

LARA WEISIGER

From: Paul Canavese <paul@canavese.org>
Sent: Monday, September 02, 2019 12:32 PM
To: Manager Manager; Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Malia Vella; John Knox White; City Clerk
Subject: Input on Tuesday Agenda Items

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Dear City Leaders,

I am writing in support of a couple agenda items that will be raised at Tuesday's council meeting.

First, on item 6-E, I urge you to support the option of **outsourcing parking enforcement**. No one likes to get traffic tickets, but minimizing parking enforcement just encourages and subsidizes driving, when biking, walking, or public transportation would be a better option and reduce our carbon footprint.

Second, on item 9-B, I urge you to direct staff to **prioritize safety** whenever possible across all departments: both the short- and long-term priorities.

As we continue to raise our children in Alameda and do our part to save the planet amidst the climate crisis, we hope to see the city's priorities clearly aligned toward sustainability and safety.

Thank you,

Paul Canavese
Alameda resident

LARA WEISIGER

From: Andy Robertson <rar.robertson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 02, 2019 11:02 AM
To: Manager Manager; Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Malia Vella; John Knox White; City Clerk
Subject: Support for bike walk Alameda

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Dear Honorable Mayor, City Councilpersons, and City Manager,

I'm writing on behalf of Bike Walk Alameda to provide our enthusiastic support for two items on the September 3, council agenda.

Item 6-E is a recommendation to provide direction to increase parking enforcement resources to support parking and transportation management goals (Public Works 224). We strongly urge you to support the option for outsourcing our city's parking enforcement. Of all of the options prepared by staff, this is the one that would increase enforcement in the fastest way possible. Study after study has shown the relative abundance of free parking is a strong indicator of how likely people are to choose driving for their trips. Our city's transportation objectives include getting people to take fewer drive alone trips (SOVs). You have recently recognized that we're in a climate emergency. You are asking homeowners to pay for upgrading our storm-water drainage systems. At the same time, the city is subsidizing driving, which is the leading cause of greenhouse gas emissions. I applaud staff's recognition that we need to align our budgets with our objectives. By leaving parking revenue on the table, through very lax enforcement, the city is giving money to people who drive and park in our metered spaces. This is the money that would go directly into our general fund to help mitigate the damage to our environment caused by driving. This is money that could fund safe streets improvements we want, but can't afford.

Carrots alone haven't moved the needle as much as we need towards our own car trip reduction targets. We've been working hard to encourage people to choose other transportation options, which has worked - some. There's more we'll do to keep encouraging mode shift. However, it's time for us actively discourage driving in order to align our enforcement with our goals and declarations.

Item 9B is a referral from council member Oddie and Vice-Mayor Knox White requesting consideration on providing direction to staff on transportation priorities to advance active transportation plan work. We first want to thank Vice Mayor Knox White and Council member Oddie for bringing this matter forward. We're about to start work on the update to our Active Transportation Plan. It's important that we align staff's priorities with those of the council and our community. Both the community and this Council have made it clear that we must prioritize safe, active transportation options if we're to meet many of our transportation goals. To do that, we ask that you provide direction to staff that they should prioritize safety whenever possible, in ALL departments.

Too often we'll work through a public comment process where the community says loud and clear that they want traffic calming measures, but time and again, the deliberations (and resulting safety compromises) center on how those traffic calming measures will affect driving and parking. The standards in this referral will keep the choices centered on safety. We sometimes seem to have a mindset that "if it's not broke, don't fix it". For example, Public Works is not designing the safest streets possible as part of their paving projects, when they have discretion to do so, and the Rec and Parks department has not prioritized creating the planned access points to the Cross Alameda Trail through the northern border of JSOSP, which will be critical connectors to the CAT, a biking and walking safety corridor, for residents of western Alameda including Marina Village. We ask that you please approve both the short and long-term priorities for staff as listed in this item to ensure everyone stays focused on safety.

