

From: Helen Sun <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 9:04 AM

To: Rob Moore <RMoore@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Rennie <RRennie@losgatosca.gov>; Matthew Hudes <MHudes@losgatosca.gov>; Maria Ristow <MRistow@losgatosca.gov>; Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>

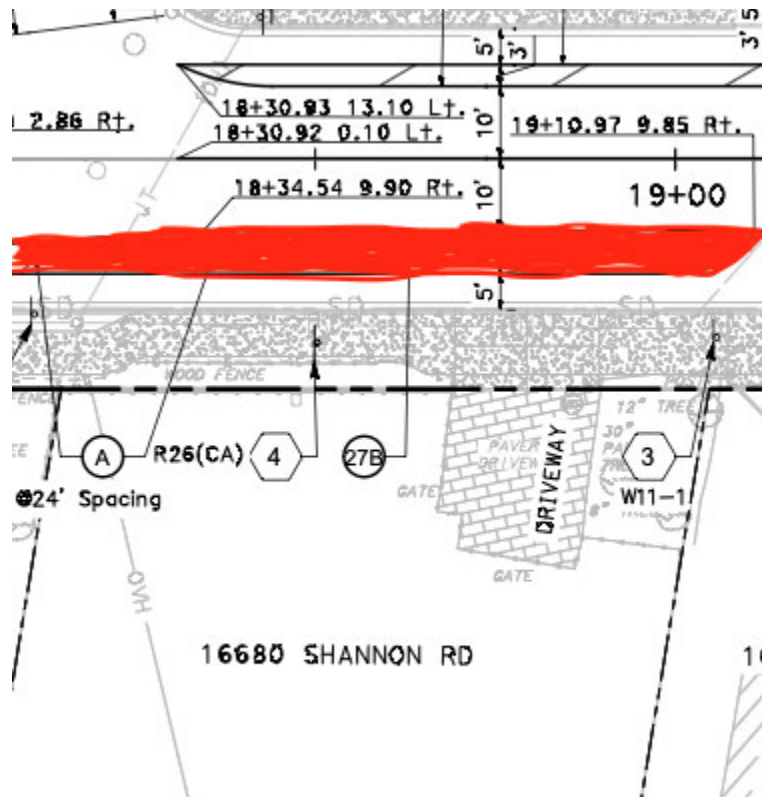
Cc: Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>; James Watson <JWatson@losgatosca.gov>

Subject: Re: Shannon Road Project (For the next Town Council Meeting)

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Town Council Members,

I just realized that the screenshot in my earlier letter did not go through. Here is what I was referring to on the EXTRA wide buffer right in front of 16680 and 16668. Can you please point to me where else in town that has this? Is this section of the Shannon Rd considered more dangerous/busier to the bikers/walkers than the other streets, like Roberts, Fisher Ave, Kennedy, Englewood or any other streets near schools that do not have a buffer? LG Blvd does not even have a wide buffer or buffer throughout. We would like to see the justification backing this. Thanks.



Best,

Helen

On Tue, Mar 28, 2023 at 8:00 PM Helen Sun <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Los Gatos Council Members,

This is Helen, resident on Shannon Road since 2013. We are writing to let the Town Council know that we agree with everything that our neighbor, Ned Finkle, said in his email dated March 23rd.

1) First off, we very much support this project to make our street safer for the kids who walk/bike to and from their schools. However, we really don't need to go to the extent of adding the full width of bike lanes, walkways, and even the larger than usual buffers. I hope you all still agree that Shannon Rd is a neighborhood street and should continue to be kept that way. Shannon Rd is NOT Winchester or Blossom Hill. While it is necessary to add the safety elements, there is absolutely NO reason for the town to OVER expand and OVER spend (whether it is federal or local tax dollars).

2) When designing the street, the design team should have looked at the connecting streets in the neighborhood, such as Englewood, Roberts and Cherry Blossom, to make sure the layout is aligned and not vastly different. The 2-block of the Shannon Rd is NOT busier than the streets below during the school rush hours. So, why should the 2-block on Shannon Rd be so largely different from the others?

*Fields in red font are areas where the elements differ from the Shannon Rd design of the 2-block length.

	Buffer	Bike Lane	Sidewalk	Parking	Trees
Shannon-Roberts	NO	In Car Lanes	2 Sides	2 Sides	YES
Shannon-Englewood	NO	NO	NO	2 Sides	YES
Shannon Beyond the 2 Blocks	NO	NO	1 Side	2 Sides	YES
Shannon-Cherry Blossom	NO	2 Sides	2 Sides	1 Side	YES

Yes, it is true that none of these streets have buffers. Over the past year and half, we have reached out to the town engineer numerous times to talk about the street design and stress that we don't need the buffers on this street, and most definitely, not a wider buffer than others. As of today, this is what we are seeing on the project plan, a whole 6' width of marked buffer right in front of our property and 7' outside of 16668. This is even much wider than the buffers I see on Los Gatos Blvd! Most of the LG Blvd does not even have a buffer. With all due respect, I don't think anybody reading this would be pleased to have this implemented right outside of their property.

