From: Young, Michael

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:35 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution to make biking safer for our community and especially for students like me going to school.

Adding buffered bike lanes on El Camino is a critical piece of this infrastructure, especially in collaboration with our city neighbors. Bike lanes that start and then disappear on a route are very unsafe. El Camino is a key transportation route for many students and their families. With many LAHS students coming from Mountain View to our campus, it is critical that they be able to find safe, buffered bicycle routes from their home to our school.

Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely,
Michael Young
Los Altos Resident
Los Altos High School Student

From: Jessica Young <

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:53 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

Hello,

I am writing in support of the resolution to make biking safer for our community and especially for students like me going to school.

Adding buffered bike lanes on El Camino is a critical piece of this infrastructure, especially in collaboration with our city neighbors. Bike lanes that start and then disappear on a route are very unsafe. El Camino is a key transportation route for many students and their families. With many LAHS students coming from Mountain View to our campus, it is critical that they be able to find safe, buffered bicycle routes from their home to our school.

Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely, Jessica Young Los Altos Resident

From: Shetty, Trisha

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 8:59 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution to make biking safer for our community and especially for students like me going to school.

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Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely, Trisha S Los Altos Resident

Los Altos High School Student

From: Alexander Daltchev <

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:01 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution to make biking safer for our community and especially for students like me going to school.

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Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely,

Alexander Daltchev Los Altos Resident

Los Altos High School Student

From: Gupta, Diya < Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:12 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution that makes biking safer for our community, especially for students like me going to school.

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Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely,
Diya Gupta
Los Altos Resident
Los Altos High School Student

From: Breitbart, Oliver

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:13 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution that makes biking safer for our community, especially for students like me going to school.

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Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely,
Oliver Breitbart
Los Altos Resident
Los Altos High School Student

From: Ma, Emilie

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:53 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution that makes biking safer for our community, especially for students like me going to school.

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Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely, Emilie Los Altos Resident Los Altos High School Student

From: Randall, Madeline

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:29 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution that makes biking safer for our community, especially for students like me going to school.

Adding buffered bike lanes on El Camino is a critical piece of this infrastructure, especially in collaboration with our city neighbors. Bike lanes that start and then disappear on a route are very unsafe. El Camino is a key transportation route for many students and their families. With many LAHS students coming from Mountain View to our campus, it is critical that they be able to find safe, buffered bicycle routes from their home to our school.

Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely, Maddy Randall Los Altos Resident Los Altos High School Student

From: Der, Amanda

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 6:08 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution that makes biking safer for our community, especially for students like me going to school.

Adding buffered bike lanes on El Camino is a critical piece of this infrastructure, especially in collaboration with our city neighbors. Bike lanes that start and then disappear on a route are very unsafe. El Camino is a key transportation route for many students and their families. With many LAHS students coming from Mountain View to our campus, it is critical that they be able to find safe, buffered bicycle routes from their home to our school.

Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely, Amanda Der Los Altos Resident Los Altos High School Student

From: Kaitlyn Lee

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:47 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of the resolution to make biking safer for our community and especially for students like me going to school.

Adding buffered bike lanes on El Camino is a critical piece of this infrastructure, especially in collaboration with our city neighbors. Bike lanes that start and then disappear on a route are very unsafe. El Camino is a key transportation route for many students and their families. With many LAHS students coming from Mountain View to our campus, it is critical that they be able to find safe, buffered bicycle routes from their home to our school.

Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely,
Kaitlyn Lee
Los Altos Resident
Los Altos High School Student

From: Kelsey Nguyen

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:35 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - 03/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

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Thank you to Caltrans, the city's staff, and the Complete Streets Commission for their work on and support of this improvement to our community.

Sincerely, **Kelsey Nguyen**Los Altos Resident

Los Altos High School Student

From: Cherie Walkowiak

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 10:37 PM

To: Public Comment Cc: John Scarboro

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM #5 El Camino Bike Lanes - March 22, 2022

Categories: Yellow category

Honrable Mayor Enader, Vice Mayor Meadows, and Council Members,

I write to you in support of Staff's recommendation to remove parking in order to install buffered bike lanes on El Camino Real.

El Camino is an extremely important corridor with a lot of shopping, dining, and health destinations. It's also a route to school for both Los Altos and Mountain View kids who go to Los Altos High, Graham Middle, Stevenson Elementary (which draws kids from all over the district), and Castro/Mistral Elementaries.

