

Why the Dept of Transportation Does Not Mitigate Traffic



Read this and weep. One of the conditions that the city imposed on Fox's right to increase the size of its studio was that Fox give the city \$500,000 for a fund that would help mitigate traffic that the studio expansion would create.

Councilmember Jack Weiss has reported to 7260 that almost the entire \$500,000 went to pay salaries of Department of Transportation Department employees; none of the \$500,000 went towards alleviating the traffic jams and cut through traffic that the Fox expansion has created.

Here's another example of the way DOT uses traffic mitigation moneys. The City required that JMB, the developer of the MGM Plaza, give the city one million dollars to be set aside for traffic mitigations that would be needed to offset the traffic that the MGM Plaza would create. So far \$100,000 of that mitigation money has been spent on Department of Transportation salaries. None of the money has been spent on traffic mitigations.

In an effort to see that traffic mitigation money to be collected from Trammell Crow for its projected Century City Office Building project is actually spent on traffic mitigation, Councilmember Weiss intends that the money go into a fund from which the Department of Transportation may take no more than ten percent for salaries.

Wouldn't it be better if the Department of Transportation was denied any money from the fund as a way to pay back some of the \$600,000 it has already taken for doing nothing?