3) As a community, we have raised our voice about these views/opinions over and over, but not much has changed. One of the items we feel very strongly about is NO barriers of any kind. We don't want barrier on our street. There are no barriers in any other neighborhood streets in town. Barriers got knocked over and they are extremely unsightful and they don't work!

4) We also expressed strongly that we need to add trees on our street as part of the Shannon Rd project. The current plan will add much more CO2 footprint, take away the existing trees with no plan to add any more back. This can not be considered acceptable given the environmental crisis we are in. Adding trees on our street as part of this project was one of the first few things that the residents asked for. However, that has been neglected all along as well.

5) Lastly, but not the least, we ask the town council to consider scoping down the project also because of the budget issue that the town is facing. Everything is getting even more expensive around here than just a year ago. The actual implementation of this plan will cost a lot more than the number on the paper. This is NOT a good use for the tax money for all the reasons that we mentioned above.

We really hope the Town Council members would review the objectives of the project again and scope down accordingly. While we modernize the town, we also should continue to keep the same feel and look that we all love and came here for. Thank you again for your time and consideration, and for continuing to serve the people in this town.

Best,

Helen

From: Maxine Granadino <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 3:11 PM
To: Council <Council@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Shannon Road project

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Council Members,

We are writing to you regarding the proposal to implement 6ft sidewalks on both sides of Shannon Road. Our family have lived on Hilow Court just off of Shannon Road for 33 years. Much of what follows we owe to Ned Finkel, who managed to encompass all the concerns we have so well that we felt it appropriate to use his words. We would like to add that we understand that neighbors on Shannon will be required to move trees from their properties, which is a huge shame for a town that values it's trees as ours does, as well as for the homeowners losing that valuable asset.

Thank you for your service to the town in such a demanding role, given how tight and personal our town is. Most LG'ers care deeply about our town, and that is part of what makes it special. However, we are writing to express the views of ourselves and the neighbors in the area affected by the proposal, who are not happy with its implementation.

To be blunt, we feel that the proposal will be visually unattractive (very ugly) and not in keeping with the town's character. Furthermore, it is not representative of the normal neighborhood implementations for sidewalks and trees, and it is not environmentally friendly, as zero trees are included in the proposal. The implementation calls for 6ft sidewalks for a quarter mile on both sides of the street, while the norm in the town is 5ft. As a result, we will have half a mile of sidewalks with no trees and no carbon offset to the **187,393 pounds + of CO2** it took to put the concrete in. The sidewalk with no trees and utility poles sticking out is moved to the near edge of the property lines on nearly all homes. The bike lane plus padding on both sides has essentially eliminated all street parking. This, plus the proposed barriers, has residents unified in opposition to the implementation.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, we had tried to politely present these feelings via just a few representatives in consideration for the council. However, what was recorded in the notes was that only a few had problems with the implementation. We followed with a signature list from nearly all the homes requesting a meeting to express our views. We did have that meeting, and there was a great amount of sharing of views by the neighbors and listening by the now departed town engineers. While there were meetings that followed with individual homeowners, the plan was essentially unchanged. Lots of reasons were given, but my understanding is that there was no funding to make slight adjustments with the contractor. So, the plan moved ahead for council vote at "65% completion "and was moved forward on a 3-2 vote. Here we are 1 year later, and the street feels the same about the proposal as we currently understand it. It is so bad that most fear reduction in property values as a result.

We all know that the town budget is in poor shape, and we sense that the actual implementation will cost much more than what the grant provides. We also know that the original grant request letter signed by County Supervisor & former LG Mayor Mike Wasserman was for a 5ft sidewalk on one side of the street plus a Class 1 bike lane. A much more modest approach and fiscally conservative. If we are going to make improvements, why not do them right. I propose the following to gain the support of the neighborhood.

1. Speed humps will get you 70+ percent of your safety improvement, and they are cheap. Do them now. You have the data from the other part of Shannon, and we can see the positive effect it has had, reducing the average speed by 10-15 mph and nearly eliminating the high speeds.
2. Revise to 5ft sidewalks & **include trees.**
3. Adjust the bike lane to a more modest implementation due to the speed reduction. How about a 2 ft space next to the road and pass on the 2ft next to the curb as cars will almost never be there to open a door.
4. Add the 4 ft of space back to the property line buffer and open room for the addition of trees.