My friends' kids ride their bikes from north of Central Expressway to get to Los Altos High. They ride down Rengstorff to El Camino, which is a T-intesection. They have no choice but to ride along El Camino to get across this State Highway at Distel Drive to complete their commute to school.

Personally, I avoid riding my bike on El Camino when I can, but as someone whose main mode of tranportation is my bike, I can't always avoid it. Many place I need to go are either on El Camino or on the other side of El Camino from my home in Mountain View (near Shorline and Central Expressway). The places I ride to most often along Hwy 82 are (from South to North): Office Depot, Cost Plus World Market, Diddams, FexEx, Kwik Key, my kids' doctor at PAMF on Distel Circle (yes, they come with me by bike), Whole Foods, Diddams, and the Sweet Shop (my kids definitely come here with me by bike - to get candy for the gingerbread house my son designs each year).

Please help make El Camino safer for cyclists, and especially for the kids who have to ride along and/or accross El Camino to get to school. We don't want to see another teen <u>tragedy</u> like the one last Thursday at El Camino and Grant. You have the power to make this world a better, safer place. Please exercise that power. It could saves lives.

Cherie Walkowiak

Mountain View resident of 21 years, founding member of Safe Mountain View

From: Cherie Walkowiak

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 10:55 PM

To: Public Comment Cc: John Scarboro

Subject: Re: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM #5 El Camino Bike Lanes - March 22, 2022

Categories: Yellow category

I forgot to mention!! Mountain View is also working with Caltrans to install protected bike lanes along El Camino Real during the repavement project in 2023. See <u>El Camino Real Streetscape Plan</u>. Cross-city bike routes are very important for the viability of a network, and the installation of buffered bikeways in Los Altos will provide much-needed continuity in the regional bike network.

Thank you again! Cherie

On Monday, March 21, 2022, 10:36:49 PM PDT, Cherie Walkowiak wrote:

Honrable Mayor Enader, Vice Mayor Meadows, and Council Members,

I write to you in support of Staff's recommendation to remove parking in order to install buffered bike lanes on El Camino Real.

El Camino is an extremely important corridor with a lot of shopping, dining, and health destinations. It's also a route to school for both Los Altos and Mountain View kids who go to Los Altos High, Graham Middle, Stevenson Elementary (which draws kids from all over the district), and Castro/Mistral Elementaries.

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Personally, I avoid riding my bike on El Camino when I can, but as someone whose main mode of tranportation is my bike, I can't always avoid it. Many place I need to go are either on El Camino or on the other side of El Camino from my home in Mountain View (near Shorline and Central Expressway). The places I ride to most often along Hwy 82 are (from South to North): Office Depot, Cost Plus World Market, Diddams, FexEx, Kwik Key, my kids' doctor at PAMF on Distel Circle (yes, they come with me by bike), Whole Foods, Diddams, and the Sweet Shop (my kids definitely come here with me by bike - to get candy for the gingerbread house my son designs each year).

Please help make El Camino safer for cyclists, and especially for the kids who have to ride along and/or accross El Camino to get to school. We don't want to see another teen <u>tragedy</u> like the one last Thursday at El Camino and Grant. You have the power to make this world a better, safer place. Please exercise that power. It could saves lives.

Cherie Walkowiak

Mountain View resident of 21 years, founding member of Safe Mountain View

From: Silja Paymer

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:30 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM #5 El Camino Bike Lanes - March 22, 2022

Categories: Yellow category

Hi!

I am writing in support of bike lanes along El Camino. As an employee at Los Altos High School who bikes to work, I appreciate the need for improved bike infrastructure throughout Los Altos. While I understand that it will reduce a few parking spots, I don't think it is the job of citizens to pay for a free parking spot for half a dozen cars when they could instead have hundreds of bikes access the space instead. El Camino is inaccessible to bicyclists, and this harms businesses as much as the community and the world through increased carbon emissions.

Please support a through bike route on El Camino!

Thank you, Silja Paymer

From: Phan Truong

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 7:55 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM #5 - EL CAMINO REAL BIKE LANES

Categories: Yellow category

Dear City Council:

Do you remember that you voted for El Camino is CT Zone couple years ago (pictures below), so why do you take away parking and put the bike lane there?

where the customer of all stores front and all the residents of those high-rise housing will park?

If you allow those high-rise building get away with less than 1.5 parking for 2-3 bedrooms units, please provide them with parking space too.

Do not take away parking space on El Camino.

