

LARA WEISIGER

From: Cameron Holland <camholland@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 2:09 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Please support limited Alameda street closures for social distancing and traffic safety

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Please include these comments under Council Agenda Item 6-A. Thank you!

To:
Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Vice Mayor John Knox White
Councilmember Malia Vella
Councilmember Jim Oddie
Councilmember Tony Daysog

I write in support of resolution 6-A and further in support of a short-term measure to close select low-traffic streets in Alameda to through traffic so that our residents can safely exercise outside while social distancing.

As a parent of three children, all of whom are home from school, we are frequently walking or biking in our neighborhood to get fresh air. Often we find ourselves going into the street to walk in order to avoid other pedestrians or to bicycle together. Although we are on quiet residential streets and most cars drive slowly around, we are regularly surprised by cars driving by at an inappropriately high speed. Instead of staying in the street, we swerve on and off the sidewalk to avoid this, which is not much safer.

Closing off residential streets in Alameda neighborhoods would improve public safety in terms of COVID-19 transmission as well as traffic safety. With more space, we can more effectively social distance. Even more, traffic would be reduced and drivers on alert to the shared street use. And by spreading these streets through the town, we can avoid consolidating foot and bike traffic at Shoreline, Jean Sweeney or the parks.

Recognizing that city staff is already making herculean efforts to address the effects of COVID-19 on our residents and businesses, this is an initiative that could involve local organizations and volunteers to put up A-frames and cones and keep them standing. People want to help neighbors deal with the SIP order and we are all at home anyway.

I also support moving pedestrian beg buttons to automatic recall mode and increasing pedestrian space in our business districts by cordoning off the parking zones to allow people to pass at 6 feet.

Thank you for all your efforts to flatten the curve and keep us safe.

Sincerely,

Cameron Holland

LARA WEISIGER

From: Denyse <denyse@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 12:33 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Comments relating to tonight's City Council agenda item 6a

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Hi City Clerk,

Can you please read the following comments into the public record during tonight's City Council meeting?

First, I would like to thank staff for creating this resolution. As someone who regularly tries to get around Alameda and the Bay Area without a car, I strongly support this resolution, and hope Council will too!

While I realize that the resolution addresses longer-term safety improvements, there are more urgent, temporary street configuration changes we need to implement immediately, during the SIP order. You have undoubtedly heard that the Shoreline path is overcrowded, with pedestrians walking in the bike lane because there isn't sufficient space for people to pass each other there safely. I don't support doing any type of slow streets program on Shoreline as it does not include enough neighborhoods, and will create an attractive nuisance where people from all over the city will congregate. Slow streets have been most effective when spread throughout a community allowing residents to stay in their own neighborhoods, while getting some safe time outside.

To that goal, my asks are that you

1. Immediately direct staff to implement a 'slow streets' program similar to what's being implemented in Oakland, Berkeley, Emmerlyville, and as of today, San Francisco.
2. Direct staff to immediately move all pedestrian beg button to automatic recall mode where technically feasible and cease implementation of any new beg buttons, as was recently installed at 8th and Central, without any public input. It's also critical that there be signage on all beg buttons alerting pedestrians that don't need to press them in order to safely use the intersection - the community will help with this!
3. In heavily congested areas where residents must still congregate to wait for vital services, please direct staff to cordon off curbside parking or travel lanes to allow for more effective social-distancing around that business. (e.g. Takeout restaurants in our business districts)

We don't know how long we're going to have to live like this. While we appreciate that PW is at 1/2 staff, I can't think of anything more urgent right now than creating safe space for people to weather this storm. Also, please enlist the community to help with implementation. We need to feel empowered, and that we're making a positive contribution.

Thank you for your consideration (and thank you City Clerk for helping deliver these comments!)

Denyse Trepanier

1216 Eagle Ave.
Alameda, CA 94501
denyse@gmail.com
510.778.2399

LARA WEISIGER

From: johnsen cyndy <cyndyjohnsen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 9:17 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Item 6-A: Please Support Slow "No-through Traffic" Streets

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Please include these comments under Council Agenda item 6-A. Thank you!

To:
Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft
Vice Mayor John Knox White
Councilmember Malia Vella
Councilmember Jim Oddie
Councilmember Tony Daysog

Subject: Please Support Slow "No-through Traffic" Streets

I'm excited about the initiative to establish a network of select "no-through traffic" streets around our city in response to COVID-19. It will limit and slow car traffic, and formally sanction much needed safe physical activity on those streets, so drivers will not be surprised to encounter pedestrian activity there. This effort will benefit the physical and mental health of residents who have been cooped up by enabling them to get out and safely stretch their legs, walk dogs, run, bike, scooter, and skate. There's a lot of pressure on our sidewalks and park trails right now, and a measure like this will ease some of the frustration and anxiety we're experiencing while trying to keep six feet apart outside.

