Dear Joel,

I am a retired professional cyclist (who has taken street skills courses) who has stopped riding my bike on some of the best rides in the entire world because our approach to road safety in San Mateo County is completely failing cyclists and other vulnerable road users. Most recently, I've learned that Frank Masterson, a member of PenVelo, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck by the driver and killed. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

KMR is a very popular mountain road for cyclists that is also shared with cars of local residents and an increasing number of pass-through drivers, especially during the pandemic. The current road conditions are insufficient to ensure the safety of bicyclists riding on KMR, and I would like to suggest the following:

- Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass
- Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles
- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic
- Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.
- Improving signage to point out drainage ditches immediately adjacent to the road.

For an example of the type of safety improvements I am proposing, I refer you to this article describing the safety improvements done on a similar road, Mt Diablo Road in the East Bay: https://www.mercurynews.com/2016/09/30/high-danger-mount-diablo-park-aims-to-stop-crashes/

I realize that County resources are stretched really thin at this time due to COVID and the recently contained CZU fire. However, Frank's recent death is merely one example of the on-going safety dangers that have existed on KMR for quite a long time. Ask any cyclist from the area, they either have a Kings near-miss or crash story, or know of someone involved in a near-miss/crash/fatality on Kings.

If funding for such improvements is a challenge, Peninsula Velo and its members are willing to consider private fundraising to support this effort. Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Cheers,
Kelly

Two-sport Paralympic Medalist
Dear Joel,

I am a member of the Peninsula Velo cycling club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, one of my teammates, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

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Regards,

- Helen Casabona
Sport Policy Expert
Co-Host of Inside ParaSport
My name is Ken Nishimura and while I am a Board member of the Alto Velo Racing Club, I am speaking as an individual. I am an active recreational cyclist who traverses Kings Mountain Road between SR84 and SR35 on a frequent basis, both ascending and descending. I have seen an increase in vehicular traffic on the road, potentially tied to the pandemic, especially when weather conditions make travel to the coast attractive. Moreover, the pandemic has increased the number of cyclists on local roads, including KMR raising the probability of conflict.

Because of the grade of KMR, most cyclists ascending are traveling at 10mph or less - cars naturally wish to pass these cyclists. Unfortunately, owing to the narrow roadway and motorists liberal interpretation of the "3 foot rule", cars typically cross over the centerline when passing. When this is done on a blind corner, it is only a matter of time before tragedy strikes as it did this past summer.

I ask that the County consider implementing improvements on KMR to improve safety including signage to remind drivers not to pass on blind corners. I am stymied why the centerline is a double yellow (no passing) only until Huddart. The centerline from Huddart Park to SR35 is a broken centerline which implies passing is safe. Please extend the double yellow centerline from Huddart Park to SR35 except in sections where there is adequate visibility to enable safe passing. Installation of turnouts will allow passage of cyclists, while careful attention to the condition of the pavement near the edge will enable more space between cyclists and cars. Widening the road where possible is also strongly encouraged.

If one requires evidence of the impact of these proposals, consider that the conditions which exist on KMR are similar to that which exist on Mt. Diablo Road in the East Bay. After several fatalities, improvements similar to those I seek on KMR were made in an effort to improve safety for all. Results are cautiously optimistic.

Please prioritize these safety improvements as none of us wish to see another cyclist injured or killed.

Thank you.
Hello Joel!

Cannot make the call. Sounds like this meeting was rushed from announcement to actual date. Just some quick notes.

Observations:

- There are a select few who live near or regularly use Kings Mountain Rd who mean harm to cyclists (including physical threats)*
- Inexperienced drivers sometimes gets routed up road when 84 is congested (via google/waze)
- A large enough population / majority do not ride bikes (so they are unfamiliar with our perspective)
- Driving is considered a ‘right’ and the road is the car's space that they are entitled to it.

Short Term Solutions

- ReDouble stripe areas (especially in CORNERS)
- Adding physical road furniture in CORNERS (only). These could be rubberised bumps (~4cm height) that encourages cars to not pass. If this is added, placing bike symbols in said corners (for uphill traffic), thus showing bike should take the lane fully and cars need to yield.
- Signage that this is Bike Route.
- Signage that Bikes May Use The Full Lane.