VOTE NO ON #5 PUT BIKE LANE ON EL CAMINO REAL

Commercial/C

CITY OF LOS AL



Thanks

Phan

From: Chris Hoeber

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 5:31 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Support for Class IIA Bike Lanes on El Camino - tonight's Agenda Item

Categories: Yellow category

Dear Los Altos City Council Members:

This letter is to express my strong appreciation for the effort that the City has put in to review the possibility of the creation of Class IIB bicycle facilities on El Camino Real and to request your approval of the recommendation being made to you by City Staff that that City Council approve the installation of those facilities. I appreciate that there will be people impacted by the loss of parking, but it has been shown that alternatives are available to them, and that has been factored into the recommendations.

El Camino Real is an important peninsula transportation artery and I think we all share the vision that it should serve all the residents, visitors, and businesses in the cities that it traverses. At the same time it is a barrier to kids trying to get to school in Los Altos from homes on the other side. It is a route that is needed by many residents who live along El Camino for their daily activities, and it is something that must be navigated by bike commuters up and down the peninsula. It is obvious that the current configuration through Los Altos and adjacent cities is dangerous for bicyclists; and this is being addressed by various agencies in the area including the VTA in its Bicycle Superhighway Implementation Plan.

The proposed Class IIB facility is a small but important incremental part of what is needed regionally, and a small part of Los Altos' commitment to environmental sustainability and combatting climate change, but if it is not taken today with the opportunity presented by Caltrans, will it ever be taken?

It has been only two years between the deaths of middle school boys at California Avenue in Palo Alto and at Grant Road in Mountain View. Let's commit to making the El Camino corridor so that such tragedies do not become a recurring nightmare.

In writing about the new bicycle facilities on Winchester Blvd. and Blossom Hill Roads in Los Gatos in last month's Los Altos Town Crier, I said that 1000 such projects were needed. Please take this opportunity to bring that number down to 999.

Thank You,



Christopher F. Hoeber



Chris Hoeber

From: Sue Young

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 3:55 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Categories: Yellow category

Hello,

I'm writing in support of replacing car parking with a bike lane on El Camino to make bike commuting safer and viable along this corridor. I was an avid bike commuter for 14 years before I retired. I often feared riding on El Camino anytime that I had to even for a a few yards. I realized that if El Camino had a bike lane it would be a natural bike route and more people WILL travel by bike if the infrastructure will support it. With the cost of gasoline at its highest now, it makes sense for people to start looking at alternatives. Bicycling is a perfect choice as we live in a mild climate, it's better for the environment and a great way to start the day with a bit of exercise and fresh air.

Thanks for listening and hope that this city council will step up to make changes in a positive direction.

Regards, Sue

(Los Altos resident of 29 years)

From: Kevin Chen

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 3:46 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - MARCH 22, 2022

Categories: Yellow category

I am writing in support of bike lanes on El Camino Real.

As a Palo Alto resident, I frequently bike in Los Altos/Mountain View, and dedicated bikes lanes on El Camino would go a long way toward making biking safer and easier in our community. Bike lanes on El Camino would open an essential arterial to people who bike, providing access to shopping, restaurants, and businesses along El Camino, as well as connections to transit, such as the VTA 22/522, without being forced to bike to/from far away alternate routes.

I urge the Council to adopt this Resolution to support buffered bike lanes on El Camino Real. In addition, I strongly urge the Council to immediately work toward securing further funding for and implementing physical protective devices such as raised curbs, planter boxes, or bollards and bus boarding islands to transform the proposed bike lanes into full Class IV protected bikeways as soon as possible. While buffered bike lanes are a serious improvement over the status quo, physical separation is needed to ensure unobstructed access and prevent drivers from pulling over and stopping/parking within the lanes. Good design and implementation of physical protective devices will reduce conflicts and obstructions and help drivers and people who bike anticipate each other at intersections and driveways.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

From: Eli Melmon

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 2:31 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM #5 - MEETING DATE 3/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

I am a Los Altos resident. I was born and raised in the Bay Area. The climate crisis is one of our society's biggest threats.

I fully support the creation of bike lines on El Camino Real and the removal of any street parking in the way.

Bike lanes are crucial to tackling the climate crisis. To reject or delay the creation of these bike lanes is to take a step backwards for the youth, LGBTQ, ethnic, and female demographics in our community. The folks in those demographics are more likely to be subject to the effects of climate change and we must do whatever we can to support them and prevent further ecological decay.