Perhaps Alameda could follow Oakland's lead and keep it relatively simple in terms of infrastructure and rollout to minimize staff effort and resource use. No formal enforcement, so police time would not be needed; engage the volunteer community for maintenance needs so public works wouldn't get tied up, etc.

Separate but related, please expedite the opening of more neighborhood streets to Jean Sweeney Park. Enabling families to more easily access that area makes more sense than ever.

Hopefully you will be willing to consider these and other ideas that help us weather this pandemic and its after effects in the months and years ahead. Repurposing street infrastructure to encourage healthy, low-cost, low-carbon, efficient, and equitable recreation and transportation has few downsides, and so many upsides.

Thank you for all you do in making Alameda a special place!

Sincerely,

Cyndy Johnsen

Additional information:

[Oakland Slow Streets](#)

[Oakland's 'Slow Streets' Is an Emergency Measure Long in the Making](#)

Let's Not Overthink This: Opening Streets is Easy, Says Urban Planner Mike Lydon

Palo Alto considers banning cars from some streets during coronavirus shelter in place

LARA WEISIGER

From: Pat Potter <pttr_pt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 5:42 PM
To: Jim Oddie; Malia Vella; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Tony Daysog; John Knox White; City Clerk
Subject: Summary Results for Petition to Slow Streets
Attachments: BWA petition and comments 04202020 .pdf

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Mayor Ashcraft, Vice Mayor Knox White, Council members Oddie, Vella and Daysog,

On April 16th Bike Walk Alameda sent out a petition to its members and the Alameda community to gauge the community's interest in designing a program similar to Oakland's 74-mile street calming program. With playgrounds, parks, and beaches closed to gatherings and summer rapidly approaching, we wanted to see if converting some small streets on the island to local traffic only would give Islanders an opportunity for fresh air and exercise without the danger of close contact.

In less than 24 hours we received over 300 signatures supporting the petition. This overwhelming support was not unanimous. Some were worried that their street would be overrun with pedestrians and bicyclists. Others who live on busier streets were worried that their street would become even busier as traffic was diverted.

But the support for opening up some low-traffic streets to more pedestrian and bicycle traffic was enormous. We hope that you will accept the summary of this petition and move to allow Alamedans more space to walk and ride while we are observing the bans on gathering. Thanks very much, and thank you for all you are doing to help keep us safe.

Bike Walk Alameda

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

PETITIONS

START A PETITION

BROWSE

CAMERON ▼

ALAMEDA, CA



Support Street Space in Alameda for Effective Social Distancing, Now!

by: [Bike Walk Alameda](#)recipient: Alameda City Council, [Alameda, CA](#)

363 SUPPORTERS IN ALAMEDA

376 SUPPORTERS

400 GOAL

Your Support is Needed to Give More Outdoor Space for Social Distancing in Alameda

Reducing thru traffic on some small streets will help YOU...

Get fresh air and exercise

Keep a safe distance from people and cars

Slow down traffic

CITY COUNCIL MUST RECEIVE THIS PETITION BY MONDAY, APRIL 20th

Reducing thru traffic on some small streets is a rapid response tool recommended by the National Association of City Transportation Officials during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Opening up street space enables pedestrians, joggers, and bike riders to exercise at a safe distance from people and cars without driving to park destinations. This space is achieved by temporarily converting select low-traffic streets to local vehicle access only, which provides the added benefit of slowing traffic down on these streets. Emergency vehicles, deliveries,



Edit Your Petition



Update Your Signers



Manage Your Signers

**65% OF NEW SIGNATURES
COME FROM SHARING**

SHARE THIS

SEND A TWEET

EMAIL FRIENDS & FAMILY

SIGN PETITION

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

EMAIL

COUNTRY

United States

STREET ADDRESS

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO YOU? (optional)



Share this petition with friends

Email me with updates about Care2 petitions that I may be interested in.



Yes, please



No thanks

site feedback



SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

THIS IS A LOW COST AND EASY TO IMPLEMENT SOLUTION THAT CAN HELP KEEP
Alamedans healthy and safe as we shelter in place.

