

Gail Payne

From: Christine Moy Harmon <cmoyharmon@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:12 PM
To: Gail Payne
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Pedestrian access: Buena Vista crosswalks / Lincoln & Constitution

Dear Ms. Payne,

As a concerned neighbor and parent, I'm requesting the city paint crosswalks on Buena Vista at the Chapin & Wood intersections. I walk my children to Maya Lin School nearly every day, crossing at Buena Vista and 8th. Buena Vista remains a cross-island thoroughfare with few traffic stops from Sherman to Constitution. Though we have a crosswalk at Buena Vista & 8th, I've had many cars refuse to stop for me and my children. Once, a car even swerved to avoid us as we were in the crosswalk!

At the intersection where Lincoln bears right onto Constitution, drivers refuse to look as they try to beat the light and get to the Posey Tube. By the time we approach the intersection, there's frequently a critical mass of parents and children waiting to cross. One morning last week, a driver turning onto 8th from Lincoln told a family with school-aged children that they were walking too slow. With the construction currently happening in the area, the route is even more dangerous.

Families move to Alameda for the community, the proximity to schools, and the ability to engage with both without a car. Please make it safe so we can enjoy getting our children to school without worrying about drivers who can't be bothered to pay attention.

Thank you,
Christine Moy Harmon

Gail Payne

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Transportation Meeting

From: Hannah Green [mailto:hannah.m.green@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:21 PM
To: Gail Payne <GPayne@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Transportation Meeting

Hi Gail,

We are still requesting that crosswalks be painted on the intersection of Chapin St, and Buena Vista, with blinking lights if possible. It is very hard to cross over safely as it is a busy street with cars zooming by at high speeds with no stop signs for a very long stretch. The visibility is low and pedestrians are almost invisible, or so it seems. Many children are trying to cross over from these blocks on their way to school at Maya Lin. I am worried that this is a tragedy waiting to happen.

Thank you for the plan you have conveyed after my previous comment to paint crosswalks on 9th St., this is a good first step. But as our family (and many others) lives on Chapin St. and need to cross over Buena Vista daily, this doesn't really address our concerns fully. Going down two blocks to 9th in order to cross the street is better than nothing but doesn't work well on bicycles and frankly is unpleasant because of the high traffic in the morning hours. We ride bicycles often and try to get to Pacific to ride safely with our children. Sometimes we are also trying to get to somewhere else that isn't the school! This goes for all the families on our blocks.

I would also like to highlight the fact that this really is also an equity issue as the blocks that do not have safe crossings include low income housing - on the bottom of Chapin and Eagle St. and are under-represented in these conversations. I don't claim to speak for them but these families may not have the time or resources to write letters themselves to the committee and join public meetings (I myself barely do). I've seen kids from these blocks that may not be able to be walked to school by their families crossing very unsafely with no supervision. Many are also riding around unsupervised on bikes and I am really worried they will be hit at that intersection. Please just paint a crosswalk, I don't even know why there aren't crosswalks here already and suspect equity is the underlying issue.

Again, a crosswalk is really the bare minimum. We would also like blinking lights to make it more safe. I think the city should make sure that pedestrians can cross over safely at all these intersections, especially when there are so many families with young children on these blocks. I know there have been many complaints on SeeClickFix on these crossings and I hope you are taking them seriously.

I will attend the meeting tomorrow again and hope this will be addressed. I'm really just asking for a crosswalk and blinkers on Chapin and Buena Vista, not any changes to the traffic such as a stop sign!

Thank you again for all that you are doing.
Hannah Green

Gail Payne

From: Miki <miki.terasawa@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:34 PM
To: Gail Payne
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Crosswalks on Buena Vista on Chapin and Wood intersections

Dear Ms. Payne,

I'm writing to express my concern about the lack of crosswalks on Buena Vista at the Chapin and Wood intersections. As a parent of two children who attend Maya Lin School, I witness regular "close calls" every week at these intersections, with speeding, reckless cars that are breaking the speed limit and endangering pedestrians.

We urgently need crosswalks (with blinking lights, if at all possible) to protect our kids and families on their daily walks to and from school. Without crosswalks, it's only a matter of time before a terrible -- and entirely preventable -- tragedy occurs at these intersections.

I also think it's important to note that the neighborhoods in this part of Alameda do include underserved, economically disadvantaged community members. Let's not add to the inequities that our fellow Alamedans face by neglecting the basic safety protections that these crosswalks would provide.

Thanks in advance for adding this email to the public record as you are making your transportation and pedestrian safety decisions.

Sincerely,
Miki Terasawa
parent of a Maya Lin 5th grader and kindergartener
1825 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA

Gail Payne

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Request for crosswalks on Buena Vista @ Chapin and Wood

From: Nalani Ngoon Warde [mailto:nalani.ngoon@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:20 PM

To: Gail Payne <GPayne@alamedaca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request for crosswalks on Buena Vista @ Chapin and Wood

Hi Gail,

I hope this email finds you well. I'm writing to request crosswalks on Buena Vista at Chapin and Wood. I'd rather request a traffic circle or roundabout but I think we're more likely to get crosswalks.

We live in the neighborhood, and while we don't have to cross Buena Vista to get to school many people in our community do. We're concerned that many of the members of our community that have to cross Buena Vista are disproportionately impacted by a geographic pattern created by systemic and institutionalized inequality.

We have friends who live on the corner of Buena Vista and Chapin. It has been astonishing how many car accidents have occurred on their corner in the past year with totaled cars that have flipped over. We know Buena Vista is a "high injury corridor", we're hoping for as much visibility (flashing lights please) for as many crosswalks as possible.

Our dog Buster prefers to walk down Lincoln and Buena Vista and I indulge him in his old age, whereas I prefer Pacific or Eagle to avoid the drivers tearing down Lincoln and Buena Vista at 50mph that I regularly see. I'm a sight to behold, a middle-aged lady in my matching sweats shaking my fist and hollerIng "SLOW DOWN". I know our city can do better for everyone in our community, particularly the pedestrians. We need to slow traffic down and provide better visibility for pedestrians.

Take good care,

Nalani Ngoon Warde