- Eli Melmon

Sent from my iPhone

From: Margaret Suozzo

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 1:41 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT on ITEM #5 - March 22, 2022, Buffered bike lane installation on El

Camino

Categories: Yellow category

Honorable Mayor and Members of the Council -

I am writing to urge you to support the staff's recommendation to allow Caltrans to install buffered bike lanes on El Camino (from Adobe Creek to south of Rengstorff) during its resurfacing project next year. Let's make good on commitments and policies to create safer streets that support multiple modes of transportation and achieve our greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

In addition to making it easier for people to experience the joys and health benefits of cycling, the following six reasons are why I am urging you to support the staff proposal:

1. People are already biking on El Camino. Let's make it safer.

People ride on El Camino, including school kids as witnessed in <u>last week's horrendous bicycling tragedy</u>. So it is extremely important to create infrastructure that makes it safe for cyclists (kids and adults alike) to do what they are going to do anyway. Students cross and may use El Camino to get to Egan, Santa Rita, Covington, Almond and Springer School schools, and perhaps other Los Altos School District Schools, as well as Bullis Charter School campuses. Commuting along the corridor will better connect Los Altos to other communities from Menlo Park to Sunnyvale and beyond.

2. The City has plans and policies in place for safer cycling. Let's make good on them.

- The <u>Complete Streets Master Plan</u> (CSMP) guides the City's transportation planning and specifically recommends bicycle infrastructure improvements on El Camino.
- The City's CAAP, which the Council adopted last month, identifies transportation as the greatest source of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) in our community. The plan proposes to reduce single-occupancy vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% by 2035, first and foremost, by creating a more walkable and bikeable city.

4. Parking on El Camino is underutilized.

A parking study commissioned by the City of Los Altos in Spring 2021 found that 1/3 of the potential parking spaces along the corridor are already prohibited from parking and utilization for the remaining spaces is low.

5. The proposal is very low cost to the City.

This is a rare opportunity to take advantage of Caltans' resurfacing of El Camino, which is badly needed and will also improve safety for cyclists, and to put grant monies that Caltrans received for bicycle infrastructure improvements to good use. The City can, therefore, achieve its CSMP and some of its CAAP goals at very low cost and effort as the job will be done and funded by Caltrans.

6. If not now, when?

If we don't support this infrastructure improvement now, we may be looking at 10 or more years before the opportunity arises again, losing valuable time in the fight against climate change. Please don't wager the future of our children. And when the opportunity arises again, the City may be responsible for paying for the improvements.

I urge you to show some leadership in advancing Los Altos' complete streets and environmental goals by taking advantage of this opportunity to provide safer bicycle travel in and around Los Altos while supporting regional goals and visions for an improved regional transportation network.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely, Margie Suozzo, Co Lead GreenTown Los Altos Transportation Program

From: Urban International

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:00 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Please support buffered bike lanes on El Camino

Categories: Yellow category

To City Council,

I strongly urge you to support the Staff recommendation to construct buffered bike lanes on El Camino between Adobe Creek & Rengstorff Avenue. This will create a safer option for children who bike to school, and will support the use of non-motorized transportation more generally, especially by those who would otherwise feel unsafe cycling along such a busy arterial road, (myself included).

Thank you,

Larissa Muller 460 Hacienda Way Los Altos, CA

From: Sergiy Kanyshchev

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 11:39 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #5 - Please support buffered bike lanes on El Camino

Categories: Yellow category

I am in support of grade-separated bike lanes in Mountain View. It is time for the city to become bike-friendly IRL, not on paper.

Sergiy Kanyshchev,

Mountain View resident and home owner

From: Karl Danz

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 10:29 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #5 - Please support buffered bike lanes on El Camino

Categories: Yellow category

I have lived in Los Altos for over 30 years and am an avid cyclist. I ride for recreation and also for errands around town, averaging around 2,500 miles per year on my bike. I have ridden on El Camino Real many times over the years, and those segments of my rides have been among the most treacherous I have ever experienced. But when (for example) you're dropping your car off for service on ECR and it's time to ride back home, that's the way to go. I would say this qualifies me as Strong and Fearless* but no person should have to be "brave" to ride a bicycle.