Long Term Fixes

- Widening specific areas where possible to permit for a marked bike lane. (Cars have 2 lanes and there is 1 bike lane for the ascent) (Thus this area allows cars to pass bikes without crossing the centre lane)

Footnotes:
* I've been riding in the bay area since elementary school, been on a road bike, doing half imperial centuries since 2006. Regularly I have used Alpine/Old La Honda/Kings/Highway 9/Tunitas/Page Mill to climb up towards Skyline. At least of recent, there has been growing hostility specifically on Kings:

1. Tacks and other metal debris regularly dispersed on the road's surface (these tacks would be unusual for a contractor and perform decently in flatting bike tires)
2. Cars along 84 (near Roberts/School/Fire Station), trying to side swipe (within 5cm) of me, despite the signage and they are invading the bike lane
3. Cars over taking in blind corners and crossing the center lane
4. Motorist gunning and seeking high acceleration past a cyclist (often behind another motorist) (cars and motorcycles alike) (this falls under the reckless and lemming policy as they are trusting it is clear)
(above two images, (1) idea for sign & (2) using a speed bump like this but to divide the roadway)

Thank you,

James Lee
I strongly urge that safety improvements be added to Kings Mountain Road. Signs Advising motorists not to pass on curves, and signs advising cyclist to stay right of center line would help.

Following best practices used in other rural roads with substantial car and bike traffic will reduce collisions and injuries.

The attached diagram from the CA state collision database, shows numerous head on collisions.

Terry Barton
Dear Joel,

KMR is a very popular mountain road for cyclists that is also shared with cars of local residents and an increasing number of pass-through drivers, especially during the pandemic. The current road conditions are insufficient to ensure the safety of bicyclists riding on KMR, and I would like to suggest the following:

- Increase signage warning of blind curves and 'not to pass' signs.
- More signage saying 'Bikes may use full lane' and recently approved '3Ft to Pass' sign
- Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles
- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic
- Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.
- Improving signage to point out drainage ditches immediately adjacent to the road.

Here are safety improvements done on a similar road, Mt Diablo Road in the East Bay: https://www.mercurynews.com/2016/09/30/high-danger-mount-diablo-park-aims-to-stop-crashes/

If funding for such improvements is a challenge, please take up Peninsula Velo offer to organize private fundraising to support this effort.

Sincerely,

John Cordes
Sunnyvale resident and someone who enjoys riding on Kings Mtn Rd.
Hi Mr. Slavit,

Here's an updated public comment. Please submit this one, rather than the one I previously sent below. Sorry for the change, and thanks again for your work.

Hi Mr. Slavit,

I'm happy to submit this public comment for tonight's BPAC meeting, agenda item 8, regarding Kings Mountain Road.

As an avid cyclist, member of the Stanford Cycling Team, and former member of the San Mateo County Counsel's Office, I care deeply about San Mateo County and the stellar opportunities the County and its jurisdictions provide for road biking. Indeed, those opportunities are one of the chief reasons I moved to and remain in San Mateo County (Menlo Park, specifically).

Unfortunately, in recent years, road biking has at times felt less safe throughout the County and on Kings Mountain Road in particular. On nearly every bike ride I take through Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Woodside, and other jurisdictions, I encounter cars that are driving quickly and/or aggressively. Most drivers are safe and respectful, but many drivers are not road bikers, and so are
unaware of the considerations cyclists must take into account, and the adjustments they must make, in order to ride safely.

Nowhere is this lack of awareness more evident than on Kings Mountain Road and other roads like it. Anything that the County and other jurisdictions can do to make Kings Mountain and other roads safer for cyclists--and for cars, too, since everything that provides for better interactions with bikes also makes our roads safer for motorists--would be welcome, especially in this time of added and understandable anxiety, frustration, impatience and misunderstanding. I support the specific recommendations for improving bicycle safety made by other commenters. Thanks to the BPAC, the Office of Sustainability, and other concerned partners for all your efforts.

