

Jon Maginot

From: Chris Jordan
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 8:00 AM
To: Jon Maginot
Subject: FW: IMPT feedback Homestead Road Safe Routes (April 9th council agenda)
Attachments: SuggestedEdits_LetterToCounty_Item_3_9April2019_Homestead CorridorSafeRoutes.pdf

From: Stacy Bruzek Banerjee
Sent: Friday, April 05, 2019 8:20 PM
To: Jeannie Bruins <jbruins@losaltosca.gov>; Jan Pepper <jpepper@losaltosca.gov>; Anita Enander <aenander@losaltosca.gov>; Neysa Fligor <nfligor@losaltosca.gov>; Lynette Lee Eng <lleeeng@losaltosca.gov>
Cc: Chris Jordan <cjordan@losaltosca.gov>; Andy Galea <AGalea@losaltosca.gov>; Aida Fairman <AFairman@losaltosca.gov>; Jaime Rodriguez <jrodriguez@losaltosca.gov>; Liz Checke <echecke@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: IMPT feedback Homestead Road Safe Routes (April 9th council agenda)

Honorable council members,

Thank you for your continued support of the Homestead Road Safe Routes to School project. I have reviewed the staff report and attachments prepared for your April 9th meeting.

We are concerned that the project does NOT address one of the TOP concerns that parents have raised throughout the process. Specifically, how will student cyclists safely access the extended pathway (on Homestead) from the Grant Road bike lane?

Your proposed plans (painted bike merge sharrow and a bike left turn pocket) are insufficient. We rightly fear this will preserve the UNSAFE status quo especially in the morning rush hour for students who use the pathway and that we will continue to see them, even after your proposed improvements are made, ride on "the wrong side of the road" on Grant Road in the morning for safety reasons as they approach the pathway.

We need your utmost attention on this matter, to ensure that the Homestead Road Safe Routes to School project provides a safe way for students to use the Grant Road bike lane in the morning and safely access the proposed extended pathway. At least one too many students have been injured in this location.

See <https://www.losaltosonline.com/news/sections/news/201-traffic-development/55492-standing-up-for-safe-school-routes> Further student cyclist injury at this location is preventable by the city.

We have shared more detailed concerns with staff throughout the process about this location, as well as some improvement ideas. Multiple safe route parent leaders have been available to meet with staff (and continue to be available). We need staff's engineering expertise to recommend a solution to our problem. We look forward to staff presenting such a solution that the community can embrace at the April 9th council meeting.

I have some other suggested edits on your letter to the county. The suggestions are to ensure accuracy of the letter, and completeness of the content. Please see attached - the edits are in red, and I have included comments in the left margin that explain the reason for each suggested edit.

Also, I support the additional staff recommendations in the staff report (immediately add a flashing beacon at Homestead/Fallen Leaf, contact property owners at shopping complex to consider installation of stop signs/limit lines at

their egress driveways, and explore cellular based network switches for the Homestead/Trader Joe's traffic signal to provide a link with the county expressway network).

If you have any questions about this feedback or want to discuss further, please feel free to reach out to me. It's important for the safety of our children to finalize this letter to the county on April 9th with an included solution for how students will **SAFELY** access the proposed extended Homestead Road pathway from the Grant Road bike lane in the morning).

Let's continue to move the overall Homestead Road Safe Routes to School project forward!!! Again, thank you so much for your continued support of this project!

Stacy Banerjee

Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:00 PM

Note, County's project location map shows Homestead Road to intersection of Hollenbeck Avenue/N. Stelling Road.

Reply Delete

Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:00 PM

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/rda/PnS/CP/Documents/Homestead-Rd-Location-Map.pdf>

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:00 PM

Note, There were only two community input meetings: 11/26/2018 & 2/25/2019 (As noted on county's project website).

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:00 PM

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/rda/PnS/CP/Pages/Homestead-Rd.aspx>

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:00 PM

Note, Cupertino Middle School is in City of Sunnyvale.

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:00 PM

Note, Homestead High School is in the City of Cupertino.

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PROPOSED EDITS (IN RED) TO THE CITY'S APRIL 9th 2019 DRAFT COMMENT LETTER TO COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA (NOTE, EXPLANATION OF WHY THESE EDITS ARE REQUESTED IN THE COMMENT BOXES.)

Subject: Homestead Road Safe Routes to School Planning Phase Project Requested Project Enhancements

Thank you for your leadership in advancing the planning phase of the Homestead Road Safe Routes to School project between Foothill Expressway and ~~Hollenbeck Avenue/N. Stelling Road~~ **Mary Avenue Hollenbeck Avenue/N. Stelling Road**. The work performed by the County of Santa Clara has been phenomenal in coordinating feedback from the interested project cities, Los Altos, Cupertino, and Sunnyvale.



During the final community outreach meeting on February 25, 2019, the County staff presented a conceptual plan line drawing for residents to provide feedback on. While the conceptual plan line was developed in conjunction with input from each of the project cities, several items remain pending within the City of Los Altos. We are requesting your support to help ensure that these items are included within the final project documents so that when future grant funding is pursued for implementation of the capital improvement phase of the project, the project can be properly scoped and cost estimate accurately reflect project costs.