I strongly support the staff's recommendation for buffered bike lanes on El Camino:

El Camino Real Bike Lanes: Consider and Adopt Resolution supporting Class IIB - Buffered Bicycle Lane Installation on El Camino Real — City Limits between Adobe Creek and ~500-FT South of Rengstorff Avenue as part of Caltrans Street Resurfacing Improvements scheduled for Summer 2023; Approve Removal of Street Parking to Accommodate this Improvement.

As you know, studies are complete and Caltrans will pay for the bike lane improvements, since it is planning to resurface anyway. So this is a rare opportunity! As a former Commissioner on what was then called the Los Altos Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, I know this sort of opportunity only comes along once in a blue moon. Please support this potentially life-saving action.

Thank you, Karl Danz 1540 Morton Ave. Los Altos, CA 94024

^{* &}quot;Four Types of Cyclists" - https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/264746

From: Lenny Siegel

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 9:26 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: El Camino Real Bike Lanes

Categories: Yellow category

Please do whatever you need to do to accelerate the installation of buffered bike lanes on the Los Altos segment of El Camino Real. Mountain View is planning to do the same.

But bike lanes are not enough. Please ensure that there are safer ways for bicyclists and pedestrians to cross El Camino Real and for bicyclists to make left turns on and off El Camino Real.

Lenny Siegel Mountain View

From: Ning Ke

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:42 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Categories: Yellow category

Hi!

I am writing in support of installing buffered bike lanes on El Camino Real.

I think having bike lanes on El Camino Real would be super important for a number of reasons:

- Some commuting routes would be much shorter by utilizing short stretches of El Camino Real
- It would be very helpful for people running errands. for example, I often shop at the WholeFoods on El Camino / Showers Drive, and today I needed to use the sidewalk (which is very narrow) for safety.
- Many kids living on the east of El Camino who go to schools in Los Altos (e.g. Egan Junior High and Los Altos High), bike lanes would make their traveling much safer even for very short distances.

Having a protected bike lane would be a huge step forward for all types of bicyclists.

Sincerely, Ning Ke Los Altos Resident

From: Alon Golan

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:00 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Buffered Bicycle Lanes on El Camino Real

Categories: Yellow category

I would like to voice my support for allocating road space for wide, well marked and safe travel lane for bicycles on El Camino Real in Los Altos.

A 13 year old boy was killed riding his bicycle across El Camino Real to Graham Middle School in Mountain View last week. Doing the right thing, choosing active, sustainable transportation over cars to get to local destinations, like public schools, should not be a dangerous or risky choice. For many decades, we have made it a risky and dangrous choice. We have done this by dedicating our public road space to motor vehicles only. This decision has failed us, and it's time for a change. We have to give residents the choice to ride their bike safely on our streets. We cannot keep forcing everyone to drive a car everywhere out of fear of injury and death.

Now is the time to take action and do the right thing for our community.

Sincerely, Alon Golan Los Altos

From: Edward Swierk

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 12:08 AM

To: Public Comment

Subject: El Camino Real bike lanes

Categories: Yellow category

Dear Councilmembers,

I strongly support the installation of buffered bicycle lanes along El Camino Real within the Los Altos city limits, including the necessary removal of on-street parking spaces.

As a more than 20-year resident of Mountain View and occasional bicyclist, I can assure you that people don't bike on busy roads for fun. They do it to get where they're going. Bike routes that zigzag through neighborhoods and snake along creekbeds are inadequate. Absent an alternative that's nearly as direct, people will bike on El Camino Real. And if it's unsafe, some will get hurt doing so.

This point was tragically demonstrated just a few days ago at a nearby stretch of El Camino Real, as a 13-year-old was killed at a busy intersection in Mountain View while biking to school.

I urge the council to accept the staff recommendation, and approve installing buffered bicycle lanes along the entire stretch of El Camino Real through the city -- including and especially the challenging sections at major intersections.

Edward Swierk 341 W Dana St Mountain View CA 94041

From:

Sent:

Subject:

Attachments:

Categories:

All the best,

To:

Diana Crumedy	
Diana Crumedy Santa Clara County Advocate	

Dear Los Altos Mayor and Council members,

Attached please find our Letter of Support.

Twitter @bikeSV | Instagram @bikesiliconvalley

Diana Crumedy

Yellow category

2023; Approve Removal of Street Parking to Accommodate this Improvement.

