

**From:** [Karen E. Robinson](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Safer streets in Mountain View  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2023 6:03:35 PM

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Dear Council Members,

My toddler is sick so I don't have a lot of time to write, but I really enjoy living in the walkable community and street safety is important, so here are some thoughts ahead of the goal-setting meeting.

We have a goal of reducing street deaths. This is really important; thank you.

Crosswalks are dangerous. My husband (who is tall and visible!) has almost been hit in crosswalks twice. When I was driving, I stopped closer to a pedestrian than I'm comfortable with: she was in dappled shade under a tree and I just hadn't seen her. The student killed while walking his bicycle last year was in a crosswalk. We can't rely on crosswalks as they are now. What better solutions are there? Crosswalk lights? Dedicated pedestrian time when all turns are prohibited if pedestrians are there?

The plan to re-do El Camino has the buses stopping in the bike lane. I've cycled enough to know that bikes absolutely do not stop behind an idling bus but will swerve into traffic. Worse, students on the way to school will follow the adults' example and will also swerve into the traffic lane. There has to be a better way to improve El Camino. Changes we make now will last decades.

The walkable neighborhoods we have are really fantastic. Living here enables a quality of life that most of my peers in other parts of the country don't have access to. I meet my neighbors because we all get out and walk. Thank you for your dedication to continual improvement that keeps Mountain View at the forefront of street safety and the resulting good quality of life.

Karen E. Robinson

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[@kerobinso](#)

**From:** [James Kuszmaul](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Ramirez, Lucas](#); [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#); [Emily Ann Ramos](#); [Cameron, Dawn](#); [Lo, Ria](#); [Whyte, Brandon](#)  
**Subject:** Item 6.1 City Work Plan Goals  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2023 6:20:19 PM

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Mayor Hicks & Councilmembers,

I wanted to urge Council to highly prioritize bike/ped street safety projects in the upcoming two-year work plan, with a particular focus on achieving those projects in a timely manner.

While we have been making some good progress on street safety projects for bicyclists and pedestrians, we still struggle to implement both enough projects and to implement projects quickly enough to meet Council's Vision Zero goals. This is particularly important with the context of the two deaths on El Camino Real in the past year--every additional year that it takes a project to be implemented is that much more opportunity for more people to be killed on our streets.

For the things brought up in the work plan in particular, I would encourage:

- Ensuring that we have capacity to follow-up on the results of the Active Transportation Plan and Vision Zero Plan. These are scheduled to finish in Q1-2 of 2024 and will produce many recommendations about policy changes the city should implement to improve safety; we should ensure that we are ready to implement those policy changes as rapidly as feasible. These policy changes will be in addition to the infrastructure/CIP projects that are part of these plans.
- Adding an item to figure out how we can implement projects more quickly. Currently, the city has no "quick-build" program comparable to what exists in some other cities. There are a variety of reasons for this, and we can't rely on "quick-build" entirely to achieve our street safety needs. But given that staff capacity is a significant constraint on implementing projects, we should be exploring how we can reduce the amount of work required from staff to implement projects.
  - For instance, the City of Berkeley recently passed a policy requiring that Complete Streets be implemented as part of the normal repaving program and removing/reducing some of the personal liability to traffic engineers for not following the car-oriented standards of the MUTCD road design manual, to allow project to proceed more quickly.  
See <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2022-09-13%20Item%2034%20Equitable%20Safe%20Streets%20and%20Climate.pdf> and <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2022-09-13%20Item%2034%20Supp3%20Taplin.pdf>
- If proceeding with the plan for a 2024 revenue measure (item C8 in Attachment 4), consider explicitly planning for bike/ped funding as part of that to allow for implementation of the Active Transportation Plan/Vision Zero Plan.
- If looking for public works projects to consider de-prioritizing relative to street safety

projects, I would call out deferring/removing E-26 Design the Lot 5 parking structure as something that will require non-trivial funding and effort while being actively antithetical to our climate, street safety, and general transportation goals.

Regards,  
James Kuszmaul

**From:** [Peter Katz](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Staff](#)  
**Subject:** Item 6.1 for City Council Mtg 2/28  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2023 9:12:01 PM

**CAUTION:** EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.

To: Mountain View City Council  
Re: Item 6.1 - Study Session: Fiscal Years 2023-24 and 2024-25 Council Work Plan Development: Strategic Priorities and Work Plan Projects  
Council Meeting Date: February 28, 2023

Dear esteemed members of the Mountain View City Council

The Mountain View Chamber of Commerce is grateful for staff and Council's hard work to date on the City's strategic priorities. We are especially pleased to see the Study Session Memo specifically call out for revision of the Gatekeeper process. As noted in our letters to Council on the Housing Element, Gatekeeper was identified as a governmental restraint that significantly impedes housing production.

While the Chamber supports most of the recommendations for Gatekeeper made in the Study Session Memo, we do not agree with the restrictions made on page 11 that limit Gatekeepers in 2023 to only residential or residential mixed use, as this directly limits our city's economic development strategy. There are new uses coming in, such as life sciences, which Mountain View should not effectively block indefinitely through such a restrictive approach. We urge the city council to refine the guidance for the 2023 Gatekeeper hearing so that trends in innovation in the business sector and creative development proposals can be captured by Mountain View in the immediate term, and not be too prescriptive as to which projects can qualify to participate. We also urge the city council to prioritize a full review and modification of the Gatekeeper process to ensure that it works effectively and predictably as soon as possible.

The Chamber remains willing and eager to work with the City on new guidelines and approaches that support our strategic growth and vibrancy. Thank you for your consideration.

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**Shop Safe, Support Local at *the MV Marketplace!***

**Peter Katz • President & CEO**  
**Mountain View Chamber of Commerce & Foundation**

  
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