

From: lisa merigian [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 6:21 PM
To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>
Subject: For tonight's "public comment" section of the City Council Meeting

I welcome the new City Council members and Mayor, and implore them to reconsider the proposed closure of the Walgreen's @ 3rd/Lindero St. entrance/exit. The closure creates more hazardous and unsafe conditions for more pedestrians than it solves.

The strong, organized, and loud voices of entities such as the Marin County Bicycle Coalition, the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, BioMarin, and the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce represent vital but singular perspectives. And as valuable and important as their perspectives are, they do not represent the voices of all of San Rafael's citizens. They do not represent the "general public" i.e. those of us who live, here, walk here, drive here, park here, pick up our children from school, patronize local businesses. And yet, the City and City Council seems to relate to these perspectives more frequently and give their views more weight than those of the average citizen. We are simply asking for the same access to the conversation and the same consideration.

I urge the City Council to instruct the City Manager and the Director of Public Works to reach out in a more concerted effort to work with the general public before completing and submitting their design plans for funding so that our concerns may be addressed, our input considered, and our needs included in the proposed plans.

We love our pedestrians and cyclists! We value safety. We are simply asking that you listen to our perspective with the same weight and consideration you give to other, more organized voices.

Thank you.