Matthew J. Sanders

------------- Forwarded message -------------
From: Matthew J. Sanders
Date: Thu, Oct 15, 2020 at 2:01 PM
Subject: Public Comment for October 15 BPAC Meeting re agenda item 8, Kings Mountain Road Discussion
To: <jslavit@smcgov.org>

Hi Mr. Slavit,

I'm happy to submit this public comment for tonight's BPAC meeting, agenda item 8, regarding Kings Mountain Road.

As an avid cyclist, member of the Stanford Cycling Team, and former member of the San Mateo County Counsel's Office, I care deeply about San Mateo County and the stellar opportunities the County and its jurisdictions provide for road biking. Indeed, those opportunities are one of the chief reasons I moved to and remain in San Mateo County (Menlo Park, specifically).
Unfortunately, in recent years, road biking has at times felt less safe throughout the County and on Kings Mountain Road in particular. On nearly every bike ride I take through Menlo Park, Portola Valley, Woodside, and other jurisdictions, I am physically endangered by cars driving too quickly and too aggressively. I could tell you a thousand stories of drivers threatening my welfare, usually because they are frustrated they have to wait a few seconds to safely pass me, and even though they will invariably make up those few lost seconds before they reach wherever they're going. Most drivers are not road bikers, and so are unaware of the considerations cyclists must take into account, and the adjustments they must make, in order to ride safely.

Nowhere is this lack of understanding more evident than on Kings Mountain Road and other roads like it. Anything that the County and other jurisdictions can do to make Kings Mountain and other roads safer for cyclists and cars alike would be welcome, especially in this time of added and understandable anxiety, frustration, impatience and misunderstanding. I support the specific recommendations for improving bicycle safety made by other commenters. Thanks to the BPAC, the Office of Sustainability, and other concerned partners for all your efforts.

Matthew J. Sanders
Dear Joel,

I am a member of the Stanford Cycling Team and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, one of my colleague's teammates, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car on Kings Mountain Road. The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck. I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

KMR is a very popular mountain road for cyclists, and the current road conditions are insufficient to ensure the safety of bicyclists riding on KMR. I have personally been the victim of aggression from drivers on KMR and other San Mateo county roads, with behavior ranging from passing on blind corners to attempts to run me off the road.

I would like to voice my support for the following:
- Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass
- Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles
- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic
- Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.
- Improving signage to point out drainage ditches immediately adjacent to the road.

For an example of the type of safety improvements I am proposing, I refer you to this article describing the safety improvements done on a similar road, Mt Diablo Road in the East Bay:

Thank you for your support. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Regards,
Mike Kobiela

--

Mike Kobiela
MBA 2021
Stanford Graduate School of Business
Dear Joel,

I am a member of the Peninsula Velo cycling club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, one of my teammates, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

You may have received already suggestions on how to improve the safety conditions in KMR, which I totally support. In addition I would suggest:

1) that KMR became a one way road from the entrance of Huddart Park all the way up to Skyline boulevard:
   - this would allow space for a proper bike lane that would improve safety.
   - there are no private houses on that section of the road that would suffer from this restriction.
   - any detour via road 84 connecting the two points would only add a few minutes by car via road 84.

2) Adding speed bumps in every single narrow curve as well as in the long straight stretches of road.

3) Having a system to report unsafe behavior from drivers that purposely intimidate cyclists and put them in danger.

For another example of the type of safety improvements I am proposing, I refer you to this article describing the safety improvements done on a similar road, Mt Diablo Road in the East Bay: [https://www.mercurynews.com/2016/09/30/high-danger-mount-diablo-park-aims-to-stop-crashes/](https://www.mercurynews.com/2016/09/30/high-danger-mount-diablo-park-aims-to-stop-crashes/)

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fire. However, Frank's recent death is merely one example of the on-going safety dangers that have existed on KMR for quite a long time. Ask any cyclist from the area, they either have a Kings near-miss or crash story, or know of someone involved in a near-miss/crash/fatality on Kings.

If funding for such improvements is a challenge, Peninsula Velo and its members are willing to consider private fundraising to support this effort. Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Regards,
Dear Joel,

I am a resident in the Bay Area and an avid cyclist. I have recently explored and enjoyed the beauty of the Kings Mountain Rd. However, throughout my cycling experience, I’ve read unwelcoming signs such as “Bikes Go Home! U Suck! This is a Road”. This sends a really negative vibe for cyclists who are equally entitled to use the road. I believe that the Bay Area community would strive to create an inclusive environment. I see this as a violation to this value and would suggest for county’s action to help manage this issue.