SIGN NOW

**SIGN TODAY TO TELL ALAMEDA CITY COUNCIL THAT YOU SUPPORT
CONVERTING SELECT LOW-TRAFFIC STREETS TO LOCAL VEHICLE ACCESS
ONLY.**

☐ don't display my name[Privacy Policy](#)By signing, you accept Care2's [Terms of Se](#)You can unsub at any time [here](#).Having problems signing this? [Let us kno](#)

 SHARE 463  TWEET  EMAIL  EMBED

376 SUPPORTERS

[Local Comments](#) [Local Signatures](#) [All](#)

Damian M.

California

3 hours ago

We all need fresh air & exercise during this Covid-19 crisis.

Stephanie J.

California

19 hours ago

People have always walked in Alameda- and are doing so even more now. We need space to give each other space. Help us stay Six feet apart but closer knit than ever.

Aira C.

California

a day ago

To support our community in these circumstances.

Kristin R.

California

a day ago

We live on paru and have small kids and a dog. Our community would benefit from less traffic and speed

name not displayed

California

2 days ago

Kids can't wear masks and it is so difficult to maintain 6ft with so many people walking on narrow sidewalks. I can't have my kids move into the street to avoid and other walkers don't move out the way. Especially on shoreline. Would be great to shut that down and give people space with

site feedback

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Adam B.

California

2 days ago

We are out every day with the kids running or biking.

Arlo R.

California

2 days ago

I want to help control the spread of COVID-19.

Kerry C.

California

2 days ago

We don't own a car, we do all our travelling and shopping by bicycle or transit.

Carrie P.

California

2 days ago

social distancing and exercise

Vance R.

California

2 days ago

With fewer people driving and more walking and biking it just makes sense. It will be safer for all if we have more space for pedestrians and cyclists.

Caitlin S.

California

2 days ago

Let's make streets safer for all of us now.

Lauren V.

California

2 days ago

I live on Shoreline and 100 people walk by in 15 minutes and less than 20% are wearing masks

Emil P.

California

2 days ago

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Jonathan C.

California

2 days ago

Safety, environment, making alameda a special place.

Amanda S.

California

3 days ago

To protect us all from the spread!

Drew F.

California

3 days ago

I want to bike safely

name not displayed

California

3 days ago

This will make it much easier for folks to safely distance

Jeffries W.

California

3 days ago

safe transportation while getting exercise for the whole family

Jezra T.

California

3 days ago

I work in public schools and know how important movement is for public health, mental health, and learning! Safe places for kids and families to do so is critical during this time when culture and driving culture particularly are not normalized.

Holly L.

California

3 days ago

I bike for mental health!

Nicola T.[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

mentally healthy. With more people trying to do that during this time, we need more space to spread out and stay safe.

Kathryn A.

California

3 days ago

I've been going to the beach to walk and ride, and it is too crowded there.

Claudia M.

California

3 days ago

Because we run, bike and walk and we need enough space to do it and keep social distancing.

jeng t.

California

3 days ago

people need more space to work out being cooped up.

Bram B.

California

3 days ago

Little downside; lots of upside.

Emily G.

California

3 days ago

my kids want to play outside!

Jon S.

California

3 days ago

There are more pedestrians and fewer cars on our streets now: why not take advantage of this opportunity?

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

3 days ago

When someone approaches me on the sidewalk, I have already been getting into the street to avoid people. It would be great to have a car-free space which would be much safer.

Debra C.

California

3 days ago

The outdoors is the best way to keep our sanity during this time - areas providing more space is necessary for our health and safety.

Sheila S.

California

3 days ago

We have kids and need more space to walk and ride safely

Roberta M.

California

3 days ago

Use space wisely during this health crisis

Larry R.

California

3 days ago

Cars are speeding. There's no where safe to walk

theresa l.

California

4 days ago

there isn't enough room in the parks for the population

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

People need access to exercise and in a safe way.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

to make it easier and safer to bike and walk with kids while maintaining social distancing.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

I neeeeed fresh air.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

To maintain social distancing

Cathy N.

California

4 days ago

Increasing biking in town and decreasing driving is good for health and good for the environment.

Daryll S.

California

4 days ago

Please make this happen!!!

Julie C.

California

4 days ago

This will create a safer Alameda for pedestrians during the pandemic.

Titus G.

California

4 days ago

I am weaker than my ancestors.

Caryn H.

