

Somer Smith

From: Patrice Olds
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2023 2:10 PM
To: General Plan; Zachary Dahl
Subject: FW: Item #13 - Draft General Plan 2040

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From: David Light [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2023 1:24 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: Item #13 - Draft General Plan 2040

Dear Mayor Lee and Members of the City Council,

My name is David Light and I would like to speak to the Circulation Element regarding the street classifications.

We are very concerned that 5th and 9th Avenues may be reclassified to "Arterials". We are convinced that this will have a negative impact on ongoing traffic calming efforts to reduce cut-through traffic in our neighborhood.

These two streets are very different from Hillsdale Boulevard or Alameda De Las Pulgas. If the City of San Mateo converts 5th and 9th Avenues to be Arterials it will increase the capacity of these streets to 10,000 to 50,000 cars each day. This amount of vehicular traffic is too much to funnel into our small neighborhood. This 1970's "car centric" approach would result in 5 arterials in our small neighborhood.

We are simply not interested in adding more traffic to Hwy 101 or increasing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) in San Mateo. The reclassification of 5th and 9th Avenues to Arterials will further increase air pollution in our neighborhood. The addition of two more Arterials that do not qualify for traffic calming measures directly opposes our goals for safer streets for seniors, handicapped, bicyclists and families with children.

The proposed communication with Caltrans and the Highway Administration regarding the coordination of the street classifications with the Complete Streets Program is certain to be a complicated and long-term project. We urgently need action on an interim plan because the Kiku Crossing Garage is opening up soon.

We need a solution soon because increased traffic from the Kiku Crossing Garage will cut through 5th Avenue to Hwy 101 and result in many more cars on 5th Avenue during peak hours. In addition, traffic exiting from Hwy 101 will take 3rd Avenue to Humboldt Street then cut-through 5th Avenue to the new garage turning 5th Avenue into a by-pass route to downtown San Mateo.

We need to implement traffic calming now to address cut-through traffic impacts and make our streets safe for our residents.

Thank you,

David Light