

Gautho, Julia

From: Aaron Johnson <aaronjohnsonstudio@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 5:18 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Possible Spam Please Support Both Trail and Rail

Dear Capitola Mayor and Council,

I am writing in support of the Park Ave Rail Trail as proposed by the RTC and County staff. Living in Live Oak I do most of my shopping by bicycle in Capitola. Because of car traffic I keep most of my stops west of 41st, usually at Trader Joes, Palace Art, OSH, and New Leaf. But I also bicycle from Pleasure Point down to the Village. Even though the funding available now is for bike paths on the other side of town, I strongly support it. Anything that Capitola can do to be more bicycle and pedestrian friendly will be great!

I also hope that the rail corridor will be preserved for passenger rail use, I think that it is a golden opportunity for Capitola Village. For visitors it is one of the most scenic spots on the line, and for locals the area is often congested with cars and limited in parking and public transit options. On summer weekends, when heading somewhere by car I've often been stuck in traffic on the freeway with visitors driving between Aptos and the Boardwalk. They miss Capitola, but I bet they would love to hop off the train after seeing it from the trestle, and they could ease parking throughout their day.

I'm 63 now and I hope to bike for a long time, but when that's no longer possible I'm still hoping that I'll ride the train someday. Please keep both rail and trail options alive, and move along as quickly as you can!

Thank you,

Aaron Johnson