Thank you for your consideration

LARA WEISIGER

From: Denyse <denyse@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 02, 2019 10:42 AM
To: Manager Manager; Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Malia Vella; John Knox White; City Clerk
Cc: bwaadvo@emaildodo.com
Subject: Safer Streets Council Agenda items (6-E and 9-B)

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Dear Honorable Mayor, City Councilpersons, and City Manager,

I'm writing on behalf of Bike Walk Alameda to provide our enthusiastic support for two items on the September 3, council agenda.

Item 6-E is a recommendation to provide direction to increase parking enforcement resources to support parking and to outsource our city's parking enforcement. Of all of the options prepared by staff, this is the one that would increase enforcement. Parking is a strong indicator of how likely people are to choose driving for their trips. Our city's transportation objective is to reduce driving. We're in a climate emergency. You are asking homeowners to pay for upgrading our storm-water drainage systems. At the same time, we applaud staff's recognition that we need to align our budgets with our objectives. By leaving parking revenue on the table, we are not supporting metered spaces. This is the money that would go directly into our general fund to help mitigate the damage to our environment that we cannot afford.

Carrots alone haven't moved the needle as much as we need towards our own car trip reduction targets. We've been working on that. There's more we'll do to keep encouraging mode shift. However, it's time for us to actively discourage driving in order to achieve our goals.

Item 9B is a referral from council member Oddie and Vice-Mayor Knox White requesting consideration on providing direction to thank Vice Mayor Knox White and Council member Oddie for bringing this matter forward. We're about to start working on those of the council and our community. Both the community and this Council have made it clear that we must prioritize safety. We ask that you provide direction to staff that they should prioritize safety whenever possible, in ALL departments.

Too often we'll work through a public comment process where the community says loud and clear that they want traffic calming. We know how those traffic calming measures will affect driving and parking. The standards in this referral will keep the choices clear. For example, Public Works is not designing the safest streets possible as part of their paving projects, when they have discretion. We're talking about the Cross Alameda Trail through the northern border of JSOSP, which will be critical connectors to the CAT, a biking route. We ask that you please approve both the short and long-term priorities for staff as listed in this item to ensure everyone stays focused on safety.

Thank you for your consideration,

Denyse Trepanier,
Board Member, Bike Walk Alameda

LARA WEISIGER

From: Jon Randell <snackdad@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 29, 2019 5:27 PM
To: Manager Manager; Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Malia Vella; John Knox White; City Clerk
Subject: City Council meeting agenda on 9/3

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Dear Honorable Mayor, Council Members, and City Manager,

I'm writing to you in reference to two items on the City Council meeting agenda on 9/3. The two items, 6-E and 9-B, both deal with making our streets safer for people who are not driving. The city council has consistently **stated** that they want more people to walk, bike, or take transit, but our policies and the actions of staff are not in alignment with those goals.

Re: Item 6-E. Not only are we not doing anything to discourage driving and parking, it's clear from the staff presentation that we are heavily **subsidizing** driving and parking. This is unconscionable. Imagine what we could do with that money that we're giving to people who park in our city through lack of enforcement? We haven't installed a new bike rack in our business districts in years. We are effectively taking money from our general fund and giving it to drivers, while at the same time asking citizens to pay more for climate mitigation such as storm water pump upgrades -- which is caused by our dependence on driving! Please, I urge you to start aligning our policies with our declarations and stop subsidizing driving. Please support staff's recommendation to increase parking enforcement.

Re: Item 9-B: I'm disappointed that it's come to this point where our council has to micro-manage our city departments this way. However, since staff hasn't got the message yet, I don't think there's any other option for council but to provide this level of detailed instructions to our public works, police, and rec and parks departments when it comes to prioritizing safe, active transportation design and enforcement. This referral wouldn't be needed if staff would heed Council's general direction on changing their priorities and policies and use every tool available to them to design and manage our streets and parks to encourage non-car travel. Instead, they've been following the same processes and making the same decisions as they always have, with predictably similar results. And so, we're here, with council having to instruct PW on the use of speed bumps, and chicanes. Again, I urge you to approve this item. Council has tried to send staff a message on what to do; staff has effectively ignored that message, and now Council has to provide detailed guidance. It's sad. Please do the right thing!!

Thank you for your consideration

Jon Randell