Secondly, some narrower sections of the road also poses high danger risks for cyclists. Widening these portions of the roads will allow for safer distance between cars and bikes. Putting up more “Share the Road” signs may also help car-drivers understand the need to give space for cyclists.

I appreciate your consideration upon this matter.

Thanks,
Kristel
Hello Joel,

My name is Christian Wagner and I am a third-year as a Harvard undergraduate, as well as a recreational cyclist. King’s Mountain Road is one of the most popular and most fun roads to cycle on, both up and down, but is plagued by its considerable danger. For this reason I, under almost no circumstance, attempt to descend this road on a bicycle. Cars often use this road to skip the traffic on HWY 84.

Countless times I have had cars attempt dangerous accelerations around me on blind turns, and multiple times I have had to extend my arm into the road so as to protect descending cyclists, which are visible to me but not the cars behind me, from being killed in a high speed head-on collision with a road-raging automobile driver.

There is also an issue regarding how cars treat cyclists on this road. Many times I have had people lean on their horn as I am pedaling up steep sections (as far to the side of the road as can be reasonably expected). The first few times this happened, I was very startled, and I feel that this is a huge danger for beginner cyclists because I could easily see how this might cause someone new to the roads to unintentionally swerve into traffic.

King's Mountain Road is a crucial aspect of Bay Area cycling, and it is tragic to see how drivers have made it a life-endangering place for recreational cyclists. Please protect our community.

--

James Christian Wagner
Harvard College Class of 2022
Dear Joel,

I am a resident of Redwood City, a practicing architect, a wife and mother of two children. I am also an avid and experienced cyclist. I regularly ride Kings Mountain Road, this year climbing it 61 times and descending it 52 times. On August 15th of this year, I was planning to ride up Kings Mountain Road and ride back down. But on this day, I stopped just below the accident scene, where emergency personnel were doing chest compressions on Frank Masterson. It was obvious that he was a cyclist, and he lay there unresponsive.

There were several cyclists and others milling around at the shoulder where I stopped. I asked if anyone knew what had happened. A woman spoke up and said she was the wife of the driver who hit the cyclist. She said her husband thought it was clear to pass, but that it wasn’t. Her husband pulled back into their lane, but it was too late. She said the cyclist hit the back of their car. She said they knew it was their fault.

I feel terrible about what happened to Frank Masterson. He was a victim of reckless driving. There is very little a cyclist can do if there is a car approaching in the wrong lane of a blind turn. I can’t help but think that could have been me in that accident if I had left my house 20 minutes earlier that morning. It is so incredibly sad that Frank Masterson was in that accident, and that his life was lost in that moment. I now think about him every time I ride by that turn, and send him a blessing.

Unfortunately, I have encountered this type of reckless driving before. It is particularly bad on weekends, when there are many cars and cyclists on Kings Mountain Road. It is horrifying to find a car driving head-on towards you in the wrong lane as you cycle downhill. I have screamed out in fear many times when this has occurred. I ride tight to the right side and slow down for blind turns, but this does not ensure my safety. I feel there can and should be changes made to the road that can drastically improve this situation. Road signs that state no passing in blind corners seems imperative. Double yellow lines with raised dots to indicate no passing areas to reinforce this rule seems equally important.

The status quo sustains the conditions for car versus cyclist accidents that can kill innocent cyclists like Frank Masterson. Let’s not have his death be in vain. Please make these much needed changes to make Kings Mountain Road safe for all those who use it.

Sincerely,
Lori Hsu

Lori Hsu, architect
LSH architects
Hi Joel,
I am a member of the Los Gatos Bicycle Racing Club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

KMR is a very popular mountain road for cyclists that is also shared with cars of local residents and an increasing number of pass-through drivers, especially during the pandemic. The current road conditions are insufficient to ensure the safety of bicyclists riding on KMR, and I would like to suggest the following:

- Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass
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- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic
- Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.
- Improving signage to point out drainage ditches immediately adjacent to the road.