We think that you will save money with the reduction in concrete...1/2 mile times one foot is a lot of concrete & CO2 savings (~**29,440lbs**). We also are happy to water the trees until they are self-sustaining. Also, less direct costs to the homeowners from the repairs of driveways and fences.

We think all the council members would have a hard time convincing your current neighbors to happily implement what is proposed for our street. We are being pulled out from the neighborhood onto LG boulevard visually and don't even get the trees.

We close with this final ask. Do the right thing and revise this to a more modest and cheaper version. Do what a neighbor would do for a neighbor. That is the core of why our town has a durable & charming character & we love it so much.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Maxine and Francisco Granadino

108 Hilow Ct

From: Maxine Granadino <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 9:16 AM
To: Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Shannon Road project

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Ms Burnham,

We are writing to you regarding the proposal to implement 6ft sidewalks on both sides of Shannon Road. Our family have lived on Hilow Court just off of Shannon Road for 33 years. Much of what follows we owe to Ned Finkel, who managed to encompass all the concerns we have so well that we felt it appropriate to use his words. We would like to add that we understand that neighbors on Shannon will be required to move trees from their properties, which is a huge shame for a town that values its trees as ours does, as well as for the homeowners losing that valuable asset.

Thank you for your service to the town in such a demanding role, given how tight and personal our town is. Most LG'ers care deeply about our town, and that is part of what makes it special. However, we are writing to express the views of ourselves and the neighbors in the area affected by the proposal, who are not happy with its implementation.

To be blunt, we feel that the proposal will be visually unattractive (very ugly) and not in keeping with the town's character. Furthermore, it is not representative of the normal neighborhood implementations for sidewalks and trees, and it is not environmentally friendly, as zero trees are included in the proposal. The implementation calls for 6ft sidewalks for a quarter mile on both sides of the street, while the norm in the town is 5ft. As a result, we will have half a mile of sidewalks with no trees and no carbon offset to the **187,393 pounds + of CO2** it took to put the concrete in. The sidewalk with no trees and utility poles sticking out is moved to the near edge of the property lines on nearly all homes. The bike lane plus padding on both sides has essentially eliminated all street parking. This, plus the proposed barriers, has residents unified in opposition to the implementation.

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We all know that the town budget is in poor shape, and we sense that the actual implementation will cost much more than what the grant provides. We also know that the original grant request letter signed by County Supervisor & former LG Mayor Mike Wasserman was for a 5ft sidewalk on one side of the street plus a Class 1 bike lane. A much more modest approach and fiscally conservative. If we are going to make improvements, why not do them right. I propose the following to gain the support of the neighborhood.

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We think that you will save money with the reduction in concrete...1/2 mile times one foot is a lot of concrete & CO2 savings (~**29,440lbs**). We also are happy to water the trees until they are self-sustaining. Also, less direct costs to the homeowners from the repairs of driveways and fences.

We think anyone would have a hard time convincing your current neighbors to happily implement what is proposed for our street. We are being pulled out from the neighborhood onto LG boulevard visually and don't even get the trees.

We close with this final ask. Do the right thing and revise this to a more modest and cheaper version. Do what a neighbor would do for a neighbor. That is the core of why our town has a durable & charming character & we love it so much.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Maxine and Francisco Granadino

108 Hilow Ct

From: [Laurel Prevetti](#)
To: [Mary Badame](#)
Cc: [Nicolle Burnham](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Shannon Rd Bicycle lane Project
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 11:00:04 AM

From: kalpana sheth <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 9:32:00 AM

To: Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>

Subject: Proposed Shannon Rd Bicycle lane Project

Dear Mary,

I voted for you as I resonated with your message of keeping the charm of Los Gatos while at the same time addressing the issues that face our community. In this email I want to address a project that the town council is considering on our street - Shannon Rd.

I am a resident of Shannon Rd and want to reach out to you about the proposed bike lane project on this neighborhood street that the majority of the residents are opposed to. Not because we don't want the bike lane and the pedestrian lane, but we absolutely don't want those awful industrial style green ballards to disrupt this beautiful neighborhood.

I've been walking Shannon Rd. for years at different times of the day and I can honestly say that I have never seen a single bike on this road!! Has anyone done a survey or put up cameras to see how many bicycles actually go up and down this road? You will find on any given day - probably none!!

To make an industrial style bike lane that will cost the LG city over \$2 million for bicycles that won't even be using this road is fiscally irresponsible, a bad political decision, and worst of all takes away from a beautiful tree lined street with homes and homeowners who value the community aspect of their street.

To be clear as a walker on Shannon Rd. I do want a pedestrian walkway, the same can also be used for the occasional bicyclist who rides on this street. But to spend so much money, time, and energy on a fancy bike lane for bicyclists that don't use this road and that none of the residents on Shannon Rd want is beyond ridiculous and sheds light on how a small number of overzealous bicycle enthusiasts can ruin the beauty of a serene neighborhood.

