

From: Phil Seaman [REDACTED]
Date: October 3, 2022 at 2:24:49 PM PDT
To: Michael Glow [REDACTED]
Cc: Laurel Prevetti <LPrevetti@losgatosca.gov>, Maria Ristow <MRistow@losgatosca.gov>, Marico Sayoc <MSayoc@losgatosca.gov>, Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>, Matthew Hudes <MHudes@losgatosca.gov>, Rob Rennie <RRennie@losgatosca.gov>, Gitta Ungvari <GUngvari@losgatosca.gov>, Andy & Fran Edwards [REDACTED], Devin & Toni Conway [REDACTED], Jan Taylor [REDACTED] "LosGatos, Weekly Times" <lgwt@community-newspapers.com>, "Robinson, James H." <jhrobinson@mercurynews.com>, Ed Clendaniel <eclendaniel@bayareanewsgroup.com>, Shannon Susick [REDACTED], Sandy Decker [REDACTED], James U Hall [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Pedestrian Bridge Project

EXTERNAL SENDER

Michael,

Thanks for bringing this to my attention. I went on line and voted for the lowest cost option.
<https://www.losgatosca.gov/2556/Hwy-17-Bicycle-Pedestrian-Overcrossing>

Cheers,
Phil

On Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 1:40 PM Michael Glow [REDACTED] wrote:
Dear Gentilepersons of the Los Gatos Town Council:

My household budget does not operate at a deficit. Even so, if I were looking to buy a car and the candidates were a Toyota, a Volvo, or a Mercedes, I'd buy the Toyota. It is my understanding that the town budget has been operating at a deficit, and that future budgets call for continued deficits. That begs the question, how can the town consider any alternative bridge construction other than the least expensive option that fills the need?

Respectfully yours,
Michael Glow

From: june beeler [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 7, 2022 2:02 PM
To: Council <Council@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Proposed Pedestrian/Bike bridge

EXTERNAL SENDER

To all Town Council Members:

I am writing to express my view and disapproval, of the "high priority town project". namely the proposed Pedestrian/Bike new bridge construction, on Blossom Hill Road, on the Hwy 17 overpass.

I consider this project to be unnecessary, as designed, and extremely expensive! I'm not sure if the money allocated for this project comes from a government grant? However, the high cost of personnel for the design, construction and materials during four phases, lasting over five years, is outlandish! The amount of money this will cost could be spent elsewhere, in our town, to better advantage.

During the 50 plus years that I have been a Los Gatos resident, I have not heard of any problem or serious accident, to either pedestrians or bicyclists, as they traverse, over the existing Blossom Hill overpass. Other less expensive, less intrusive, more cost effective means, to ensure complete safety, to people walking or biking, in that area, could simply be to upgrade the existing Blossom Hill overpass, with fencing, separating the traffic from the bike lane, in particular. The bike lane could be widened, utilizing the sidewalk, to accommodate people, riding in both directions. A new sidewalk area addition could be cantilevered out, attached to the outer side, of the overpass. I have seen that solution, in effect, at another overpass, in another town.

Now, the town wants to secure the public's approval, for one of the three proposed designs, to "cement" this project, in place, by requesting people to vote, in a survey... It seems obvious that the two designs, with decorative steel "railings", designed for appearance, only, and being more costly, is not a good choice. IMO, neither is the third choice, of a "streamlined" concrete structure, the best answer. Building such a "heavy duty" structure is not practical when it won't be used by cars, trucks or buses, only people, That option also requires building retaining walls, on both sides, of the overpass, causing additional, unnecessary expense!.

Also, IMO, the planter area, separating traffic, from the bike lanes, offers no safety protection, whatsoever! Extending the fencing would provide better protection... Actually, it is hard to determine, from the visual, whether any fencing is placed on the outer edge, of the proposed sidewalk, over Hwy 17? It would be, derelict not to do so...

Even though it could be considered "late, in the game", it is never too. late to save financial resources, to shelve this design proposal for a better, more innovative, cost effective alternative! Send it back to the "drawing board"! The decision, by the current Town Council, is vital. If the town is concerned about a possible deficit, this is one area, to be frugal.

With all respect, thank you for your attention and consideration, of my comments about this project...

Sincerely,

June Beeler

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, September 16, 2022 1:57:21 PM

Cc: 'Joe Rodgers' [REDACTED]

Subject: question about proposed pedestrian bridge

EXTERNAL SENDER

Hi Mary and Matthew, my two favorite town council members,
I have a question about the proposed pedestrian bridge. The Town of LG posted on nextdoor.com that they are doing a survey gathering public input as to which of 3 bridge choices the public would like. It also said that the bridge would cost 25-38 million dollars to build. Is this a done deal? Are they definitely building it, or is it up for consideration?

If it gets built, where does the money come from? I got a very vague answer on nextdoor.com from Holly Young Senior Management Analyst with the town. She also wanted to take my questions offline and suggested I contact Janice Chin. I responded for the sake of transparency I would like to have some basic questions answered staying on nextdoor.com because there were several people on that post who were interested in the answers as well.

How can our town even afford this? I know we are in a very large deficit.

Kind regards,
Lisa Harris