

From: linn.walsh: >

Sent: Saturday, May 30, 2020 8:06 AM

To: Michele Gardner <mgardner@townoffairfax.org>; Garrett Toy <gtoy@townoffairfax.org>

Subject: Town Council Meeting - June 3 Meeting - Comments to the TC Please!

Good morning,

I am writing in support of Item 16 on the 6/3/2020 Town Council Agenda: "Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to enter into certain right-of-way agreements for outdoor dining seating and outdoor uses...."

I want to thank Council for the meeting on 5/27 to flush out ideas and hear community comment.

Please continue to consider very carefully any changes to Bolinas in any way that impedes or changes traffic flow, because of the impacts to the nearby neighborhoods.

Although it is not suggested as an alternative, it is mentioned in the Staff Report for discussion. So I will reiterate:

Please do not turn Bolinas into a one way outbound. This action will create a diversion onto Pacheco/Napa/Dominga. Even if it is temporary, traffic/driving habits take a long time to break. We already bear the brunt of traffic in normal times. Please- let's not add to the problem.

There are other, excellent solutions on the table such as using street and private parking stalls/lots and using Mono and Broadway. Let's start there!

Thank you for representing us and looking out for your neighbors and the local merchants!

Sincerely,
Linn Walsh
Dominga Ave

SUPPLEMENT TO
AGENDA ITEM # 16

From: DEBORAH BENSON <
To: Michele Gardner <mgardner@townoffairfax.org>
Date: May 31, 2020 at 3:38 PM
Subject: number 16 on the consent calendar

Town Council Members and Town Manager,

I am in support of helping our small businesses as much as possible. I am very aware of what they are suffering at present. I prepare the financial statements for ten small retail businesses (as well as other types of businesses) in Marin so I know whereof I speak.

My retail people jumped in and got creative right away, doing online sales, pick-up at the door and home delivery. They applied, with my help, for PPP loans - most have received them. They applied for grants from their towns. They applied for SBA loans. Most have received them. Their employees applied for unemployment and have received it. So they are operating through this crisis with some financial support.

The restaurants and retail who have been operating with some curbside pick-up have appreciated a designated parking space (or two) directly outside their doors. The Town of San Anselmo has placed very simple sandwich signs tagged with paper signs reading 'Curbside Pick-up' in parking spaces outside the doors of restaurants and shops. To avoid too many people waiting in line 6 feet apart people are waiting in adjacent parking spaces to be next in line on the sidewalk. Nothing fancy, but it's working. It was a good first step.

The County will be entering into Phase 2 e allowing limited indoor retail on June 15th. While I applaud the Town Council and Town staff for their efforts to help retail and the restaurants, I think the very simple steps are the best as we move according to yet-to-be-announced opening procedures. I also think that preserving parking is essential to the ability of the downtown businesses to serve their customers. I therefore am in opposition to anything even slightly resembling the closing or re-routing of either Broadway or especially Bolinas Road.

The lovely presentation of the special May 27th meeting by the neighbor/urban planner was over the top for purposes of a temporary helping hand to the small business. It closely resembled the presentation by the last urban planner we paid many thousands of dollars to, to reconfigure the downtown to make it more bicycle and pedestrian friendly. Fairfax has always been pedestrian and bicycle friendly. We don't need to reconfigure the downtown. We were promised in 2017 at a Council meeting that although closing Bolinas Road still was in the General Plan as a 'concept', that it was a 'dead issue', 'strawman' and wasn't being considered. We were asked to "take my word for it" by a Council member. Now it appears again. If it looks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it probably is a duck. Or, as Peter Arrigoni once said to me on a different matter - "It's like deja vu all over again"

Thank you.

Deborah Benson
Cascade Drive