



OFFICE OF WENDY GREUEL
City Councilmember, Second District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**GREUEL QUESTIONS WHETHER SENIOR CITIZENS HAVE
ENOUGH TIME TO CROSS CITY STREETS SAFELY**

Responding to a number of complaints from senior citizens and pedestrians with special needs in the Sunland-Tujunga community, Councilmember Wendy Greuel today questioned how the city's Department of Transportation (DOT) determines signal timing for pedestrians and how signals accommodate slower moving pedestrians, particularly in areas with high concentrations of elderly pedestrians.

"Traffic safety is a top priority for the city and it is important that there be a strategy for accommodating not only young and able-bodied pedestrians but also seniors and slower moving pedestrians as well," said Councilmember Greuel.

City Council offices receive complaints every year from senior citizens and slower-moving pedestrians who feel the walk time allotted in certain crosswalks are not long enough for them to get across the street safely. City Council offices work with DOT on a case-by-case basis to evaluate the signals and crosswalks in question, and make alterations to the walk times.

The standard speed used for timing pedestrian clearance intervals is four feet per second. However, this speed may not be adequate for some seniors and slower moving pedestrians.

Greuel has asked DOT to report back to her Transportation Committee in 30 days.

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