

-----Original Message-----

From: chuck ballinger [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 8:45 AM  
To: Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
Subject: Freeway Connector

The time is now to move forward with the San Rafael freeway connector.

I sincerely hope city planners can see past their short term issues and realize a modern highway system does not require motorists to exit onto local roads between freeways. This is a problem that should have been addressed many years ago. Indeed, when the 101 overpass was rebuilt, a connector should have been part of that project - one lane going on to Bellam and one connecting to 580.

The lack of a proper freeway connection is the weakest infrastructure component in all of Marin. Don't pass this problem on to future generations. Fix it now!

Think and plan for the long term.

Regards,

Charles Ballinger

[REDACTED]

Mill Valley

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Daniela Kleiman [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2021 11:58 PM

To: Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>

Subject: 580 connector impact

A quick email to say that I absolutely oppose this. Southern Marin is already excluding ALL minority students from their school district and now 'the Sir Francis Drake corridor' won't get impacted by this. We shouldn't let San Rafael absorb all the burden, on education, traffic, homeless services, etc. WHY? Southern Marin benefits from all the people coming to work in Marin from the East Bay, why are they not contributing too? Why is Sir Francis Drake not a possible route? I think there is a BIG conflict of interest in the decision. People should disclose where they live BEFORE they make public decisions like these. Please let me know how to support our beloved city!

Thanks,  
Daniela

**From:** Bella Divine [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 7:46 PM  
**To:** Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
**Subject:** 101 to 580 construction

To whom it may concern,

After reading the article in The IJ I feel compelled to say that this commuter traffic doesn't just effect the cities of San Rafael traffic or Larkspur traffic it has a direct effect on all the communities south of the interchange. Traffic on a bad day can't get backed up all the way through Sausalito to the Golden Gate Bridge m. Traffic leaving mill valley and Tiburon is also highly impacted. A faster more direct route would be highly beneficial to all of southern Marin. Metering lights have been add to all of the above cities on ramps but is going to do little to help with the congestion in these small towns.

A short term problem could offer long term benefits for all these communities! Please consider this interstate proposal!

Thank you  
Isabel Brady  
Sausalito

**From:** Janet Nibbi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 8:59 AM  
**To:** Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
**Subject:** I-580 Connector Plan

## Regarding the I-580 Connector Plan:

The City council should consider the following suggestions:

1. Make Caltrans build a freeway overpass (over 1-580) at Irene Street. (Similar to the freeway overpass at Merrydale Road in Terra Linda).
2. Have San Rafael Public Works remove the Loop one way traffic plan, and open it back up to two way traffic. Also make other necessary changes to traffic flow in and out of East San Rafael (Canal) neighborhoods.
3. After building Irene Street overpass and before building the 1-580 connector, Caltrans should evaluate whether the connector would actually help the traffic flow across the San Rafael bridge, or whether they really need to rebuild the Richmond San Rafael bridge. That bridge is old and crumbling should be replaced in the next 20 years.

The Irene Street freeway overpass has been discussed for 40 years in the San Rafael Engineering Department. Timing and funding have never been in place like now. All the traffic coming into and out of East San Rafael would avoid the Bellam Boulevard interchange area.

4. In order to move forward with these complicated projects, the City should consider hiring a professional Civil Engineer to run the Public Works department. There are many profoundly complicated issues when building a new road, such as drainage, sewer, retaining walls, structures, and traffic controls, public safety, etc. The director should be chosen by a panel of his peers in the industry, not by the other City department heads. This is a vital professional in a vital role, and this is not a popularity contest.

A Civil Engineer representing the City of San Rafael could advocate for the City. Many years ago, the Public Works director demanded that Caltrans provide two lanes merging westbound from 1-580 onto Highway 101 and downtown San Rafael. Caltrans only wanted to provide one lane. The City made Caltrans provide two lanes, which was the right thing to do. This is just one example of why a Civil Engineer is the best advocate for the City when it comes to infrastructure.

What is happening right now, with the traffic northbound into downtown San Rafael is not good. Caltrans is doing repairs to the Grand Avenue bridge during daytime and during commute hours. If we had a seasoned Civil Engineer as director, advocating for the City, we might have forced Caltrans to do this work at nighttime only.

The City needs a director who knows how to take care of the Infrastructure, and put the needs of the public ahead of the needs of politicians and department heads. Collect a group of seasoned professionals who have worked in the Civil Engineering field for the last 30-40 years in Marin County to be on interview panel. Hire a professional head hunter who will invite seasoned professionals for interviews. The interview panel might include some of the following people; Dave Bernardi, Al Cornwell, Lee Oberkamper, Farhad Mansourian. These men know the needs and history of the County of Marin, and the City of San Rafael.

Maybe Irene Street Overcrossing is a bad idea. Maybe the best ideas haven't been suggested yet. But the only way that is going to happen is to hire the best leader in Public Works, and allowing him/her to do their job. And please remove politics and egos from the process.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit suggestions. My intent is only for the benefit of the City, and not to hurt feelings or make anyone feel bad.

Best regards to you all.