For an example of the type of safety improvements I am proposing, I refer you to this article describing the safety improvements done on a similar road, Mt Diablo Road in the East Bay: https://www.mercurynews.com/2016/09/30/high-danger-mount-diablo-park-aims-to-stop-crashes/

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If funding for such improvements is a challenge, Peninsula Velo and its members are willing to consider private fundraising to support this effort. Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Regards,

Shane
Shane Mario Ruggieri, CSI
Creative Executive Producer • Colorist • Author • Trainer
Hi Joel,

I only today learned that you will be discussing cycling related infrastructure with regard to Kings Mountain Road. I am a resident on Kings Mountain Road, and also a cyclist who necessarily rides this road every time I go anywhere. It is a fantastic road to ride on, but it has gotten more and more dangerous, with drivers sliding their cars around blind turns without any regard for what might be around the bend, aggressively passing "to make a point", etc. Someone has taken the time to graffiti a majority of the reflective signs and mile markers from the bottom to the top with anti-cyclist writings. Earlier this summer, as I was driving to the grocery store, I found that the road had been closed because a cyclist was hit and killed by a car driving on the wrong side of the road. All of these things could be ameliorated with better signage indicating that cyclists have right of way and that the road is a 25mph road (there isn't a single speed limit sign on the road!) Additionally, of course safer passing areas would be even more effective, but I'm not sure how feasible that is with the terrain we have.

Only yesterday I was riding home from work when I was aggressively passed by someone who then proceeded to slide their car around the next 5 turns (all blind). I ride with a camera for exactly this reason and have attached a link to the video below (with audio turned up you can hear the person sliding around the subsequent turns). If there were another cyclist ahead of me around one of those turns, they would have been struck for sure:

https://youtu.be/qfv8bwec81I

Thank you,
George
Hello,

I am an experienced cyclist and have been cycling in the Bay Area for the past 7 years. I am writing to encourage increased safety measures on King's Mountain Road. Specifically:
- Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass.
- Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles.
- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic.
- Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.
- Improving signage to point out drainage ditches immediately adjacent to the road.

I should note that I personally have not ridden on King's Mountain Road in the past six months due to safety concerns. Reckless driving on mountain roads has gotten completely out of hand during the pandemic. Unfortunately, those concerns proved warranted by the entirely preventable death of Frank Masterson. It is crucial that action is taken to prevent further incidents.

In addition to reckless driving, there has been an uptick in recent anti-cyclist graffiti on KMR. I worry that phrases such as "bikes go home" are only the precursor to greater violence against cyclists. For example, a few years ago, someone laid tacks on King's Mountain Road. While this might seem to mostly hamper a ride by causing a flat tire, it can actually be quite dangerous and cause crashes, injuring riders.

Lastly, I have heard from friends of mine that CHP has stepped up enforcement since the death of Frank Masterson. I want to acknowledge the steps that are being taken to ensure greater safety for riders, and to thank you in advance for further safety measures that are taken.

Warmly,
Sarah Tollman
Dear Joel,

I am an avid cyclist in graduate school at Stanford. Kings Mountain Road (KMR) is notorious for cars passing around blind corners, and earlier this summer an experienced rider, Frank Masterson, was killed in a head-on collision on KMR with the driver on the wrong side of the road.... To prevent future senseless and entirely preventable tragedies, please advocate on the behalf of all student cyclists that frequent KMR for the improvement of safety on this road.

The current road conditions are insufficient to ensure the safety of bicyclists riding on KMR, and I would like to suggest the following:

- Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass and to share the road with cyclists
- Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles
- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic
- Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.
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For an example, please see similar work done on Mt Diablo Road in the East Bay: https://www.mercurynews.com/2016/09/30/high-danger-mount-diablo-park-aims-to-stop-crashes/

I realize that County resources are stretched thin at this time due to COVID and the recently contained CZU fire. However, I sadly guarantee similar deaths will happen on KMR if the public isn't made aware of the danger of passing around blind corners.