Weinberg

Monday, March 21, 2022 7:18 PM

Letter of Support for agenda item #5

Los Altos Agenda Item 5 Letter of Support.docx (1).pdf

On behalf of Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC), a nonprofit creating a healthy community, environment, and economy through bicycling, we are writing to express support for agenda item #5 to Consider and Adopt Resolution supporting Class IIB - Buffered Bicycle Lane Installation on El Camino Real - City Limits between Adobe Creek and ~500-FT South of Rengstorff Avenue as part of Caltrans Street Resurfacing Improvements scheduled for Summer

Public Comment; Anita Enander; Sally Meadows; Neysa Fligor; Lynette Lee Eng; Jonathan

3/21/22

Los Altos Council,

RE: Agenda item #5 to Consider and Adopt Resolution supporting Class IIB - Buffered Bicycle Lane Installation on El Camino Real

Dear Mayor Enander and City Council member,

On behalf of Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC), a nonprofit creating a healthy community, environment, and economy through bicycling, we are writing to express support for agenda item #5 to Consider and Adopt Resolution supporting Class IIB - Buffered Bicycle Lane Installation on El Camino Real - City Limits between Adobe Creek and ~500-FT South of Rengstorff Avenue as part of Caltrans Street Resurfacing Improvements scheduled for Summer 2023; Approve Removal of Street Parking to Accommodate this Improvement.

On March 17th as a result of a traffic collision in Mountain View on El Camino Real and Grant Rd. a 13-year-old child was struck and killed while bicycling to school by a man driving on El Camino Real. In 2020 on March 6th, an 11-year-old student of Palo Alto was killed when he was biking at the intersection of El Camino Real and California Ave in Palo Alto.

This is a tragedy, that these beautiful young lives have been taken too soon. We owe it to our youth to ensure that the roads that they travel on are safe enough to allow them to get to and from school, alive.

El Camino Real has a higher rate of collisions for people walking and biking than other streets in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. Despite the street being a community hub of destinations, this is a wide multi-lane road with fast-moving cars and long crosswalks. Because of this, El Camino Real has long been a priority for SVBC to make it safer for people walking and biking. SVBC also aims at Vision Zero, with a goal to have zero traffic deaths or life-altering injuries due to roadway design or user error in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

SVBC strongly believes in the equitable distribution of street space for all types of users. Currently, our roads are highly subsidized for people driving in the form of vehicle lanes and parking. If we plan for cars and traffic, we will get cars and traffic. If we really want to encourage folks to walk and bike and use other modes, we need to significantly make improvements to accommodate the same. This may lead to parking removal which can be addressed and mitigated in multiple ways.

Many of your neighboring cities like Mountain View, Menlo Park, Redwood City, and more have planned protected bike lanes in their jurisdiction along El Camino Real. And it is now your turn!



bikesiliconvalley.org 155 S 11th St San Jose, CA 95112

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SVBC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

SVBC is highly supportive of Staff's and Caltrans' request for a City Council resolution that approves the installation of Class IIB – Buffered Bike Lanes on both sides of El Camino Real between Adobe Creek and approximately 500-FT South of Rengstorff Avenue as part of Caltrans' upcoming street resurfacing project and for City Council's approval of the removal of 248 on-street parking spaces to accommodate this improvement.

SVBC would also love to collaborate and provide any support needed to the Los Altos city council and staff on this project.

Sincerely,



Shiloh Ballard President & Executive Director

From: Jonathan Shores

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 6:04 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Bike pathways on El Camino Real

Categories: Yellow category

Los Altos City Council;

Thank you for taking the time to read my opinion about cycling on El Camino Real.

El Camino Real is busy with lots of traffic, both cars and commercial vehicles course through continuously. It is dense with traffic most of the time and occasionally there are periods of light traffic that moves quite fast.

I do most everything on my bike and have found great alternative routes to get where I need to get without traveling El Camino, except for the occasional crossing of it at stop lights. I have commuted using these routes and only have had to cross El Camino Real at one location.

It is my humble opinion that even with protected bike paths the alternative routes would be best. They are safer, more relaxing to ride and it being actually quite enjoyable are the main reasons. I would always feel gritty after riding El Camino Real with the fumes from exhaust and particulates kicked up along the way. The buses are another factor that detracts from smooth going. A fancier pathway would not effect a positive change in this.

I wonder how many more bike riders would be added to make the path worth the money and worth the impact on businesses and worth the added pollution.

I ride every day and log about 50 miles/week mostly in a 10 mile radius from Los Altos. Recreational rides add much more. For future reference, I have a categorical reluctance to embrace protected bike paths since, as a hardened rider, I keep situational awareness as the most important factor while riding. My personal preference is to not have too many obstacles to be aware of while riding and my being able to maneuver is of tantamount concern. Thank you.

