

## LARA WEISIGER

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**From:** Ryan Clausnitzer <ryan@mosquitoes.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 4:17 PM  
**To:** LARA WEISIGER  
**Subject:** Support for Central Avenue Project

Hello Ms. Weisiger-

I was next in line to speak last night, but alas, the meeting was continued to next Monday the 29<sup>th</sup>. I am unable to attend this meeting as I will be away at a work conference. Below is a summary of my support for this project.

Dear Council Members:

My family and I own a home at Bay Street and Central Avenue. I drive to and from work on Central every day. It is not a pleasant road to drive on because of the combination of frequent dodging of left-turners, plus speeding drivers weaving in and out of traffic. My mother in law does not drive and lives across Central from us and must walk several blocks out of her way to cross at Sherman where the timer only allows her to cross half of the intersection, stranding her at the tip of the gas station. She frequently watches over our two young children and retells many a harrowing crossing with both toddlers in tow to Franklin Park, or to our child care facilities—Fuzzy Caterpillar down the street at Encinal or Little Lion at 8<sup>th</sup> and Central. We avoid visiting the shops on Central/ Encinal or Franklin Park as we fear crossing Central Avenue. It is not a safe or pleasant street to use.

It also limits our bike riding to nearby parks and businesses. We just drive to Crab Cove/ Washington park as biking there either requires us to take Santa Clara, down 8<sup>th</sup> st (which is not a safe cycling road), or bike on Central, or the sidewalks. None of these are good alternatives. We drive to Alameda Point as well as Santa Clara west of Webster is too narrow for biking with cars. If Central was improved, we would use Washington park more often and shop at the nearby businesses as well. Honestly, hearing the Webster Street association speak against the project questions my patronage of these establishments. Do they think they can compete with the large parking lots of Alameda Landing? They need to appeal to local residents and non-driving visitors if they want to thrive. Have they visited Valencia Street in San Francisco? There is nothing like biking home from dinner, drinks, a Pagano's run—it makes the trip part of the experience.

Finally, I agree with staff who said that a slow driver can police the speed—I catch myself doing that daily as a driver. I prefer to drive on single lane roads such as Santa Clara, and Shoreline--where I cannot grasp what people are upset about. What resource was ruined?! An ugly road? The shore is to be enjoyed by all. Drivers should be paying attention to the street, not gazing at the bay.

I am very excited the direction the city is going for the safety of its residents, promotional opportunity for business, property value increases for its residents, and it will promote people to get out of their cars and meet their neighbors. Please show your strength, wisdom, and leadership by considering the future of Alameda, making it a place people want to visit and in doing so, impact the island less.

Sincerely,

**Ryan Clausnitzer**

## LARA WEISIGER

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**From:** Trish Spencer  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 1:23 PM  
**To:** Liz Warmerdam; Jennifer Ott; Gail Payne; LARA WEISIGER  
**Subject:** Fwd: City Council Meeting 2/24/2016

FYI

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message -----

**From:** jlucey@peninsulaneighborhoods.com  
**Date:** 02/25/2016 1:13 PM (GMT-08:00)  
**To:** Trish Spencer <TSpencer@alamedaca.gov>, Frank Matarrese <FMatarrese@alamedaca.gov>, Tony Daysog <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>, Jim Oddie <JOddie@alamedaca.gov>, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov>, Liz Warmerdam <LWarmerdam@alamedaca.gov>  
**Cc:** Sandip Jariwala <1sjariwala@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting 2/24/2016

Mayor and City Council,

We thank you for your time and efforts not only last evening but throughout this process. We have six tenants and a commercial property that will be affected by this Central Ave proposal. We ask the City Council to leave the arterial road, Central Ave, from 8<sup>th</sup> St through McKay as it is today, or at least maintain the four lanes and parking to 200' West of Webster St.

We have managed to keep our Tenants in Alameda businesses, in Alameda homes, and in Alameda schools with minimal vacancies over time. There appears to be a communication gap between the business community and the City Public Works Department staff. WABA, GABA, and The Alameda Chamber of Commerce, have tried to help narrow this gap. We are clear that each business support group does not support the proposed changes at Webster St and Central Ave. A middle way of sorts was achieved with leaving 8<sup>th</sup> St through 200' beyond Webster St. West as it is today. Those good faith efforts were abandoned when Public Works simply changed the plan without consideration, and a lack of transparency. There has been a bias by Public Works staff on this proposal; City of Alameda staff should have had an unbiased perspective. We have heard the Public Works proposal such as going from two lanes, to one lane, and back to two lanes within a very short span this simply does not make sense, and offers confusion for the roads use. Santa Clara Ave is an existing established bike route and would be a better choice to ride bikes on through the city.

