

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Department Liaison:
San Mateo County Office of
Sustainability
455 County Center, 4th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
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May 19, 2022

San Mateo County Department of Public Works
Attention: Ann Stillman, Interim Director of Public Works
555 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

RE: Support for the Santa Cruz Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas Complete Streets Project

Dear Grant Funding Selection Committee:

The San Mateo County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) strongly supports the County of San Mateo's efforts to seek grant funding for the construction phase of the Santa Cruz Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas (SC/ADLP) Complete Streets Project. This transformative project was shaped with extensive community input and it will significantly improve access and safety for all travelers, including bicycles, pedestrians and motor vehicles.

The Santa Cruz Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas (SC/ADLP) corridor is a key connector in unincorporated West Menlo Park that directly extends to Atherton, Menlo Park, Stanford University, and Palo Alto.

For bicycle commuters, this project fills in a significant gap of an existing 15 to 20 mile-long route that connects Belmont/San Carlos to Los Altos/Cupertino. Except for this project area, this route has nearly continuous bike lanes or very wide shoulders for its entire length. The route connects residential neighborhoods that border this corridor to various places of employment including Stanford, Hewlett-Packard, VMware, VA Hospital, to name a few. By providing bike lanes over this 0.6-mile segment, this will provide a relatively stress-free route which should encourage others to use their bikes to commute to work.

In addition to connections with Stanford University, the SC/ADLP corridor either provides access to or must be crossed by children and their families to access numerous other schools in the immediate vicinity, not limited to La Entrada Middle School, Las Lomitas and Oak Knoll Elementary Schools, Philip Brooks Elementary School, University Heights Montessori Preschool and the Axion Learning Center. This corridor also serves the Menlo Commons senior residences, several medical facilities, numerous local restaurants, and transit stops. Because of its widespread benefits, this project has been identified as an ongoing high priority project in the Unincorporated San Mateo County Active Transportation Plan, adopted in January 2021.

The SC/ADLP Complete Streets Project will create a more pedestrian and bicycle friendly environment in a corridor that experiences a combination of high traffic volumes, high speeds, and a lack of dedicated space for people walking and bicycling. Since 2015, there have been 13 bicycle collisions along the corridor and one fatal pedestrian collision at Sand Hill Road and Santa Cruz Avenue. The existing roadway

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An Advisory Committee to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors



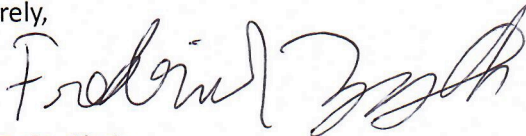
has no dedicated bike lanes, and the majority of sidewalks are less than five feet wide and do not meet Americans with Disability Act (ADA) standards. Pedestrians are often forced to walk in the street due to sidewalk obstructions, such as utility poles.

Public outreach and community involvement has been integral in shaping this project. Proposed improvements were identified through a robust community outreach effort led by members of the immediate community and primary users of the corridor. This project had a dedicated Community Task Force that provided input during the planning phase. They engaged with the broader community and established project-specific goals to improve overall corridor safety, support safe and efficient walking and bicycling, and identify cost-effective solutions.

This project will implement a road diet providing wider sidewalks and space for bike lanes, new raised medians, and safety islands. The reduction in the number of vehicle travel lanes and travel lanes widths will help reduce motor vehicle speeds and increase bicycle and pedestrian safety. Safety will be further increased with enhanced pedestrian crossings and bulb-outs, bicycle detection at signalized side-streets, and two-stage bike turn boxes.

The BPAC strongly supports the County's efforts to seek grant funding to help ensure the completion of this worthy community supported project.

Sincerely,



Fred Zyda, Chair
San Mateo County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

cc: San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Carolyn Bloede
Hanieh Houshmandi