California

4 days ago

As a family of 4 (2 of us are young kids), we need to get out and (safely!) burn off energy--doesnt everyone? Some closed-to-traffic streets would benefit Alamedans who want to get freshair, stretch their legs, get exercise AND be safe while doing so.

Misha C.

California

4 days ago

I want to make sure my family and I can socially distance safely. Currently when we're taking our two young kids out on a walk and

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

People need to be active and outside and able to exercise safely and in their neighborhoods to stay mentally and physically healthy during this 'stay at home' order.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

Bike Safely on Central West End and Bayview in Alameda

Tim B.

California

4 days ago

With schools and many workplaces closed I see kids zooming down the sidewalks which are only 4' wide in most cases. I see them mixing it up in the street with cars (which is an important skill) which can sometimes be dangerous. Temporarily closing a few streets to through traffic would give safe places to ride/walk/run/scoot, and encourage more people to get out and about in a safe and healthy way.

Sarah O.

California

4 days ago

I have three kids that are needing exercise and fresh air. Closing streets to cars would make it much easier to spend more time getting exercise and fresh air!

Nathaniel K.

California

4 days ago

safe passage for my family. Close Park street to Vehicles

Bettie L.

California

4 days ago

I love Alameda walkability. Fewer cars on designated streets would help facilitate safer social distancing while we enjoy fresh air exercising.

Diana B.[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

avoid people is dangerous.

Britney S.

California

4 days ago

There has been an uptick in cars speeding through neighborhoods. Currently, our family has been biking to Oakland. While out we typically pick-up a drink etc....So at a time when businesses are needing \$, the safest places for cycling and active transportation are going to benefit.

Sally W.

California

4 days ago

I like to run and have been having trouble finding routes where I can safely socially distance. I often end up in the street with cars, which feels also unsafe.

Mary C.

California

4 days ago

We need space to exercise and social distance at the same time!

Valerie K.

California

4 days ago

I live in Alameda precisely because it is so walkable. I'd love to be ensured an even safer way to be as I walk places.

Heather W.

California

4 days ago

I have young kids and we need to get safe fresh air and exercise.

Vadim S.

California

4 days ago

Social distancing is crucial to reducing the spread of COVID19. The Shelter at Home order has led to many more people taking daily strolls on our sidewalks than before. Opening the public right of way of the street to pedestrians to use safely will allow easier distancing between people during these difficult times and will facilitate social distancing.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

I live in Alameda and I value my family's health and safety.

Julie H.

California

4 days ago

I ride a bike for fun and to shop.

Laura K.

California

4 days ago

My daughter was hit as a pedestrian in a crosswalk (hit & run). I want safe streets for all pedestrians & bikes!

Joyce D.

California

4 days ago

I am physically limited to walking because I can't drive any more, and am not able to ride a bike

Betsy B.

California

4 days ago

We need to be safe when walking.

Patricia P.

California

4 days ago

Because I walk daily and ride my bike 3 x week

vanessa l.

California

4 days ago

good, clean, fun

Michael S.

California

4 days ago

I workout most mornings and like to go to the Jean Sweeney Open Space Park. I live near the middle of the park and since the park only has entrances on 8th St and Sherman, I have to run through the neighborhoods to get into the park. It would be great to be able to run

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

knees that running on the sidewalk on concrete.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

it's not, but it's clearly a solid plan.

Olivia R.

California

4 days ago

safety and ability to continue to get out for walk and bike, yet maintain safe distances

Tamara V.

California

4 days ago

Im lucky to be able to ride my bike to work. And any additional safety is much appreciated. My son also only rides his bike and skateboard around town.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

Human safety and exercise/transportation/recreation while social distancing.

Eric L.

California

4 days ago

Sidewalks aren't large enough to accommodate appropriate distancing.

Christian C.

California

4 days ago

While walking around the neighborhoods of Alameda, I have had to walk in the street carefully in order to avoid being too close to others approaching. It would be great to have areas where it is safe to do that freely.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

less cars anywhere feels safer healthier

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

We have three small children at home and would love to be able to more safely navigate outdoor spaces. As a family, we've been SIP since the last week of February. Now, as we enter the third week of April, everyone is beginning to feel the effects of our confines.

David J.

California

4 days ago

In addition to social distancing, it will help to minimize auto-pedestrian and auto-bicycle collisions.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

Since we live on such a busy Main Street, it would be nice to have our two school aged children have options for safe outdoor space to walk, ride bikes and jog.

Clark C.

California

4 days ago

Makes it safer for walkers, skaters, skateboarders to be in the street. This is important now because we are having to walk in streets to keep our recommended distance from each other during exercise (which is vital no aways for our sanity!).

