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To: [City Council](#); [Public Works](#)
Subject: Grant/Sleeper improvements - Project 21-39
Date: Sunday, February 12, 2023 9:42:34 AM

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Dear Mayor Hicks and honorable Council Members,

I write today to enthusiastically support this consent calendar item to finally address several pedestrian and bicycle improvements around the city. Each of them that I am familiar with are very worthy of attention.

I have been wondering what was happening with the Grant/Sleeper crossing after some action a couple years back. The selected solution is a good one, though I see mention of “Northern Bicycle Crossing”, and don’t see what specifically is being done to allow and improve that, so I would like to voice my concern about this. As you are aware, Sleeper Ave is the northern-most street for a large set of neighborhoods. This means that all bikes heading at all west and north are concentrated at this location. Every morning there are dozens of kids heading towards Graham Middle School who cross Grant Road at Sleeper to ride through Cuesta Park and avoid the more crowded and dangerous intersection at Grant and Cuesta. If they are not accommodated in this new design for crossing from the right /north side of Sleeper Ave straight across, you will be creating a dangerous condition for them. If they must cross Grant at the left/south side of Sleeper, then they will be crossing over into oncoming traffic turning right onto Sleeper from Grant. This is not acceptable.

I have been looking forward to improvement at the Sleeper/Franklin corner entrance to Stevens Creek Trail since that access point opened almost 14 years ago in 2009. This is a wide corner where cyclists heading east to access the trail need to simultaneously watch behind themselves for cars from behind as they cross to the middle while also then have a very short moment of time when they can see oncoming traffic coming down Franklin whose path they will be crossing. My suggestion was for a center median with cut to serve as a refuge where cyclists (and pedestrians) can pause while crossing, safe from cars in both directions. This would also serve as a traffic calming measure for cars that sometimes travel too fast (have you seen the high school drivers here at lunch time?)

I look forward to being involved in these projects during this design phase. Thank you for getting these started on their way and making our city a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly place.

Ross Heitkamp