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Subject: Bicycle Lanes on El Camino Real - Item #5
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Honorable City Council,

Consistent with staff's recommendation on Item #5 on the 3/22/22 hearing agenda, **I urge you to support the installation of bike lanes on El Camino Real** - including the removal of (vastly underutilized) parking spaces in order to accommodate the bike lanes.

As stated in the staff report, El Camino Real represents the most cohesive, connected, and appropriate opportunity for implementing the regional vision for a high-quality, direct, and safe bike route for all residents to use. The project is consistent with the Complete Streets Master Plan and the city's Climate Action Plan. Parking is not an efficient use of the public right-of-way. Re-utilizing this space for bicycle lanes would:

- Create an improved regional transportation network that aligns with regional goals and visions;
- Result in greater choice for travelers to safely and efficiently use different modes of transport;
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled; and
- Decrease vehicle congestion.

Your actions will also influence and support other cities up and down the El Camino Real corridor who also want to implement bike lanes. Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Menlo Park, and Redwood City are all looking to your actions to set a tone for the future.

In closing, I would like to particularly emphasize that our streets are shared public

rights-of-way, not private parking areas. **Safe, accessible, and connected bike lanes on El Camino would potentially serve thousands more area residents than the 283 underutilized parking spaces currently serve.** El Camino Real offers both the most direct and (currently) the most perilous bicycle route in the area. Let's change this. No doubt we have all heard about the 13-year old Graham Middle School student who tragically died on El Camino Real on Friday. Please act to change the future in a positive way for the entire community!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Amie Ashton