

Traffic and Ponte Vista

San Pedro residents received their latest newsletter from Bob Bisno promising to spend eight million dollars on local traffic signal synchronization and other traffic projects. He will provide this “generous” benefit if only the City of Los Angeles will allow him to build a 1950 unit condominium project at the former Naval-housing site on Western Ave. In fact, new City and State rules would allow him to build 2633 units if some were low and moderately priced.

Here is the secret that Mr. Bisno doesn't tell you. The City of Los Angeles has received funding from a state bond issue to implement the traffic synchronization program throughout Los Angeles, including San Pedro and Wilmington. If Mr. Bisno builds his 1900+ units, the City Department of Transportation will gladly take his money, but it won't provide anything extra for our area. The Department can use as much of the additional \$8 million as they can get to fund projects elsewhere in Los Angeles.

Mr. Bisno is required to mitigate the additional traffic caused by his development. Most residents would be happy to have him spend less money on traffic improvements in exchange for building a more modest project of single family homes that will create less traffic. Why suffer from a larger project in order to pay for traffic synchronization that should be coming here anyway?

This is one of the reasons that both Northwest and Coastal Neighborhood Councils and Janice Hahn's Advisory Committee on Ponte Vista have endorsed the current R-1 zoning. The final decision will be made by the City Council and Mayor. The next step is a hearing on Bisno's proposal by the City Planning Commission at 5 p.m. on June 26 at the Cabrillo Aquarium. Please come and let the Department know what you think.

John Greenwood, Chair
Councilwoman Janice Hahn's Advisory
Committee on Ponte Vista