

## Wyatt, Rosie

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**From:** Denise White <dwhitehavens@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2025 5:10 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** [PDF] UPHOLD MEASURE L  
**Attachments:** Protect Capitola Measure L .pdf

### Denise and Rick White

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**Date:** 14, April 2025

Capitola City Council  
420 Capitola Ave  
Capitola, CA 95010

citycouncil@ci.capitola.ca.us

Dear Mayor and Esteemed Members of the Capitola City Council,

As 30-year full-time residents and homeowners in Capitola Village, we are writing to express our strong support for the continued preservation and enforcement of Capitola Municipal Code Chapter 8.72, enacted by Measure L in 2018. We urge the City Council to uphold the will of the voters and vote **NO** on any proposal—including the Park Avenue and Village Project—that would reroute the rail trail off the Santa Cruz Branch Line Corridor and onto Capitola streets or sidewalks.

Measure L was approved by a majority of Capitola voters with the intent to preserve the corridor for active transportation and recreational use **on the existing rail line**, including the historic Capitola Trestle. Chapter 8.72 clearly prohibits the use of city funds for detours of the Monterey Bay Scenic Trail onto city streets, a clause that is not only legally binding but morally imperative as it reflects the voice of the community.

### Traffic and Safety Concerns

Beyond the legal and environmental issues, the proposed detour would introduce serious negative impacts on our local traffic infrastructure. As longtime residents of Capitola Village, we are acutely aware of the daily congestion on our streets—particularly on Park Avenue, Cliff Drive, and around the Village loop. During peak tourist seasons, our small streets are often overwhelmed, and adding a high-traffic pedestrian and cyclist trail to that mix would only exacerbate the problem.

This kind of rerouting would create unsafe conditions for both residents and visitors, with increased conflicts between cars, pedestrians, and cyclists on already narrow, winding roads. These streets were not designed to accommodate this kind of multi-modal traffic, and doing so would degrade the quality of life for residents while undermining the usability and enjoyment of the trail itself. Rather than enhancing access and safety, the

detour would introduce new hazards, delays, and frustrations—completely contrary to the spirit of the Greenway vision.

### **Preserve the Corridor**

Allowing a detour through our neighborhood streets would compromise safety, accessibility, and the experience of a continuous, scenic trail that unites the region. The rail corridor is a rare and invaluable asset—flat, direct, and ideally situated to serve pedestrians, cyclists, and potentially even transit in the future. Diverting the trail onto Park Avenue or through Village streets undermines these benefits and contradicts both the intent and the letter of Measure L.

As longtime residents, we have witnessed the beauty and value this corridor adds to our community. Capitola must remain committed to forward-thinking, sustainable infrastructure that enhances—not fragments—connectivity. We implore you to respect and enforce Chapter 8.72, and protect the integrity of the Greenway Corridor.

Please vote **NO** on the Park Avenue and Village Project, and continue to stand with the voters and residents of Capitola who believe in a safe, scenic, and sustainable future for our city.

Please feel free to contact me with further input

Sincerely,  
Rick and Denise White

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