists and pedestrians. Concerns about traffic and pedestrian safety have been made by several community members who reside in this area after this intersection was the sight of a fatal car collision of UC Berkeley Graduate Milanca Lopez and her 6-year-old son in 2012. Currently, there are street stop signs on the north and south side of the intersection.
LINKS
http://www.dailyca.org/2012/10/19/community-members-raise-concerns-over-traffic-safety/

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