If funding for such improvements is a challenge, Peninsula Velo cycling club and its members are willing to consider private fundraising to support this effort. Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Cheers-

--

John Vaughen
he/him/his pronouns (Why I share my pronouns)
Researching/Biking on Muwekma Ohlone Land
Clandinin Lab
PhD Candidate, Developmental Biology
Dear Joel,

I am a resident of Woodside. Kings Mountain Rd is less than five minutes from my house and I both drive and ride Kings Mountain Rd regularly, including both weekdays and weekends. I am also a member of the Pen Velo racing team, the same team as Frank Masterson, who was recently killed on Kings Mountain Rd by a careless driver.

I think that it is time to make safety improvements to Kings Mountain Rd. The main problem that needs to be addressed is drivers cutting blind corners when driving up the hill. Often drivers cut the corner to pass cyclists, but quite frankly they do it sometimes even when not passing anyone. This behavior is extremely unsafe to a descending cyclist who comes around a corner to see a car in their lane and then has to take evasive action. There have been numerous major injury crashes caused by this behavior, and this is also the exact behavior that caused the death of Frank Masterson.

I think that two changes would help: the first would be to put signage at the points in the road where there are blind corners. I believe there's a sign that says "Do Not Pass Bicycles on Blind Corners" that could be used. This would be the primary change I would request. I think that making the risk clear to drivers would help minimize the dangerous behavior.

In addition, I think that increased enforcement would help on weekends. I think that the county sheriff should patrol Kings on a few busy weekends and ticket drivers who drive recklessly, in particular by cutting blind corners.

Thank you for working on this topic.

Regards,

Lanier Benkard

Lanier Benkard
Gregor G Peterson Professor of Economics
Stanford Graduate School of Business
Dear Joel,

PenVelo has been nice enough to put together a letter exactly explaining the cycling communities feelings regarding the tragedy on KMR. I have enclosed it because I want it to be seriously considered and let you know about my support.

I, to, have a story about KMR. I was riding up and a car tried to pass around a blind turn, and the down coming rider ended up crashing into the driver’s door. He ended up in the lap of the driver through an open window and through the divine of providence suffered no injuries. The need of the driver to "go faster" was what caused this unsafe incident and anything we can do to make the road safer is much warranted.

I am a member of the Alto Velo cycling club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer Frank Masterson tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver’s car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck.. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

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Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.
Regards,
Edward D Stewart
Joel Slavit  

From: vessacks  
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2020 8:17 AM  
To: Joel Slavit  
Cc: 'David Schorow'; 'Michael Khaw'; Gary Premo; 'DENISE EDWARDS'  
Subject: Making Kings mountain safer for all users  

Dear Sir:  

I am a member of Western Wheelers, a bicycling Club based. Most of our members are in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.  

We regularly ascend and descend Kings Mountain.  

Safety on Kings Mountain has always been of concern with cars passing ascending cyclists on blind corners and passing while we descend. The vast majority of drivers are extremely courteous and take the time to wait to pass safely. However there are a number who do not. It is this group that causes us great concern. I can send you videos of poor downhill passing. At times it feels as though Kings is treated as a race track rather than a way to get from A to B.  

I rode up Mt Diablo on Saturday. I was very impressed by the number of warning signs "Do not pass bikes on blind corners" and the clear sight lines. Kings has neither the signs nor the clear sight lines.  

Please improve the safety on Kings Mountain. None of us benefits from another death or near miss.  

Regards,
Dear Joel,

I am a member of the Peninsula Velo cycling club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, one of my teammates, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck.

In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

KMR is a very popular mountain road for cyclists that is also shared with cars of local residents and an increasing number of pass-through drivers, especially during the pandemic. The current road conditions are insufficient to ensure the safety of bicyclists riding on KMR, and I would like to suggest the following:

- Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass
- Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles
- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic
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If funding for such improvements is a challenge, Peninsula Velo and its members are willing to consider private fundraising to support this effort. Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Regards,

Richard Peate
Dear Mr. Slavit,

I am an experienced cyclist who rides KMR regularly. The road is well-used by a wide range of cyclists. Many times I have seen cars pass on blind curves and move into oncoming traffic to pass cyclists. I was deeply saddened to learn of the death on that road earlier this fall. I urge you to consider better bike safety measures. Specifically, we hope for:

- Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass
- Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles
- Widening narrow portions of the road to allow for safer two-way traffic
- Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.
- Improving signage to point out drainage ditches immediately adjacent to the road.