**From:** Leonard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 10, 2021 4:26 PM  
**To:** Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>; Mayor Kate <Kate.Colin@cityofsanrafael.org>  
**Subject:** I-580 Connector Suggestion below

An alternative I-580 Connector that would seem to work better would involve the least traffic problems **IF** construction of all columns to support ***an elevated highway over Sir Francis Drake from 101 Northbound to I-580 provided all the columns would be constructed from 9PM***

-----Original Message-----

From: Patrick Wallen [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 6:24 AM  
To: Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
Subject: 580 interchange

It is imperative that North bound 101 connects directly to 580 avoiding going through Larkspur Landing. There should be 2 lanes that accomplishes this.

Patrick Wallen  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Richard Thalheimer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 2:24 PM  
**To:** Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
**Subject:** Comment on 101 to 580 Connector

My thought is that something must be done, because the current backup at the Bellam Exit at rush hour is unacceptable.

Maybe Sir Francis Drake Boulevard can be enlarged? That might accomplish the same result as a connector? Seems like it's much cheaper and faster to do this rather than some new connector.

Anyway, please do something!

--

Richard Thalheimer

[REDACTED]

San Rafael

[REDACTED]



**From:** Rick Peroni [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 9:17 AM  
**To:** Mayor Kate <Kate.Colin@cityofsanrafael.org>; Bill Guerin <Bill.Guerin@cityofsanrafael.org>;  
Maribeth Bushey <Maribeth.Bushey@cityofsanrafael.org>; Distrib- City Clerk  
<City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
**Subject:** I 580 connector project

Dear San Rafael,

I read the article in the IJ and the I 580 connector proposal. I can understand your concerns about the impact on San Rafael.

What I do hope is that whatever project is chosen the City will support and you will push for it instead of resisting. I have been pushing for a fix for this connector for years. It is impossible to exit at Francisco Northbound or to get into San Rafael between 3pm and 7pm everyday, this crazy setup to get to the bridge causes a backup all the way to the San Francisco.

Of all my travels around the Country I have never seen anything as crazy as having to go thru stoplights to get from a Major Freeway to a Major Bridge, it is just insane and embarrassing, It should have been fixed decades ago, it causes accidents, I have seen so many I can't count and people to do crazy things to avoid it. I personally have to exit and go thru the hills of Greenbrae and side streets of San Rafael to get home. Usually going thru neighborhoods that would really appreciate us not speeding thru their neighborhood.

As a San Rafael resident I don't want to see the city impacted but I can tell you that this project is probably the most overdue and important in Northern California, I have yet to find anyone who doesn't feel the way I do. I hope it can move quickly. Please try and find the best solution and push it forward.

Thanks for your time,

Rick Peroni

-----Original Message-----

From: Roberta [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 8:20 AM  
To: Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
Subject: I-580 /101 Inter connect plans

I would like to read more about the planning study for the I-580 interconnect that was disclosed in the IJ. The article talks about 9 options being considered. Can you please provide a link to the full report or send. Thank you in advance.

Have a great day.

Regards

Roberta Sharnak  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Sandra Karpman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 10:47 AM  
**To:** Distrib- City Clerk <City.Clerk@cityofsanrafael.org>  
**Subject:** Re: North 101 to 580

Clarifications.

===

old line:

The Double Bridgers take the N101 central San Rafael, exit, left on 3, left on Hetherton, then enter N101

new line:

The Double Bridgers take the N101 central San Rafael, exit, left on 3, left on Hetherton, then enter S101

===

Old line:

note: all N101 access from the Canal Area/Anderson/Woodland is awful the whole area will benefit from updated N101 access.

New Line:

note: all access from streets to S101 from the Canal Area/Anderson/Woodland is awful the whole area will benefit from updated S101 access.

===

Very sorry, I should have done a better job of proofreading.

---

**From:** Sandra Karpman  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 9:39 AM  
**To:** [city.clerk@cityofsanrafael.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofsanrafael.org) <[city.clerk@cityofsanrafael.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofsanrafael.org)>  
**Subject:** North 101 to 580

Yes we need a solution.

The Double Bridgers do not live or work in Marin but they are the tipping point to the traffic on S101 and awful traffic at 3rd and Hetherton that backups all streets for blocks on end for the N101 at central San Rafael.

Solution to S101 traffic and connections:

- 1) forget about SFD, leave that one alone.
- 2) Turn N101 exit 451 into a direct connection flyover to 580.
- 3) Remove the E580 exit 1
- 4) Improve the traffic flow to Bellam, E Francisco from the S101, exit 451A

Solution to N101 traffic and connections

1) again forget about SFD.

2) Make a direct connection flyover from W580 to N101

3) note: all N101 access from the Canal Area/Anderson/Woodland is awful the whole area will benefit from updated N101 access. Bold thoughts need to happen to not only to benefit the Double Bridgers but also the locals.

When the direct connect flyover is complete from W580 to N101 the cental San Rafael near 3rd and Hetherton will benefit from less cars, too. The Double Bridgers take the N101 central San Rafael, exit, left on 3, left on Hetherton, then enter N101.