

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM NO. J.1 02/11/2025

SUBJECT: Consider a request from Council Member Mendoza requesting

information and alternative options regarding AB 413, the traffic

safety daylighting law

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

STAFF: Tim Ogden, City Manager

Allen Baquilar, Director of Engineering / City Engineer

TITLE/RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council consider and discuss Council Member Mendoza's request that staff provide information regarding the traffic safety California Daylighting Law, AB 413, including potential alternative options.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Rule 4.4 (b)(2) of City Council Policy 110-1, this item has been placed on the agenda so that the City Council may discuss it and provide further direction to staff. Per Section 4.4, City Council discussion is limited to whether staff time and City resources should be spent on the item and the time period for scheduling.

Assembly Bill (AB) 413 is a California law focused on daylighting, a traffic safety measure that improves visibility at intersections by restricting parking near crosswalks and corners. The law aims to reduce pedestrian and cyclist accidents caused by obstructed sightlines. The bill formally amended <u>California Vehicle Code Section 22500</u> to add new provisions with these objectives (new subsection (n)).

Effective January 1, 2025, this law prohibits stopping, standing, or parking a vehicle within 20 feet of the approach side of any marked or unmarked crosswalk, even if the area lacks markings or signs that restrict parking (i.e. red curb). The primary objective of AB 413 is to prevent parked vehicles from obstructing sightlines at intersections, thereby allowing drivers and pedestrians to see each other more clearly and reducing the likelihood of collisions.



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The following picture provides an example of the enhanced safety and visibility provided to pedestrians as a result of the law:



Beginning January 1, 2025, citations may be issued to vehicles parked within the restricted distance, regardless of markings.

There are no provisions included for jurisdictions to "opt-out" of AB 413. However, the law does grant authority for local jurisdictions to adjust the restricted distances to "different" distances provided both of the following requirements are met:

- 1. A local authority establishes the different distance by ordinance that includes a finding that the different distance is justified by established traffic safety standards.
- 2. A local authority has marked the different distance at the intersection using paint or a sign.

The law also grants authority for local jurisdictions to allow commercial loading and unloading within the restricted distances provided <u>both</u> of the following requirements are met:



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- 1. A local authority authorizes the commercial vehicle loading and unloading by ordinance and identifies the crosswalk or crosswalks in the ordinance.
- 2. A local authority has marked the commercial loading and unloading areas with paint or signage.

Finally, a local authority may permit parking for bicycles or motorized scooters within 20 feet of a crosswalk, without the need for making any additional findings.

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Not Applicable

PREVIOUS ACTION

Not Applicable

DATE OF NOTICE

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

Not Applicable

ATTACHMENT(S)

None