Thanks for reading this input.

Kalpana Sheth

From: [Laurel Prevetti](#)
To: [Nicolle Burnham](#)
Subject: FW: Shannon Road
Date: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:47:00 PM

For inclusion as public comment, thank you

From: Cheri Finalle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 2:15:14 PM
To: Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>; Matthew Hudes <MHudes@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Shannon Road

Dear Councilmembers Badame & Hudes,

On March 21st the Shannon Road Improvement Plan will come before you again. Please send this project back to staff to be reduced - it continues to cost too much and not include any significant planting spaces. It does not meet the town's own street design guidelines. Where parking was eliminated - buffers increased in size. This continues to be a sea of pavement & asphalt. Do not move this forward until we have a plan that respects the environment and neighborhood feel. Please do NOT approve this plan and send it back to staff for a reduction in impermeable surfaces and additional planting space added.

Respectfully,
Cheri Finalle Binkley

From: [Laurel Prevetti](#)
To: [Rob Moore](#)
Cc: [Nicolle Burnham](#)
Subject: RE: Shannon Road Improvements
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 5:45:15 PM

From: Cheri Finalle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 11:35 AM
To: Rob Moore <RMoore@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Shannon Road Improvements

Dear Councilmember Rob Moore,

On March 21st you will be voting on the final Shannon Road Improvement Plan. I am writing this to humbly urge you to send it back to staff to be reduced; with less impermeable surfaces and more planting space. The plan will create a sea of pavement & asphalt. It will cost too much financially and environmentally with the loss of green/plant space. Undoubtedly, you will be told that there is not enough time to do this - as is the case every time this comes up to council however the deadlines are long past due to other delays. Staff has been told to work with residents all while moving forward with approvals. However, the ideas that even council members suggest are apparently not feasible even in the future including making the buffers into green space, adding more bulb outs for trees, ect. Our residential road is about to become a huge over developed runway. I am so upset that the original plans (on the Master Plan) of a class 1 bike lane (similar to the Los Gatos Creek Trail) were abandoned without community input. I have been actively engaged throughout the process and have been disappointed to see how unclear deadlines cause rushed decisions. The community here does want a safe road - we just want it done in a way that respects the environment and neighborhood feel. Please do NOT approve this plan and send it back to staff for a reduction in impermeable surfaces and additional planting space added.

Respectfully,
Cheri Finalle Binkley

From: Cheri Finalle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:54:33 PM
To: Maria Ristow <MRistow@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Shannon Road

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Mayor Ristow,

April 4th, the Shannon Road project will again come to you for a vote. You and I spent much time brainstorming ideas with staff at the meetings and discussing safe green roads in other communities. Parking was removed in sections as we discussed but instead of getting large planters for trees we got even larger buffers and more asphalt - still not space for trees. This project continues to be a major concern to me because it changes our residential road into something that will look like an airport runway. It will be a sea of pavement & asphalt. I am pro walking/biking but I am also pro environment. The current street design has buffers which cannot be made into green space. Furthermore, this road does not meet the town's own standards. There has been much staff turnover since this project started. Please have the new staff spend more time on this to get it right. Please send this back to staff for more permeable surfaces and more green space/trees.

Please do not prematurely rush this through just to get something done - spend the time to get this right.

Respectfully,
Cheri Finalle Binkley

From: [Sridevi Sheth](#)
To: [Rob Moore](#); [Rob Rennie](#); [Matthew Hudes](#); [Mary Badame](#); [Maria Ristow](#); [Nicolle Burnham](#); [James Watson](#)
Subject: Shannon Rd pedestrian/bikeway project proposal
Date: Monday, March 27, 2023 8:55:40 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hi Los Gatos Town Council Members,
From: Sri Sheth of 16090 Shannon Road

My neighbor Ned did a fantastic job below sharing the resident's (on Shannon Road) concerns on the pedestrian / bikeway project and I wanted to add my thoughts as well.

I've lived in Los Gatos for ten years and recently moved to Shannon road during the pandemic. I remember hopping on the zoom council meetings to share our concern for the proposed project. Los Gatos has always been an extremely charming town and that's due to the extreme efforts of the council and the community to keep it full of trees, visually charming and not industrial.

This proposed plan turns our humble town into a common city which is not what Los Gatos is about. It's also concerning to see so many residents raise concern over a project and have the council move forward with the plan anyways without any changes that the resident's have requested/proposed.

We're all for improving our neighborhood for the better! But the current plan does not achieve this at all. This is why Ned's suggestions below should be highly considered.