Jeremy S.

California

4 days ago

Need to be able to walk and jog safely.

Michael B.

California

4 days ago

I moved to alameda 16 years ago and part of the attraction was that it was safe for my kids to go outside and ride their bike, walk and safely be independent. The speeding on h th he island is just unsafe for all and

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Sheila E.

California

4 days ago

Please stop the cars on my street so, my kids can get outside and be safe!

Carrie B.

California

4 days ago

I'm tired of people in front of our home ignoring social distancing and exposing themselves to others.

Nicole S.

California

4 days ago

I've seen so many more families playing in the street and it would be lovely to have designated areas where it is safe.

Jim D.

California

4 days ago

My son needs a safe place to ride his bike since parks are closed

Elvira M.

California

4 days ago

It is hard to stay away 6ft from other people on walks (we have 2 small children and a dog and it is impossible for us to not leave the house). Having some more space available just for pedestrians will help us to spend the very necessary time outside without endangering ourselves or others.

Reinold T.

California

4 days ago

Shoreline beach path is way too crowded except early in the morning. Even the pathways in lower Washington Park and Robert Crown Beach are too crowded. Need alternatives for later in the day.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

Because sidewalks aren't 6 feet + 2 people wide.

Randall B.

California

4 days ago

Traffic is not paying attention to speed limits. This is one partial solution that will help.

Mary H.

California

4 days ago

Need more places to walk on the west end of town

Philip M.

California

4 days ago

Safe space for exercise is necessary all the time and especially during the lockdown. Closing these streets to cars will enable physical distancing and exercise.

Meagan J.

California

4 days ago

It would be great to be able to ride bikes safely with my kids!

Bruce G.

California

4 days ago

Seems like it will have to make it safer for people on foot. Vehicles appear to be going faster than normal as currently there is plenty of room to do so.

Anita R.

California

4 days ago

I support this proposal, hoping that it will free up the sidewalks for walkers elsewhere. Walking on these closed off streets won't actually be safe in competition with the bikes, strollers, roller blades, and local/delivery cars.

name not displayed

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Amy A.

California

4 days ago

Shoreline and the new CAT are WAY too crowded!

Don D.

California

4 days ago

We need to feel safe when out doors walking & running etc...

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

It will allow for more social distancing by opening up more space and hopefully, reduce crowds in other locations.

Maria G.

California

4 days ago

For safer streets, now please, needed more than ever to get out and still comply with SIP

Meagan M.

California

4 days ago

I run everyday and go for family walks and it's hard to keep a safe distance on the sidewalk when other people or families are approaching. I usually run in the street if there are other people but it's not safe to bring my family in stroller to the street.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

This is a vital change to address outdoor space access during the pandemic. I wish more streets were included.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

Living in a main Alameda Street - I see driving speed picking up. A safe place for pedestrians and bikes etc would be great.

site feedback

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

I am all for this...as a long time resident of Alameda. I see most of the speed offenders are by delivery services (like Uber Eats). It's worse when then double park in the bike lanes. But I think this is a good first step to providing a safer environment for pedestrians, runners, and cyclists

Jeffrey H.

California

4 days ago

Great idea to stay within safe distances from each other and get exercise and slow cars down on the island. Thank you.

Molly N.

California

4 days ago

I've been avoiding Park Street because it's difficult to maintain 6ft distance. Having open walking street would allow safer access.

David T.

California

4 days ago

I want to spend more time outdoors safely, and I want to include friends while walking and biking - that takes space to move side-by-side.

Martha S.

California

4 days ago

it's important to give us safe room to be outside while we shelter in place. There is very little commuting to work happening so there won't be much impact on cars at this time.

Monica F.

California

4 days ago

I want my kids to have a safe place to ride their bikes.

Ann N.

California

4 days ago

Our family is out biking and walking a lot more now and the sidewalks are more crowded. Often we have to go into the street to keep 6 feet of distance from others.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

I am seeing more speeding of cars with diminished traffic and would like more places we can walk & bike safely at this time, while also following social distancing guidelines. Love what Oakland did, let's do the same!

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

This would be so wonderful!

Denyse T.

California

4 days ago

These are not normal times. We can't follow normal street closure processes. We need staff to creatively think through what's needed to get this done instead of excuses as to why they can't do this. Staff needs very specific guidance to do this otherwise, it won't happen.

Erik P.

