



County of Santa Cruz 0169

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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THOMAS L. BOLICH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

AGENDA: MARCH 5, 2002

February 21, 2002

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: PLAN LINE PROPOSAL FOR LAKE AND FIFTH AVENUES BETWEEN EATON STREET AND EAST CLIFF DRIVE

Members of the Board:

At the Board of Supervisors regular October 23, 2001, meeting your Board approved the plan line for Lake and Fifth Avenue. The approval carried additional directives to include suggested revisions to widen the entrance to Eaton Street and return with a further review of the proposal to stripe Lake Avenue for bike lanes, with particular thought given to the safety of cyclists. The plan line has been revised to show the roadway as widened at the approach from Eaton Street, and we return today with a report on our review of the proposal to stripe Lake Avenue for bike lanes.

After further evaluation, including input from the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Bicycle Committee, Public Works recommends that the original proposed typical section consisting of two eight-foot-wide parking lanes and one sixteen-foot-wide travel lane remain as the approved roadway section. It is Public Works' opinion that bicycle and motorist safety will be better served by a shared sixteen-foot-wide travel lane than by narrower side-by-side motor and bicycle lanes, which would force vehicular and bicycle traffic closer to the opening doors of parked vehicles along both sides of the roadway. Prominent "share the road" signs will be included as part of any future roadway project based on the plan line. A copy of a letter from the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Bicycle Committee supporting this recommendation is attached.

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors accept and file the report on the plan line for Lake and Fifth Avenues between Eaton Street and East Cliff Drive.

Yours truly,



THOMAS L. BOLICH
Director of Public Works

GG:abc

Attachment

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:



County Administrative Officer

Copy to: Public Works
 Bicycle Committee, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1523 PACIFIC AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060-3911 (831) 460-3200 FAX (831) 460-3215 OR (831) 471-1290

January 23, 2002

SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAY EMERGENCIES (SAFE)

Glenn Goepfert
Redevelopment Engineer
Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works
701 Ocean Street, Room 410
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

RE: Lake & Fifth Avenue Pedestrian Improvements

COMMUTE SOLUTIONS

Dear Mr. Goepfert ,

At its January 14 meeting, the Bicycle Committee of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) heard a presentation by Betsey Lynberg and Paul Rodrigues of the Redevelopment Agency and Jack Sohriakoff of Public Works regarding proposed pedestrian improvements to Lake and Fifth Avenues.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

It is the Committee's understanding that bicycle lanes have not been included in the plans for this project, because Public Works wishes to maintain the 16-foot shared travel lane for safety reasons and due to right-of-way constraints posed by neighboring houses on one side and the yacht harbor on the other.

RAIL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Committee does not see an overwhelming need for separate bicycle lanes on Lake and Fifth Avenues and does not object to the RDA's plans as presented. However, the Committee does strongly recommend ample "Share the Road" signage to make it clear to motorists that cyclists have every right to use the full lane if necessary. The Committee further recommends that the County designate this stretch of roadway, along with the short segment of East Cliff Drive that connects to Seventh Avenue, as a Class III bicycle route, and employ proper signage to further raise awareness of cyclists on the roadway.

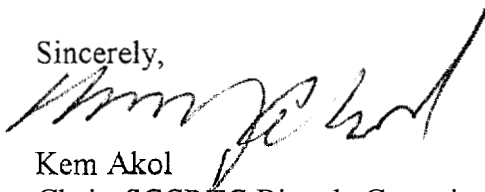
BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

INTERAGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thank you very much for seeking the Bicycle Committee's opinion on this matter.

BICYCLE COMMITTEE

Sincerely,



Kem Akol
Chair, SCCRTC Bicycle Committee

ELDERLY & DISABLED TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

cc: Paul Rodrigues, County Redevelopment Agency
SCCRTC

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