1. Speed humps will get you 70+ percent of your safety improvement, and they are cheap. Do them now. You have the data from the other part of Shannon, and we can see the positive effect it has had, reducing the average speed by 10-15 mph and nearly eliminating the high speeds.
2. Revise to 5ft sidewalks (which **was on** the original grant request letter signed by County Supervisor & former LG Mayor Mike Wasserman was for a 5ft sidewalk on one side of the street) & **include trees.**
3. Adjust the bike lane to a more modest implementation due to the speed reduction. How about a 2 ft space next to the road and pass on the 2ft next to the curb as cars will almost never be there to open a door.
4. Add the 4 ft of space back to the property line buffer and open room for the addition of trees.

I live on the side of Shannon with the speed humps and was already living on this road when they were being added. I've seen the increase of safety and the reduction of speed firsthand in front of my house and can confirm that this addition is highly beneficial to our community.

We need to move forward with things that work, are cost efficient and are supported by the community and not a plan that is intrusive of its residents and over budget, just so that we can spend money!

I appreciate your time! Looking forward to hearing your thoughts and seeing you all at the public hearing on April 18.

Thanks,

Sri Sheth

On Thu, Mar 23, 2023 at 5:44 PM Ned Finkle <[REDACTED]> wrote:

To: Los Gatos Town Council Members

bcc: Friends and Neighbors

From: Ned Finkle of 16608 Shannon Road

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to you regarding the proposal to implement 6ft sidewalks on both sides of Shannon Road. Some of you may already know me, as I have lived in the town for 50 years since my father moved here. I have lived on and off Shannon Road for nearly all those years, and my father still resides in his house off Shannon. Therefore, I know the road well, and I have raised my family here, with my three children growing up on this road.

Firstly, I want to thank you for your service to the town in such a demanding role, given how tight and personal our town is. Most LG'ers care deeply about our town, and that is part of what makes it special. However, I am writing to express the views of myself and the neighbors in the area affected by the proposal, who are not happy with its implementation.

To be blunt, we feel that the proposal will be visually unattractive (very ugly) and not in keeping with the town's character. Furthermore, it is not representative of the normal neighborhood implementations for sidewalks and trees, and it is not environmentally friendly, as zero trees are included in the proposal. The implementation calls for 6ft sidewalks for a quarter mile on both sides of the street, while the norm in the town is 5ft. As a result, we will have half a mile of sidewalks with no trees and no carbon offset to the **187,393 pounds + of CO2** it took to put the concrete in. The sidewalk with no trees and utility poles sticking out is moved to the near edge of the property lines on nearly all homes. The bike lane plus padding on both sides has essentially eliminated all street parking. This, plus the proposed barriers, has residents unified in opposition to the implementation.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, we had tried to politely present these feelings via just a few representatives in consideration for the council. However, what was recorded in the notes was that only a few had problems with the implementation. We followed with a signature list from nearly all the homes requesting a meeting to express our views. We did have that meeting, and there was a great amount of sharing of views by the neighbors and listening by the now departed town engineers. While there were meetings that followed with individual homeowners, the plan was essentially unchanged. Lots of reasons were given, but my understanding is that there was no funding to make slight adjustments with the contractor. So, the plan moved ahead for council vote at "65% completion" and was moved forward on a 3-2 vote. Here we are 1 year later, and the street feels the same about the proposal as we currently understand it. It is so bad that most fear reduction in property values as a result.

We all know that the town budget is in poor shape, and we sense that the actual implementation will cost much more than what the grant provides. We also know that the original grant request letter signed by County Supervisor & former LG Mayor Mike Wasserman was for a 5ft sidewalk on one side of the street plus a Class 1 bike lane. A much more modest approach and fiscally conservative. If we are going to make improvements, why not do them right. I propose the following to gain the support of the neighborhood.

1. Speed humps will get you 70+ percent of your safety improvement, and they are cheap. Do them now. You have the data from the other part of Shannon, and we can see the positive effect it has had, reducing the average speed by 10-15 mph and nearly eliminating the high speeds.

2. Revise to 5ft sidewalks & **include trees.**
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4. Add the 4 ft of space back to the property line buffer and open room for the addition of trees.

We think that you will save money with the reduction in concrete...1/2 mile times one foot is a lot of concrete & CO2 savings (~**29,440lbs**). We also are happy to water the trees until they are self-sustaining. Also, less direct costs to the homeowners from the repairs of driveways and fences.

I think all the council members would have a hard time convincing your current neighbors to happily implement what is proposed for our street. We are being pulled out from the neighborhood onto LG boulevard visually and don't even get the trees.

I will close with the final ask. Do the right thing and revise this to a more modest and cheaper version. Do what a neighbor would do for a neighbor. That is the core of why our town has a durable & charming character & we love it so much.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ned Finkle

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Shannon Road Traffic Calming Program.....

