Letter to City Council RE: B Street 2 Way Conversion for tonight's meeting



1 attachments (58 KB)

20230203 Letter to City Council _ DPW on B Street.pdf;

Hi City Clerk Lindsay, Director Rafat and City Council,

Please see our attached public comments regarding the B Street 2-way conversion agenda item for tonight's Council meeting.

If there is another/different email I should be sending public comments to, please let me know.

Rafat - making sure you're included, since this item is in front of the Council prior to coming to the BPAC meeting and hearing your team's presentation.

Thank you!

All the best, Dave

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Dave Rhoads Co-Chair Walk/Bike San Rafael San Rafael City Council City Hall 1400 Fifth Avenue San Rafael, CA 94901 Via Email to: city.clerk@cityofsanrafael.org

Dear City Council,

We are writing in support of the B Street conversion to a two way street, but we also want to bring attention to the importance of prioritizing pedestrian and bike safety for the project.

While the change from a one-way street to a two-way street has the potential to greatly improve traffic flow for all modes and increase access to local businesses, it is crucial that adequate measures are taken to ensure the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

We believe this is an opportunity to do just that, especially as the street has been designated a "Pedestrian Priority Route" in the Downtown Precise Plan. The street is already a dynamic pedestrian corridor - with numerous restaurants, a new hotel, bars, residences, and social services - lining the street. On top of this, there's an excess of public parking along the corridor, with the two underutilized City owned garages having nearly 800 spots in total (per 2017 City report).

We strongly encourage the City Council and Department of Public Works to pursue and include at minimum basic pedestrian improvements such as bulbouts, car parking reductions, increased bike parking, seating areas, etc. This corridor is a major opportunity to create a key multi-use connection north-south right through the middle of downtown that will not only improve safety but also benefit the numerous businesses along the street. Let's not waste it!

Thank you for your time and consideration,

DARA

Dave Rhoads Co-Chair Walk/Bike San Rafael

Warron Wolls

Warren Wells Policy and Planning Director Marin County Bicycle Coalition