1) Vineyard Drive Sidewalk and Traffic Calming Improvements

Vineyard Drive is the extension of Homestead Road on the west side of Foothill Expressway, but it is not currently an element of the Homestead Road – Safe Routes to School Planning Phase project. During the ~~three~~ **two** community outreach meetings Los Altos residents continually expressed concern regarding this missing addition to the project. Los Altos student residents are served by the same schools within the Cities of ~~Cupertino-Sunnyvale~~ **Cupertino-Sunnyvale** (Cupertino Middle School) and ~~Sunnyvale-Cupertino~~ **Sunnyvale-Cupertino** (Homestead High School) and Vineyard Drive between ~~Deodara~~ **Deodara** Drive and Foothill Expressway currently lacks sidewalk and traffic calming measures to encourage bicycling and walking as attractive commute alternatives.



The conceptual plan line prepared by the City recommend the installation of a new sidewalk along the west side of Vineyard Drive, two new speed humps to help encourage a reduction in vehicle speeds, and a new multi-way stop at ~~Deodara~~ **Deodara** Drive and Vineyard Drive.

The City requests that your office support the addition of Vineyard Drive formally into the project work scope and more importantly, project limits, so that future grant funding can

Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:03 PM

There is a separate Measure B project identified for 280/Foothill/Homestead interchange. And Safe Routes needs to be a priority consideration of it.

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:03 PM

Parents have continuously provided this feedback throughout the project. This is priority feedback from the parent community.

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:03 PM

Students have been injured here (and your solution does NOT address the problem): <https://www.losaltosonline.com/news/sections/news/201-traffic-development/55492-standing-up-for-safe-school-routes>

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:03 PM

Parents have given suggestions on what could be done. City staff needs to recommend a solution to this serious safety issue.

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be used to help implement these improvements. The conceptual plan line work is already completed for these enhancements, so addition of Vineyard Drive should be feasible without any increases to the current planning phase project.

Further, the Measure B project being planned for 280/Foothill with a Homestead auxiliary lane impacts the safety on the school route and we request that safe routes to school be a priority component of that project.

2) Homestead Road and Grant Road Triangle Improvements

The Foothill Expressway-Homestead Road-Grant Road Triangle is being identified as challenging location for all travel modes to traverse through due to the existing roadway geometry and lack of continuous facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians. The project currently proposes an extension of the multi-use pathway along the north side of Homestead Road-Grant Road to fill this gap. For student cyclists to enter this extended pathway as they ride to school in the morning, the proposed in-roadway merge sharrows from the Grant Road bike lane to the proposed bike pocket in the median is not sufficient and we propose [INSERT WHAT THE CITY PROPOSES TO ADDRESS THE PARENT SAFETY CONCERN AT THIS LOCATION].

The current proposal though does not address the missing bicycle lane facility along the southbound approach of Grant Road.

The City requests that your office support the addition of a widening of Grant Road north of Homestead Road-Foothill Expressway for approximately 200-FT. The widening will allow the existing bicycle lane facility on Grant Road to continue the length of the street and connect to new bicycle lane facilities already proposed in the project within the Triangle helping to improve mobility options for the community.

3) Homestead Road and El Sereno Avenue Capacity Improvements

The northbound approach the Homestead Road and El Sereno Avenue intersection currently lacks a dedicated northbound left turn lane for access into the private property on the south side of the intersection (Chevron). Left turns are currently allowed to the private property from the through lane that also services Foothill Expressway. When any motorists attempt to turn left into the gas station it results in queue impacts and a loss of roadway efficiency.

The City prepared a conceptual plan line for the Los Altos portion of Homestead Road improvements and recommended installation of a northbound left turn lane at the Homestead Road and El Sereno Avenue intersection, but this improvement was not

Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:04 PM

Traffic signals were discussed in the staff report, but omitted from the letter to the county.

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:04 PM

Material in first paragraph was taken verbatim from the staff report - Homestead Road Safe Routes to School Project (April 9th, 2019) Staff Report.

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:04 PM

This request in the second paragraph was heard at the community meeting. Because ...

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:04 PM

Traffic signal coordination need is heightened at jurisdictional borders along these high volume expressway and arterial roads that access freeways.

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Stacy Bruzek Ba... April 05, 2019, 6:04 PM

Its inefficiency today negatively impacts the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on their way to school.

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included in presentation materials provided at the February 25, 2019 community outreach meeting.

The City requests that your office support the addition of the proposed northbound left turn lane at the intersection of Homestead Road and El Sereno Avenue to help improve roadway operations along Homestead Road.

4) Traffic Signal Coordination on Homestead Road

The City of Los Altos currently lacks city-wide communications infrastructure and an ability to coordinate traffic signal timing with the County of Santa Clara expressway network. To improve coordination, the city requests that fiber optic infrastructure be included along Homestead Road from Foothill Expressway, to Trader Joe's traffic signal, and to the proposed traffic signal at Homestead Road and Fallen Leaf so that adaptive traffic signal coordination along Homestead Road can be implemented in conjunction with the County of Santa Clara Expressway network.

The city also requests that the county lead a feasibility study to further extend coordination of signals along Homestead Road to include signals at Belleville Way/Barranca Dr., 85 off ramp/Maxine Ave., and Bernardo Ave./85 on ramp. Having traffic signal coordination on Homestead Road across the jurisdictional between the expressway and 85 will enable better flow of traffic, and less strain on cyclists and pedestrians.

Once again, the City of Los Altos thanks you for your leadership in helping to advance the planning phase of the Homestead Road Safe Routes to School project. We are confident that this effort will help result in successful future grant opportunities for the Cities of Los Altos, Cupertino, and Sunnyvale. The above requested improvements along Homestead Road within the City of Los Altos will help ensure a successful capital project for our shared communities.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact City Manager Chris Jordan at (650) 947-2740.

Sincerely,

Lynette Lee Eng
Mayor, City of Los Altos
c: City Council
City Manager Chris Jordan