California

4 days ago

Getting folks out in their streets will help distancing on now-popular trails and paths. It can be hard to bike usual routes safely wrt distancing.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

There are more people speeding in town since the SIP took place and more people who are on the streets. It's a great idea so people can be outside while social distancing.

Charles J.

California

4 days ago

Keeping Alameda safe & healthy matters!

L P.

California

4 days ago

The City's facilitating more healthy & safer physical distancing is a win for us all!

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

My family walks and bikes in Alameda. We want to bike more during this time and we are always worried about rogue cars turning off the High St bridge (and doing doughnuts and speeding fast to Fruitvale bridge). My twins need a place play catch without breaking windows, we have a lot of young families and those with dogs, this would help keep them safe.

Laura W.

California

4 days ago

I ride my bike everywhere and being safe is so important at this time. Oakland did this and I would love for Alameda to do the same.

Jeanette Z.

California

4 days ago

Pedestrian and bike safety so people can get outside for exercise and fresh air during SIP.

Peter W.

California

4 days ago

I ride my bike every other day and typically ride along Shoreline Drive. The new bike path there has become crowded at times with walkers. The traffic in the vehicle lanes is slow to none existent. However it is necessary to bike into the traffic lanes to maintain a safe 6' distance from the pedestrians and joggers.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

We know from spate of accidents in the fall that we need to drastically increase safety for both bikes and peds in alameda....this is a great step forward.

Robert B.

California

4 days ago

Need safe, socially distanced space to be outdoors

Kathryn S.[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

It's been wonderful to see so many families walking or biking along the Alameda waterfront on both sides of our island

Betsy M.

California

4 days ago

Because it's vital for my family to be able to get outside safely during the current circumstances.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

I would love to go for a run without worrying about pedestrians or cars!

Tracy J.

California

4 days ago

The coronavirus emergency is an ideal time for low-cost traffic calming measures like this that do not impact local residents. Alameda traffic studies show that restricting through traffic increases pedestrian safety. This initiative will save Alameda lives.

Dan W.

California

4 days ago

I've started jogging, to improve my lung capacity which isn't very good, just in case I get hit with the virus — and EXTRA social distancing is crucial when exercising. And yet so many of our neighborhood streets are designed spaciouly for cars and not for people. Let's follow, and SURPASS, Oakland here!

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

The side walks have become more crowded even when on small streets. Individuals have to walk into the street when families (myself) walk with a stroller on the side walk etc.. I really appreciate it but I want everyone to be safe during these trying times. Opening the streets to all and limiting traffic would be great.

Neela M.

California

4 days ago

With playgrounds closed, our streets need to be safer for kids to play in

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Annette K.

California

4 days ago

As I take daily walks I've noticed that the few cars out there are even more of a hazard than usual—speeding impatiently with little regard for cyclists or pedestrians. This would help alleviate the situation somewhat.

Julia O.

California

4 days ago

Exercising outdoors is critical omfor physical and mental health. This is a great way for Alameda to support folks getting safe exercise in our town.

Jillian S.

California

4 days ago

This is a perfect time to show how we can get around our island on foot, bike, blades, etc!

Lissa M.

California

4 days ago

To provide more space to exercise while social distancing

Alain M.

California

4 days ago

I love my car and it makes it easy to get around BUT my family is biking or walking everyday now. A calm carefree roadway would make this much safer for us. Folks in cars really aren't as careful as they should be around pedestrians and bikes. thx

john i.

California

4 days ago

I ride a bike around Alameda and my children do as well. I actually think Alameda's roads need to be calmed for pedestrians and bicyclists beyond Covid-19. Cars shouldn't be commuting through small side streets as they do now.

Herb B.[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Casey O.

California

4 days ago

Sanity!

Philip K.

California

4 days ago

To create more space and a safe place for people to walk and run

Kim R.

California

4 days ago

My family and I exercise daily and need to be safe!

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

Bay view drive in particular needs to be limited to local traffic only as it is unsafe for bikes when people try to beat Otis. Place a barrier to make it not a through drive and place a sign stating local traffic only.

Marlo S.

California

4 days ago

We need more safe space for our family to get fresh air!

Barbara D.

California

4 days ago

While needing to exercise and still keep our distance during this pandemic the extra room would be perfect.

Tyler V.

California

4 days ago

I care about safety for my family.

Paul M.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

future!

Eve P.

