



Honorable Mitch O'Farrell
City of Los Angeles, Council District 1
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilman O'Farrell:

Thank you for your letter of May 6 to Stan Kasten. You raised a number of suggestions in your letter to improve traffic flow on game days and we wanted to respond immediately to clarify the efforts we have engaged with LADOT, LAPD, staff from your office, as well as staff from Council District 1.

As you are aware, during the last two years with an increased emphasis this season, the Dodgers have expanded our work to improve traffic flow by focusing on numerous efforts including the following:

- For all games we are opening our auto gates 2.5 hours before game time and stadium gates 2 hours before game time with the automatic flexibility for staff to open sooner if they see traffic backing up earlier
- We have invested more than \$150 million in improvements in the past two seasons and this included creating two new plaza areas for fans to come early and enjoy Tommy Lasorda's Trattoria or the Think Blue BBQ, in addition to many interactive areas
- We have added significantly more LADOT traffic enforcement officers and engineers to deal with our expected record attendance this season, particularly in the Echo Park and Solano Canyon neighborhoods
- In partnership with Metro, we have a park and ride shuttle from Union Station which we call the Dodger Express Shuttle that Metro operates. This season we added a second stop at the top of the park. Over the first two months of the season we have seen an approximately 15% increase in ridership
- We have added directional signage both inside and outside the stadium to better direct our fans into the stadium and off the neighborhood streets
- We have made improvements to the parking lot striping, vehicle and pedestrian path/sidewalks to better manage internal circulation
- We have added pedestrian sidewalks and safety measures at all our games from the public streets and into the stadium
- For this upcoming homestand, we have reduced the parking rate to \$5 for lots 13 and 14
- We have worked with Metro to increase marketing/awareness of the No. 2 and 4 buses on Sunset Boulevard as well as the Metro Red and Gold lines promoting alternative ways to get to the stadium

With regards to the opening of Stadium Way Gate B, as we've discussed, we re-opened the gate after meetings and conversations with your office and the community with the express purpose to alleviate traffic along Sunset Boulevard by directing cars from Elysian Park Avenue left to Stadium Way and right on Scott into Gate B. We added additional traffic deterrents, signage, DOT traffic officers and LAPD patrols along Scott Avenue from Echo Park to deter cars from using this as an access into the gate. These deterrents are working. In the last three homestands, we have patrolled this area and there has been no increased traffic along Scott as a result of the gate opening. Increased access points – more ways in and out of the stadium and multiple modes of transportation are the key to mitigating traffic on game days. That is what we are attempting to do.

Quite frankly, we were surprised by your letter. We have been working diligently and in partnership with your office directly on our efforts, as well as Council District 1, LADOT and LAPD. We have had several meetings with this group to continually assess our efforts after every homestand and to discuss where we can make adjustments and improvements. Our last meeting was in fact just yesterday at Dodger Stadium, which two of your staff members attended. We would like to again extend an invitation to you to visit our transportation center on a game day to see our efforts first hand with our staff and LADOT. Christine Peters from your office has visited and I think she found it helpful in understanding our efforts.

At the core of this discussion is the fact that the Dodgers are an exciting baseball team and we are winning. We are blessed with tremendous support from this community and our fan base. This results in more traffic in an urban core city that already experiences challenges with traffic on non-game days.

Councilmember O'Farrell, we appreciate your offer to help and look forward to continuing to work in partnership with your office as we continue with our collective efforts to move our fans off the public streets and into the stadium as quickly as possible, and also back home as quickly and safely as possible.

With kind regards,



Renata Simril
Senior Vice President, External Affairs
Los Angeles Dodgers

Cc: Stan Kasten, President/CEO LA Dodgers
Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor City of Los Angeles
Charlie Beck, Chief Los Angeles Police Department
Jon Mukri, LA Department of Transportation