Best Regards,

Jonathan Shores

From: Cheryl Weiden

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 4:59 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #5 - Please support buffered bike lanes on El Camino

Categories: Yellow category

Our community needs safe bike routes and complete streets to reduce vehicle traffic / GHG emissions and develop a sustainable community.

Don Weiden

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From: deborah kilpatrick

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 4:16 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #5 - Please support buffered bike lanes on El Camino

Categories: Yellow category

Council members,

I am a 54 year old female who lives off Springer Road. I rarely drive my car, instead choosing to bike commute regularly---even when I take Caltrain, I often bike to/from the station and home. As such, I am often on El Camino Real on my bike (or crossing it at intersections), especially when I need to run errands in the course of my bike commute. I am a seasoned rider who knows how to bike defensively in traffic, but there are many, many riders on our streets who are not as comfortable and would benefit greatly from dedicated bike lanes on El Camino. It will not impede car traffic, but it could have a massive impact on the number of people willing to use biking as a transportation option (which will help alleviate car traffic!). Given the number of high density residential buildings going up along El Camino, this feels even more urgent to address.

Thank you for considering.

Deborah Kilpatrick

From: Ryan Dautel

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 3:54 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 5 - MEETING DATE 3/22/22

Categories: Yellow category

To Whom It May Concern,

I wanted to provide my input regarding the proposed El Camino Real bike lane project. As both a lifelong resident of Los Altos and someone working for a standalone retail establishment on El Camino Real (in Los Altos), I oppose this concept. With my work location being near the intersection of San Antonio and El Camino, street parking is always at a premium. I've observed that many of the people parking along the El Camino are those who have commuted into Los Altos for their jobs, and therefore do not have the luxury of biking a short distance for their work. Biking, of course, is also not feasible or safe in inclement weather and/or at night. The lack of parking and the need for it will only be exacerbated by the ever-growing increase in businesses and housing developments.

As a case in point, not a day goes by at my store that we don't have patrons from **other** businesses wrongfully utilizing our parking lot because there isn't enough parking elsewhere on the block, and/or cutting across it due to the current level of congestion. Taking away street parking will exacerbate this problem, potentially discouraging customers from shopping and making it more difficult for our already-struggling small businesses to survive. Not to mention the increased risk to people due to additional drivers turning in and out of driveways, but possibly also due to anger from heavier traffic and attempting to take "shortcuts." In an area so heavily used by thousands of commuters each day, it simply isn't realistic to expect good results from eliminating even more access to parking and making driving (generally the only feasible method of transportation for most) a greater challenge. The parking study conducted in April of 2021 is not an accurate representation of the parking needs of the community due to the impact of COVID.

I greatly appreciate your attention to this matter and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan Dautel

From: Kacey Fitzpatrick

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 3:41 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #5 - Please support buffered bike lanes on El Camino

Categories: Yellow category

Dear Esteemed Council Members of Los Altos:

I urgently ask for your support and a YES vote for buffered bike lanes on El Camino Real. These bike lanes are much needed for both work commuters and students, to make our roads safer and to make more cyclists (and parents) feel safer.

Despite being a major thoroughfare for transportation, El Camino Real is extremely unfriendly to bicyclists. It desperately needs this update. I know that I personally would be much more inclined to ride my bike to Whole Foods and Trader Joe's on El Camino if the bike lanes were there. And my son would have an easier time riding to his weekend job. And my partner would have an easier time cycling to work. And the whole community would be safer.

The fact that CalTrans will pay for the bike lanes as part of it's re-surfacing plan is a boon to us and our neighboring communities. And since transportation is the greatest source of greenhouse gases in our community, I am excited to see a very real and important way that we can support and encourage the goals of more biking and less car driving, to reduce our community emissions.

Please support this!

thank you,

Kacey Fitzpatrick Los Atlos, CA

From: Lucy Hsu

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 3:31 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #5 - Please support buffered bike lanes on El Camino

Categories: Yellow category

I strongly support the staff's recommendation for buffered bike lanes on El Camino. This is fully aligned with Complete Streets, and is a crucial step to encourage a more bikeable city. This needs to be approved before another tragic bike accident occurs on this road.