California

4 days ago

Many popular places for walking and biking around very crowded—even in less trafficked areas there is a lot of moving on and off sidewalks as we pass one another. Parents out biking w their children very often have to contend with fast cars. Please reduce traffic on some streets it will make social distancing and exercising safer and more enjoyable.

Leslie G.

California

4 days ago

Too many people out trying to get exercise and fewer cars. It just makes sense for social distancing.

Patricia G.

California

4 days ago

Biking is my main form of exercise right now. I suggest though that some streets should be one way as sharing an open space with oncoming bikes is not fun unless there are strict lane guided.

name not displayed

California

4 days ago

Lots of people still do not respect safe distance on sidewalks. Opening streets is a fantastic idea!

Danielle M.

California

4 days ago

Closing streets would make it much safer and easier to ride bike with my young kids without monopolizing the sidewalks.

Don A.

California

4 days ago

To protect the health and well being of my family, friends, neighbors and the City of Alameda.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

4 days ago

We are a 4 person family with one little one just learning to ride a bike.
We need space and everyone wants more space from the little unpredictable bike rider.

Emily W.

California

4 days ago

I am immune compromised and sidewalks with runners and bikers makes it impossible for me to go for a walk. If I could walk in street safely I could go outside.

Bill C.

California

4 days ago

When I'm out getting much-needed evening exercise/fresh air with my kids, the joggers we encounter going the other direction are already going out into the street. This is an easy, painless solution to match residents' needs at a time that more than ever are out walking and cycling.

Susan G.

California

4 days ago

It's dangerous for one person to walk in the street when walking with a friend.

William S.

California

4 days ago

Promote both exercise and social distancing

Michael M.

California

4 days ago

The Bay trail on Bay Farm is nice, but now overly crowded and there isn't enough park space for recreation while keeping good social distance.

Ryan R.

California

4 days ago

Important for kids to have safe places outdoors! Improve safety like they

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Margo D.

California

4 days ago

Sidewalks are too narrow for social distancing. Neighbors need places to walk to ensure safe exercise.

Brian F.

California

4 days ago

there is mot

Joe M.

California

4 days ago

Drivers must be more aware of pedestrians and cyclists, rather than enabled to speed and run stop signs.

Nicole M.

California

4 days ago

My kids and I are enjoying biking, walking and exploring Alameda and would love to be able to do it without the worries of oncoming traffic.

Jonathan M.

California

4 days ago

I am currently walking and biking daily and there is no room on the sidewalks to do this safely with my 5 year old son.

Mark D.

California

4 days ago

The neighborhood parks are closed. The parking lots of East Bay Parks are closed. The only way for us to get exercise is walking, jogging and biking in our neighborhoods, we need space to social distance while doing that. Closing down streets to through traffic would help..

Jacy G.

California

4 days ago

I live next door to Jean Sweeney park and the park is filled from morning till night with dog walkers, roller bladders, skateboarders, bikers scooter riders and other residents desperate for exercise (and smooth

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

needs more space to ride a bike or scooter and explore the island. If we are on the sidewalk and want to remain adequately distant from other pedestrians we are sometimes forced on to streets with active traffic. Please close some streets to cars!

Maria V.

California

5 days ago

We need space to walk, exercise and play!

name not displayed

California

5 days ago

Social distancing is critical now

Ingrid D.

California

5 days ago

More safe outdoor space for kids is important during this time.

Nicole L.

California

5 days ago

Safe places to spread out and bike/walk/run/roller skate

Andrea D.

California

5 days ago

I'd love to have more space to be out of my house safely! The streets are very calm right now, let's make the most of it!

Ellen L.

California

5 days ago

If we are going to be sheltering in place for the unforeseen future, it is great to have outside spaces for children to play safely.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

California

5 days ago

The side walks are not big enough for proper social distancing. We are going into the street anyway. It would be great to have it be a bit safer for us and our kids!

name not displayed

California

5 days ago

To effectively social distance, stay healthy, safe and allow our children enough space to get outdoors, this would be a big benefit to local residents.

Jessica B.

California

5 days ago

As a runner and parent who takes her small children on bike rides frequently during shelter in place and school closure period, I really value being able to do these activities safely. But safely right now means with appropriate social distancing which has meant I sometimes must walk or run in the street, or have to try to control my 8 year old while riding in traffic to avoid him riding on sidewalks too near others. It would be a lot easier with street closures akin to other cities!

name not displayed

California

5 days ago

Sidewalks are too narrow to accommodate pedestrians who are properly socially distancing. You are creating a Sophie's Choice where people either put their own and others' health at risk by getting too close to one another or violate jaywalking rules. News articles from NY to Toronto have documented the safety hazards created by a lack of smart city planning in this regard. <https://globalnews.ca/news/6812047/coronavirus-toronto-social-distancing-machine/>

Springtime S.

