

## Gautho, Julia

---

**From:** Sylvia Winsby <winsby7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2025 3:12 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Today's meeting- Stockton Bridge

Dear Council Members,

I'm a Capitola homeowner, going on 25 years here, and writing you about the Stockton Bridge project to be considered at today's meeting. In my time living in Capitola, and an additional 20 years in Santa Cruz, I've never seen or heard of a log jam under the Stockton Bridge. I am there often, even in the winter season. The storm damage to the pier in 2023 was not caused by anything related to the bridge. That winter, debris and wood in the bay was brought in by high surf and smashed into the pier as well as buildings on the beach side of the village and esplanade. I believe the main source of logs and debris in the bay comes from the San Lorenzo river, close above us. Does the council have any evidence, photos, or video footage proving a concern of log jams under the bridge? Since this bridge has already held up well through that storm disaster, it doesn't seem there is a valid need to modify or rebuild it.

Current needs of deteriorating road surfaces, finishing the Robson Mansion Park project, and other traffic improvement projects seem like a much more valid use of city funding. It is rumored that some member(s) of the council want to put the proposed 'Rail/Trail' bike trail over the bridge, not the train trestle. Aside from these two places, I remind the board that there already exists a nice bike trail into Capitola from Wharf Rd, through the Robson Mansion area, over Soquel creek, and connecting to Bay Ave near the Nob Hill grocery, or via Center St. This is a very nice trail with separate bridges for bikes and pedestrians crossing the creek. It's safe for cyclists and gets them out of the major traffic occurring on other streets leading into the village. Coming from Santa Cruz, it's a quick ride from Jade St Park area over 49th Ave to Wharf Road, regardless of the 'Rail/Trail' trestle tracks over the creek issue. Once at Nob Hill/Center St. it's then an easy ride from Bay Ave to Park Ave, or down into the village via Monterey Ave or via Riverview Dr., should bikers want to go into the village. (Please see attached jpegs of City map area.) Again, we have a safe and beautiful bike trail already connecting to Capitola, and it doesn't seem a current need to create another bike trail into Capitola Village. Current funds should be used for the priority of current needs, as described above.

Therefore, I urge the council to abandon any plans for changes to, or destruction of, the Stockton Bridge. The bridge is an iconic, important part of the local community, and moreover, it is not a valid use of finances.

Sincerely, Sylvia Winsby  
1500 42nd Ave., Capitola, CA