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Lucy Hsu 555 Benvenue Ave. Los Altos

From: Linda Palmor

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 2:42 PM

To: Public Comment

Subject: Comment on Agenda Item #5 -EI Camino Bike Lanes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Completed

As a long-time resident of Los Altos, and a user of the businesses on the El Camino corridor, I wish to express my concerns over the city council's desire to eliminate parking spots to enable a bike lane to be installed on El Camino.

No, I am not going to bike to these businesses, nor am I going to walk. They are too far away for me to make that trip efficiently. And, in any event, El Camino is far too busy a street to cycle on for any reason!!!

Why do you think that pushing cars onto the already busy residential side streets is effective or a viable solution? Are you trying to kill the businesses which support our neighborhood! It's hard enough to find parking for those businesses now - particularly since the existing multistory buildings already have a dearth of parking due to their developers weaseling their way into the city council's good graces and building developments with far too few parking spaces..

Please consider the needs of your Los Altos neighbors, whom you are SUPPOSED to be representing. You obviously do not represent my needs nor those of my friends who live in Los Altos. Are the developers everything to you? Are the residents of Los Altos just chopped liver, to be derided and ignored for your glory??

Linda Palmor

From: Myra & Carl Orta

To: Public Comment

Subject: driving and parking in Los Altos

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:13:19 PM

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

Unfortunately, these comments may be too late for the council meeting on March 22, but I would appreciate your considering my comments on this topic at any time.

I do not think it is wise to remove parking slots from the downtown parking plazas and along El Camino to allow for new housing and for bike riders.

Los Altos residents and their neighbors enjoy shopping and dining in Los Altos and need parking. If you infringe on the alloted parking we will go to other towns where parking is easy and available. The big losers will be the merchants and the city in lost tax revenue.

Practically speaking, allowing for bike lanes on El Camino Real is truly suicidal. As a former avid bike rider, I would never consider riding my bike on El Camino with all the traffic. It is suicidal. Neighboring parallel streets were always a safer alternative. To take away needed parking places to allow for the very few bike riders on El Camino is not a good idea at all.

As for sacrificing needed parking in our parking plazas for construction of housing, if you must take some of the essential spots then the only alternative is to build a garage. This may be a "dirty word" to some but it is necessary. Allocate a good location, walking distance to Main and State Streets, build a 2 story with underground parking. Every city near us has downtown parking garages and they are well used. . Mtn. View, Sunnyvale, Palo Alto all have three or more downtown garages. I do not understand why Los Altos cannot have at least one. I also suggest we finance a free city van that transports people from the garage to Main and State Street and back to the garage, from 9am to 11pm daily. The senior citizens and moms with little kids will all be grateful, and they will add to taxes with their purchases and dining.

Please consider some of my suggestions and you will have more positive feedback from the residents who feel that their concerns are being ignored.

Sincerely, Myra Orta

From: John Vidovich
To: Public Comment

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 5:49:10 PM

My name is John Vidovich. I work every day at my office at 960 North San Antonio. I occasionally ride my bike to and from work. I like it. I ride on Los Altos Avenue, San Antonio and sometimes the El Camino.

- 1. Los Altos Avenue is quite safe and I can almost keep up with the cars. The key is the traffic is slow. There is not a lot of cars on the side of the road until you get next to town and many of those cars are down town workers.
- 2. San Antonio is dangerous. The bike lane is small and the cars are feet from killing me. So I illegally sometimes ride on the side walk. Particularly when traffic is bad the car drivers are too aggressive and looking a their phones. Death is possible. I think I would rather get a ticket for riding on the sidewalk then die. It is NOT safe on the road bike lane.
- 3. El Camino same as San Antonio times 3.

So how about expanding the side walk to be a share the road with pedestrians and bikes. You can have 4 feet for walkers on concrete and the balance of the sidewalk is asphalt to demarcate where bikes can share. The asphalt can be 5 feet wide. Maybe put some truncated domes to keep the foot and bike traffic separated.

The open space allows bikes to share and it works out fine. The kids ride bikes and they and us adults are going to get killed.

Another benefit is that cars can park on El Camino which will make the bike/ pedestrian walks super safe. If you save one life it is worth it.

Gas controversy.

I am involved in farming and cattle/cows and we are mandated to capture many tons of methane from the cow/dairy manure. It works and this substantial bit of methane can be used for people who want and need to cook with gas. Electric anything else is different but gas cooking is a unique and purposeful use. Making it illegal or taxing it too much is not a good idea. You can buy from any dairy in California natural made methane. It is place into the major gas pipelines.

JOHN VIDOVICH