Please help prevent more tragedies on that road. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie Strong
San Mateo
Hello!!

I am writing regarding Kings Mountain improvements. I regularly cycle up and down Kings about twice a week. It is a normal occurrence that cars driving the road are driving in the middle of the road, driving in the opposite “lane”, trying to pass myself or other cyclists on blind corners or are simply speeding. Since COVID I have noticed a significant increase in car traffic on Kings - especially on the weekends. I suggest making the following improvements to enhance cyclist and driver safety because no one - no one- wants to hit a cyclist:

* Increase signage warning of blind curves and not to pass
* Double yellow lane striping at all blind corners to discourage driving into oncoming vehicles
* Turn-outs or a wider shoulder at selected areas of the uphill side of KMR to allow safer passing of bicyclists by cars.

These simple improvements can seriously help keep people safe whether driving or riding.

Thank you!
Lisa Cresson
Dear Joel,

I am a member of the Peninsula Velo cycling club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, one of my teammates, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

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I realize that County resources are stretched really thin at this time due to COVID and the recently contained CZU fire. However, Frank's recent death is merely one example of the ongoing safety dangers that have existed on KMR for quite a long time. Ask any cyclist from the area, they either have a Kings near-miss or crash story, or know of someone involved in a near-miss/crash/fatality on Kings.

If funding for such improvements is a challenge, Peninsula Velo and its members are willing to consider private fundraising to support this effort. Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Regards,

Chetan Gupta
Dear Mr. Slavit

I am a member of the Peninsula Velo cycling club and a long-time resident of San Mateo County. I have been cycling for transportation and recreation for over 45 years. This past summer, one of my teammates, Frank Masterson, was tragically killed in a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver’s car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

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If funding for such improvements is a challenge, Peninsula Velo and its members are willing to consider private fundraising to support this effort. Please help me honor the memory of Frank Masterson and work to implement the much-needed safety improvements on KMR. This is the right thing to do. I look forward to seeing the next steps for the safety improvements on KMR.

Best wishes,

Thomas Greene
(SM County resident).
Dear Joel,

My name is Jacob Timmerman and I am a race team member of the Peninsula Velo cycling club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, one of my teammates, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck. In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

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Best,

-Jacob

--

Jacob C. Timmerman, Ph.D.
Scientist, Small Molecule Process Chemistry
Genentech, A member of the Roche Group
Joel Slavit

From: Andrew Hsu
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 12:50 PM
To: Joel Slavit
Cc: Elaine Salinger; emma
Subject: Public Comment for October 15 BPAC Meeting regarding agenda item 8, Kings Mountain Road Discussion

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Joel,

I'm hoping to make the BPAC meeting to voice my support for added safety improvements to Kings Mountain Road. However, I thought I'd submit this letter as well.

Regards,

--> Andrew Hsu
Peninsula Velo Director of Advocacy
Board of Directors, SVBC
Advisor, San Carlos Bikes

Dear Joel,

I am a member of the Peninsula Velo cycling club and an experienced cyclist. Earlier this summer, one of my teammates, Frank Masterson, tragically passed away as a result of a bicycle-car head-on collision on Kings Mountain Road (KMR). The driver's car was on the wrong side of the road when Frank was struck... In memory of Frank, I am urging you to advocate on my behalf to the SMC Board of Supervisors and Public Works for the improvement of road safety conditions on Kings Mountain Road.

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Regards,

--> Andrew
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Best Regards,

Michael Girvan Lampe
Dear Joel,

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Regards,

Sam Bhaumik
Hi Joel,

I would appreciate an opportunity to make a spoken comment. I have noted the instruction on how to join the meeting.

Please use the following caption for the image:
"Drivers using Kings Mountain Road to execute high performance driving maneuvers, losing adhesion between the car’s tires and the pavement creates a dangerous hazzard for cyclists"

-Amir
Hello,

I recently experienced a dangerous incident between car enthusiasts and myself while riding my bicycle on Kings Mountain road. I was urged by my fellow Peninsula Velo bike club members to share my experience at the next SMC BPAC meeting.

I would like to request a short time slot on Thursday to share my experience and the attached photo with the committee. Please let me know if this is possible. Thank you.

-Amir Michael