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Shannon Road Project" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to shannon-road-project+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/shannon-road-project/CAGHM-ObbVRUejp3xjshMO3K77bdwcns2FJXXxkMhkN%2BR28j1Qg%40mail.gmail.com>.

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Thanks,
Sri Sheth

From: [Frank Lawrence](#)
To: [James Watson](#); [Mary Badame](#); [Matthew Hudes](#); [Maria Ristow](#); [Nicolle Burnham](#); [Rob Moore](#); [Rob Rennie](#)
Cc: [Frank Lawrence](#)
Subject: Shannon Road bike lanes project
Date: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 3:24:21 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Council & Staff members,

I am a 27-year resident on Shannon Road and write to you in support of the residents who are very unhappy with the current proposal for a radical bike lane implementation between Cherry Blossom and Los Gatos Boulevard.

A significant majority of the directly impacted residents, i.e. those whose property directly abuts the current proposal, and many of us who live on Shannon, are strongly opposed to the present design, as it will have a very negative impact on the character and feel of the neighborhood and bring limited benefit, considering the overall transit routes along Shannon Road and its adjoining streets, (e.g. Englewood) which cannot accommodate grandiose redesign such as that proposed for just two blocks of Shannon Road.

Please refer to the recent communication from Ned Finkle for a more detailed commentary on the current project.

The implementation of a more modest design for a bike lane, in addition to the planned speed humps (which have been very effective on the rest of Shannon to Short Road), would be more sympathetic to the character of the neighborhood and Town, deliver improved safety of all road users, reduce the environmental impact and could be supported and welcomed by the resident's.

The specter of the monstrosity recently inflicted on Winchester Boulevard looms large.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Lawrence

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Frank

From: [Town PPW](#)
To: [James Watson](#)
Cc: [Nicolle Burnham](#)
Subject: FW: Raised crosswalks on Shannon Road?
Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 9:05:18 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Hammers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 8:48 AM
To: Town PPW <ppw@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Raised crosswalks on Shannon Road?

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear PPW Department,

Thank you for the efforts to slow traffic on Shannon Road. It has made a big difference in safety and quality of life for families like ours who live on Shannon. Unfortunately, cars still run the stop sign at Shannon and Blossom Hill Park as well as at Shannon and Cherry Blossom, which children and pedestrians use heavily. For this reason, I wonder if the Town might consider adding raised crosswalks to Shannon Road as we embark on Phase Two of the Shannon safety improvements? Having watched countless children dart across the street in front of traffic at Englewood, I think another stop sign and raised crosswalk there could be lifesaving as well.

I recognize plans are already set, but I also know there is always room to make changes and adjust plans to meet community needs.

Thank you for considering my suggestions and thank you again for the work already completed on Shannon.

Respectfully,

Mary Hammers

Sent from my iPad

From: kalpana sheth <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 9:32:00 AM
To: Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Proposed Shannon Rd Bicycle lane Project

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Mary,

I voted for you as I resonated with your message of keeping the charm of Los Gatos while at the same time addressing the issues that face our community.

In this email I want to address a project that the town council is considering on our street - Shannon Rd.

I am a resident of Shannon Rd and want to reach out to you about the proposed bike lane project on this neighborhood street that the majority of the residents are opposed to. Not because we don't want the bike lane and the pedestrian lane , but we absolutely dont want those awful industrial style green ballards to disrupt this beautiful neighborhood.

I've been walking Shannon Rd. for years at different times of the day and I can honestly say that I have never seen a single bike on this road!! Has anyone done a survey or a put up cameras to see how many bicycles actually go up and down this road? You will find on any given day - probably none!!

To make an industrial style bike lane that will cost the LG city over \$2 million for bicycles that won't even be using this road is fiscally irresponsible, bad political decision, and worst of all takes away from a beautiful tree lined street with homes and homeowners who value the community aspect of their street.

To be clear as a walker on Shannon Rd. I do want a pedestrian walkway, the same can also be used for the occasional bicyclist who rides on this street. But to spend so much money, time, and energy on a fancy bike lane for bicyclists that don't use this road and that none of the residents on Shannon Rd want is beyond ridiculous and sheds light on how a small number of overzealous bicycle enthusiasts can ruin the beauty of a serene neighborhood.

Thanks for reading this input.
Kalpana Sheth

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, March 4, 2023 4:30 PM
To: Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Re: Town council date for Shannon Rd pedestrian/bikeway project update

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hi Nicolle,

Thanks for responding on a Saturday. Will keep my fingers crossed. I can't imagine the town council authorizing this overkill project due to the huge town deficit we are experiencing. All we need is a simple 5 ft sidewalk and 4-foot bike line which can be built in the current shoulder.

