



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1523 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060-3911 • (831) 460-3200 FAX (831) 460-3215 EMAIL info@sccrtc.org

Handout Item 8:
SHOPP
ITAC 3/18/21

February 17, 2021

Jackson Ho, Project Manager
Caltrans District 5
50 Higuera Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Dear Mr. Ho,

The Regional Transportation Commission's Bicycle Advisory Committee would like to submit the following comments from individual members regarding the Caltrans CAPM project on Highway 1 in Santa Cruz between Highway 9 and Shaffer Road. This project provides a critical opportunity to make substantial improvements to the roadway for the benefit of bicyclists, in line with recent Caltrans policies and directives on Complete Streets and "Main Streets."

On January 14, 2021, the Committee wrote you a letter requesting Caltrans follow its complete streets-related policies in consideration of pavement marking, signage, and minor curb/geometry improvements as a part of upcoming maintenance work. On August 27, 2019, the Committee wrote District 5 staff a letter outlining the ways that maintenance projects can be used to improve bicycle facilities on our state highways, among other related matters. The letter also included specific needs on urbanized arterial-type state highways such as Highway 1 between Highway 9 and Shaffer Road.

Thank you for attending the recent meeting of the Committee to share information about the project and seek input. As you requested, below are the comments from members of the Committee. Most of these were previously submitted as formal comments from the entire Committee in the August 27, 2019 letter. Members requested:

- Predictable design for pedestrian curb ramps to allow safe use by visually impaired people
- The reduction of excessively wide curb radii to reduce vehicle speeds and improve safety
- The addition of sharrows and "bicycles may use full lane" signs to Mission Street
- The study of the possibility of a 4-to-3 road diet, possibly on a portion of Mission Street, to encourage active transportation
- The addition of bike lanes in the western portion of the project area where there is already sufficient ROW or where moderate narrowing of vehicle lanes would provide curb-to-curb space for bike lanes
- The consideration of replacing loop detectors with video detection which may be better for bikes



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- The consideration of bike boxes and bike priority signal timing, including on local streets where they intersect with Mission Street
- The reduction of the 45-MPH speed limit in the western project area
- The right of bicyclists to use Highway 1 between Highway 9 and Mission
- The consideration of paving over the gutter pans.

Concerns about the need for a local plan to include Highway 1 in Santa Cruz as well as for Caltrans to consider Mission Street as a “main street” and a bicycle route were also made.

We thank you for the opportunity to communicate on this important project. You can contact the RTC’s Bicycle Advisory Committee staff person, Tommy Travers, at 831-460-3208 or by email at ttravers@sccrtc.org, for this and any other Committee related matters.

Sincerely,

Amelia Conlen
Chair, RTC Bicycle Advisory Committee

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CALTRANS DISTRICT 5
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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

January 29, 2021

Ms. Amelia Conlen
Chair, RTC Bicycle Advisory Committee
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
1523 Pacific Ave
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Ms. Conlen:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing interest in our Capital Preventative Maintenance project (CAPM) in Santa Cruz on Route 1 between Highway 9 and Shaffer Road. The primary purpose of this project is to extend the life of the pavement and upgrade non-standard Americans with Disability Act (ADA) curb ramps within the project limits. CAPM projects can also include incidental features that support the delivery of Caltrans assets to achieve long-term infrastructure upgrade goals within our State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) program. Beyond that, Caltrans also considers safe and cost-effective opportunities to enhance travel for non-motorized travelers, including bicyclists. Our District welcomes input and discussions with partner agencies on how to fund and accomplish goals that are beyond the capacity of the SHOPP program that are also compatible with Caltrans policies.

We have noted and appreciate your invitation for our staff to talk to the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) about this project and to listen to the BAC's thoughts regarding this project. Jackson Ho is the project manager of the Santa Cruz Route 1 CAPM project, and he has arranged with Thomas Travers (SCCRTC planning staff) to join the next BAC meeting as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jackson Ho, Project Manager, by phone at (916) 764-7813 or by e-mail at Jackson.ho@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Timothy M. Gubbins".

TIMOTHY M. GUBBINS
District Director