

**Gautho, Julia**

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**From:** Linda Smith <vlrsmith@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:40 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 9D - Aug. 28 Council Meeting

9D. Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for the Capitola Active Transportation Plan

Parking and automobile traffic have long been a top issue for Capitola. Overall pedestrian safety has long been an issue, especially in Capitola Village. The popularity of the electric bicycle, and the more recent trend of the bicycle as a mode of transportation as well as recreation, has become an issue worth prioritizing.

I applaud the City for engaging in the development of an Active Transportation Plan for Capitola.

I am not very familiar with Ecology Action, who's role has been updated to "lead community outreach and engagement, equity-focused programming, and coordination with local partners, while supporting the City in meeting Caltrans requirements" in the development of the foundational Capitola Active Transportation Plan. Their website indicates they are a non-profit out of Berkley, CA focused on "driving behavior change in... transportation alternatives", among other things.

The Project Stakeholders listed in the Scope of Work do not include many key Capitola organizations such as the BIA, Chamber of Commerce, Senior Center, and others, but DO include bicycle advocacy groups from Santa Cruz. Underlining the disconnect, Pacific Cove Mobile Home Park is listed as a Project Stakeholder.

I am concerned that engaging in the development of such a TRANSFORMATIVE plan for Capitola, led by a group from Berkley, may not be the direction that will yield the best Active Transportation Plan for Capitola.

I urge you to consider development of the initial foundation for this plan be done in-house, with community involvement.

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Thank you

Linda Smith vlrsmith@sbcglobal.net  
Life is short -- Break the rules!  
Forgive quickly..  
Kiss slowly..  
Love truly..  
Laugh uncontrollably..  
And never regret anything that make you smile!