Thanks,
Sheila

From: Cheri Finalle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 1:34 PM
To: James Watson <JWatson@losgatosca.gov>; Peter Binkley <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Shannon Road

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

James,

Hi! I wanted to reach out to see if there was a final design plan for Shannon Road as it is slated for another vote April 4th with the town council. I am a resident of Shannon Road and would like to have proper time to review it prior to the meeting for discussion.

Thank you, Cheri Finalle Binkley

From: Cheri Finalle <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 1:34 PM
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Subject: Shannon Road

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James,

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Thank you, Cheri Finalle Binkley

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 3:14 PM
To: Matthew Hudes <MHudes@losgatosca.gov>; Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Rennie <RRennie@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Moore <RMoore@losgatosca.gov>; Maria Ristow <MRistow@losgatosca.gov>
Cc: Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>; James Watson <JWatson@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Shannon Pedestrian and Bikeway Improvement Project

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

To: Los Gatos Town Council Members
From: Sheila Bony 16675 Shannon Road

Dear Council Members,

I have been a Los Gatos resident for 32 years and a Shannon Road resident for 7 years. I love our beautiful historical town, the soaring mountains, and our charming community.

We urge you to send the Shannon Road Pedestrian and Bikeway Improvement project back to the engineering department to scale back this excessive design plan. This project is overkill and the costs are out of control.

We absolutely want a sidewalk and a simple bike line on our street for pedestrian and bike safety. All we need is a simple 5-foot sidewalk and a 3-foot bike line. These two elements can be built on the existing wide shoulder on the street. Telephone poles would not need to be moved. The plants/trees/greenery/driveways/walkways in front of residents' homes will not need to be ripped out. Concrete costs will be lower. The project will be completed sooner, etc. Image the cost savings for the town! Also, plants

and trees beautify our neighborhood so why is the town council ok with the logic of ripping it all out?

Shannon Road is a residential street and sidewalks and bike lanes should conform to a residential street-not the other way around. Class 4 bike lanes do not belong on a residential street. This pedestrian and bikeway plan is stripping our neighborhood of its residential feel. The current plan with excessive concrete, 3 ft buffers, too large sidewalks, and extra-wide bike lanes should be used on a major thoroughfare-not a residential street. We believe the town engineering department's goal should be to install a minimally invasive sidewalk and bike lane that will not negatively affect residents' property or the residential feel of the street.

We feel the town's Bicycle Advisory Commission is out of touch with the Shannon resident's recommendations and we ask you, council members, to question their excessive recommendations. We believe the safety of all residents is important and want our neighborhood to look like....a neighborhood and not a boulevard.

The funding for this project is from 2 VTA grants are \$940,100 + \$174,250 from two different programs. The town only has to match 10% of the total grant sum to accept the grant which is \$107,829.47. The grant totals and the town match \$\$ is enough to build a simple 5-foot sidewalk on both sides of the street and paint for a 3ft bike lane. The engineering department requesting an additional \$1 to \$1.2 million dollars for this project is not fiscally responsible. As you know, Los Gatos staff are predicting a \$3 million annual budget deficit over the next 5 years.

The remaining planned speed humps for Shannon near LG Blvd will help immensely with pedestrian/bike safety. The speed humps and simple 3ft bike line and 5 ft sidewalk is all that we need. Say no to excessive spending.

Thank you,
Sheila Bony

From: mark bony <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 9:06 PM

To: Matthew Hudes <MHudes@losgatosca.gov>; Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Rennie <RRennie@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Moore <RMoore@losgatosca.gov>; Maria Ristow <MRistow@losgatosca.gov>

Cc: Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>; James Watson <JWatson@losgatosca.gov>

Subject: Regarding the Shannon Road Pedestrian and Bikeway Improvement

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Council Members,

I would respectfully request that you reconsider the decision made so far on the Shannon Road Pedestrian and Bikeway Improvement initiative.

Some helpful contexts:

- Initially three separate "Shannon Road Pedestrian and Bikeway Improvements" proposals were given by the PPW department to all residents, including the impacted Shannon neighborhood, to consider.
- Most of us participated in 1-1 meetings with Woo Jae + Suyesh and most of the impacted residents actively called into several online Zoom meeting updates. The Shannon neighborhood group also was able to meet face-to-face with Matt Morley/Suyesh/WooJae to further discuss this in a Q&A session.
- At first, there were a lot of different opinions among the affected Shannon residents, but we all got together quickly to agree upon a **unified** response in order to make it easier for all concerned.
- The impacted Shannon residents **unanimously** chose **option #1** and made a few additional requests that were forwarded to the town council members + the PPW department. We all felt that option #1 was the best compromise between improving pedestrian/biker safety and optimizing the town's budget while minimizing the impact on the Shannon Road properties.
- Aside from a few advances on deleting the green bollards and other minor points, **our overall collective feedback** on the preferred option #1 **seemed to fall on deaf ears**. Despite all our pleas, option #3 was unfortunately approved by the council. Honestly, given the fact that we received minimal (if any) feedback on all our concerns, it really felt that the decision to push option #3 had already been pre-determined by a few in power, ahead of time.