California

5 days ago

We have 5 people in the family trying to get out each day in a safe and healthy way: this will be great for the community moral. I love it!!

Claire S.

California

5 days ago

More space to walk and run, and still maintain social distance is

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

Lila F.

California

5 days ago

My family needs more space to be active outside for physical and mental health!

Ashley R.

California

5 days ago

We need more public space to spread out and enjoy.

Cyndy J.

California

5 days ago

I walk daily around the neighborhood for pleasure and errands, and these days, I am frequently forced into the street to avoid others. I've also seen an uptick in speeding cars because there is less traffic. In the likely event social distancing continues into the months ahead, this relatively easy, low-cost solution will help us weather the time safely and more enjoyably.

Andrew G.

California

5 days ago

Some Alamedans are not respecting the distancing guidelines. Us pedestrians could use a bit more space.

name not displayed

California

5 days ago

We have some great bike lanes in town. The best ones are crazy crowded on weekends, especially with tiny tots who are particularly wobbly and require a wide berth.

Joyce M.

California

5 days ago

This will help with social distancing while walking and biking in Alameda in a safe manner.

Ashley L.

California

5 days ago

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

improve quality of life in Alameda at a time we really need it!
Inconvenience to drivers is offset with the already lower traffic.

Susie H.

California

5 days ago

It is a challenging negotiation to walk a dog or go jogging while also wanting to constantly step out into the street to yield to more vulnerable sidewalk users. I am happy to do this but it would be much less stressful with fewer cars--whose drivers have been a bit zippy these days.

Ryan M.

California

5 days ago

wrangling kids on the sidewalks is hard

Norene G.

California

5 days ago

Before the shelter in place order, I was walking about 3 miles a day around Alameda. Since the shelter in place, many days I don't leave the house at all because it's hard to always stay six feet away from others who are out walking, running, or biking. When I do go out for walks with my family, we head over to Alameda Point because it's relatively deserted, but we'd all much prefer to walk in a neighborhood with plants and trees. Creating safe street space would help greatly with this and increase the amount of exercise that all three of us are getting.

Pat P.

California

5 days ago

I'm a senior and walking is my main source of exercise. Currently, I am forced to dodge into the street to avoid other walkers. Having streets with reduced traffic would make a big difference.

Cameron H.

California

5 days ago

My family needs a safe space to get exercise without constantly swerving on and off the sidewalk and without concern for speeding cars.

[site feedback](#)

SUPPORT STREET SPACE IN ALAMEDA FOR EFFECTIVE SOCIAL DISTANCING, NO...

"The best way to predict the future is to
create it!"

- Denis Gabor

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City Council Meeting, April 21, 2020
Public Comment **Agenda Item 6a**

In moving towards safer streets for Alameda, City Council has directed staff to follow the [National Association of City Transportation Officials \(NACTO\) guidelines](#). The following recommendations presented to you by Bike Walk Alameda are based on guidelines from NACTO for managing public space during the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Convert sufficient street space on low-traffic streets to allow residents to maintain social distancing while walking and biking. Traffic on our streets has been reduced by 80-90% (<https://www.streetlightdata.com/VT-monitor-by-county/#emergency-map-response>) and with playgrounds, parks, and beaches closed to gatherings, having this extra space will be especially important, particularly as the weather warms up and the shelter-in-place order limits outdoor activity.
2. To avoid the spread of COVID-19 by touching pedestrian metal push buttons and to avoid pedestrians crossing intersections when the pedestrian signal is only activated with these push buttons, switch all pedestrian actuated signals to recall mode where technically feasible. Put signage or tape over the pedestrian push buttons to indicate the buttons do not need to be pushed.
3. Remove parking in our more congested business districts where there is insufficient space on the sidewalks to keep a safe distance between pedestrians and those waiting to be served by a business.
4. Slow streets are part of the NACTO guidelines. Follow Oakland's example: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/oakland-slow-streets> in determining streets and explaining the concept to the public. Also, reach out to the community for volunteers, not only to help managed slow streets, but to also help seniors and other vulnerable populations. <https://forms.gle/3iQqJerU84cxpjodA>.

Thank you for considering these recommendations as we work towards safer streets during these difficult times.

Pat Potter, President
Bike Walk Alameda