When traffic and road limitations, in conjunction with parking elimination are placed on business districts, we can't grow. We are established business districts, without rear loading docks, which rely on roads for access and street parking for customers and vendors. All of the four corners at Webster and Central utilize Central Ave for deliveries by design. Last night's surprise suggestion of eliminating more parking for loading zones, we hope does not occur. Inserting a loading zone at the expense of parking is a further denigration to the businesses and district. Our Tenants clients and customers fully utilize the parking spots daily that last nights suggested loading zone option would eliminate. We need more parking not less at the corner of Central Ave. and Webster St. We need our traffic lanes, intersections and parking to be preserved. We experienced all of the parking being eliminated recently during a commercial being filmed. Public Works sold all of the parking for one block at Webster St and Central Ave intersection and business came to a grinding halt. We had to place calls to APD and Public Works to inquire what was

occurring and found that Public Works and the filming company had failed to properly notify APD and business owners.

Sales tax comes from customers, vendors and employees living and shopping in the Webster St and Central Ave business district. Enhanced property tax comes from value being added to the business districts, not taken away from them. Removing roadway lane access, and parking, removes value from commercial properties. We turn to the City Council to help protect and respect our properties, small businesses and business communities, not to divert traffic to new developments.

On a current neighborhood website post about a pothole repair request to Public Works, Public Works replied with this comment "Alameda's streets suffer from \$12-60 million in deferred maintenance, as a result of years of underinvestment. This may explain the cause of the service you have requested". Do we need to have more road maintenance as a result of a new project? One of the bulb-outs from the last change to Webster St and Central Ave, which cost parking, is an abandoned weed patch, which I have shown to each of you Council members. Public Works has been notified without any change.

When the crosswalk was re-installed between the Croll's Building and O'Reilly's Auto Parts the traffic level at the Central Ave and Webster St intersection was close to 20,000 vehicles per day with an expected growth pattern of a ½ percent annually. Based upon AM peak, Midday peak, and PM peak hours, vehicles at the Webster St and Central Ave intersection, by the equations provided by The City and County of Alameda, range from 18987 to 21700 vehicles per day, currently. The Kittleson and Associates numbers seem to correspond to a desired outcome and the numeric demand by Caltrans of the potential project. Not only do the Kittleson and Associates numbers on traffic not show growth, but they show vehicle numbers decreased by half of the numbers when the crosswalk was being re-installed. Kittleson and Associates initially recommended no change to the intersection of Central Ave and Webster St, and then changed due to misguided pressure.

Safety does need seem to be the genuine issue here, based upon Public Works own numbers we have a safe intersection as the road is today for comparable roads. Changes to the roadways may bring less than desired outcomes and a change to the safety record. There is no EIR report here, and the EIR related to Alameda Point notes Central Ave as a four lane roadway. There has been no consideration as to emergency vehicle response times, and there has been no study as to where the potential dispersed traffic is going to be delivered.

We ask for the City Councils help to allow customers to continue to come to our businesses along the arterial roads such as Central Ave without slowdowns or diversions. We do not wish to push our current traffic to neighborhood streets or to new business districts. We ask that the Council help our small business districts and leave Central Ave at Webster St at four lanes in each direction as it is today, or at least maintain the four lanes to 200' west of Webster St. without any parking loss.

Regards,

J. Lucey

B. Lucey

## LARA WEISIGER

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**From:** Inbal Graham <info@bikewalkalameda.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 8:35 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** info@bikewalkalameda.org  
**Subject:** Please support a safer and more accessible Central Avenue

Please accept the following message from Inbal Graham.

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I want safe and accessible streets for people who walk and bike in my community. Please vote YES on the Central Avenue concept plan.

Dear City Council Members: As the mother of two children and as a concerned citizen, I ask that you work to increase safety measures for both bikers and walkers so my kids freely go here and there, so I don't have to worry about them being hit by drivers. We moved here from SF to raise our children in a safe loving community and now that they are if age, I worry so much about their safety, especially when I read reports of accidents between drivers and pedestrians and cyclists and witness many near misses near the schools and around town. Thank you for your work and help on promoting safety in Alameda!

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Inbal Graham

5107499235

Inbalgraham11@gmail.com

Central and high

## LARA WEISIGER

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**From:** Mlrasol <info@bikewalkalameda.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 8:30 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** info@bikewalkalameda.org  
**Subject:** Please support a safer and more accessible Central Avenue

Please accept the following message from Mlrasol.

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I want safe and accessible streets for people who walk and bike in my community. Please vote YES on the Central Avenue concept plan.

I live in the corner of Webster and Lincoln Ave. The foresight of the plan seems good but what we experience and have been seeing along the Shoreline Drive is not a good sight and sometimes even causes accidents. The street will be narrower and cars are almost parking in the middle of the street. There will be a lot of blind spots for the drivers coz of the multiple cars parking. I always witness an almost hit pedestrians along Central and 6th Street. The city should install a big warning lights like the one in Park street and not only the orange flag you carry as you cross.

I know the residents that will be greatly affected by this are the ones in Central and Pacific. They will miss the wide and quiet roads .

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Mlrasol

mryamson@yahoo.com

Lincoln and Webster