Some pertinent observations:

- **Did you know** that starting at the Presbyterian Church (16575 Shannon Rd) and finishing at Ann-Arbor Drive, a perfectly good, working combination of a sidewalk and bike lane **already** exists? **why not continue** the same sidewalk/bike lane format for the west side of Shannon vs. the **extreme**, costly, and unnecessary solution being considered today (option#3)? Doing so would make the entire length of Shannon Rd consistent, safer, and less intrusive on the property owner, and probably would limit expenses by a great deal. It is a win-win.
- Also, I have heard rumors that some claimed that the neighborhood had conflicting requests and was not unified; hence the PPW key stakeholders had to make the final recommendation. That could not be further from the truth. Our Shannon Road group response was **succinct and unanimous**.

In conclusion:

Our Shannon neighborhood is a vibrant **residential** and exceptional part of Los Gatos. **We all want safer roads** for pedestrians and bikers alike, but we deserve and **respectfully request** that the council members consider an alternate, less **extreme, and costly** proposal in order to better balance the intent of improving safety while not **jeopardizing** the serene quality of our **residential** neighborhood with **over-the-top** road/bike lane/sidewalk changes.

Yes, we need safer pedestrian/biker streets and bike lanes, but do we really need a 3' buffer **in addition to** 7-10' sidewalks? What we need is a simple (yet effective) 5' sidewalk and ~3' bike lane. That's it.

At the risk of repeating myself, the current Shannon Road Pedestrian and Bikeway Improvement initiative as currently approved (option #3) is **extreme in its design and fiscally irresponsible**.

Thank you for listening, and your consideration to make our town safer while protecting its unique character and beauty.

Regards,

Mark Bony

16675 Shannon Road

32 yrs. + Los Gatos resident

From: Peter Binkley <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 2:45 PM

To: Rob Moore <RMoore@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Rennie <RRennie@losgatosca.gov>; Matthew Hudes <MHudes@losgatosca.gov>; Maria Ristow <MRistow@losgatosca.gov>; Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>; James Watson <JWatson@losgatosca.gov>

Subject: Shannon Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvement Project

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello,

Below are my comments for the upcoming Town Council meeting with regards to the Shannon Rd. Pedestrian and Bikeway improvement project.

I am a bike commuter and home owner living within the proposed project area. I walk my children to school every day along this stretch of road, and ride my bike to and from work along it as well.

I support the construction of a curb/gutter, and of pedestrian/bike paths along Shannon Rd., but the project as planned excludes a planting strip and/or room for trees and instead incorporates an abundance of asphalt surface that will be marked of as "buffer." I propose these buffers be shrunk and/or removed where possible, in order to make room for planting/beautification (tree planting also offers much needed shade, sequesters CO2, and cools the vicinity).

I find these proposed wide bike lane buffers unsightly and believe they will only serve to discourage me and my family from walking/riding. I would rather drive then walk through an industrial feeling area. Aesthetics count for a lot when considering mode of transport.

The original Connect Los Gatos Master Plan shows a Class 1 Bikeway along this stretch of road, which I think would be a beautiful and well informed approach to remodeling this road. I have been at every community meeting re Shannon Rd traffic calming project and the ped/bike improvement project, and do not feel it was ever adequately addressed why the Class 1 bikeway (as planned by the town!) was rejected without community discussion.

If we can't do a class 1 bikeway as originally proposed, then I would think we could at least attempt to capture the intent of that plan, which is for a beautiful and scenic walk/bike route, incorporating planting strips on either side of the sidewalk. As planned it will look like an airport tarmac, not at all desirable to the walkers and bikers among us. As a case in point, when the Winchester Rd remodel was complete, I stopped biking to work along that route when I commute to El Camino Hospital LG-solely because it is unsightly. Nowadays I bike to work on the creek trail, which I think is not what the town intended and so was an unintended consequence of overlooking the importance of aesthetics when designing a roadway.

The wide asphalt expanse as drawn is unsightly and will only discourage walking and riding. Please eliminate and/or shrink buffer zones on this plan in favor of planting

some trees and saving space for homeowners to landscape. The buffer only needed between the bike lane and the moving traffic, never between the bike and parked cars or worse yet, between the bike and curb! With a nice wide bike lane, a 2 foot buffer is more than comfortable as far as safety perception goes, and as we know the little kids will be up on the sidewalk, not down on the roadway.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Peter Binkley, MD
Emergency Medicine
Good Samaritan and El Camino Hospitals
Safe Routes To School Volunteer, Blossom Hill Elementary School