

Date : 6/21/2021 5:09:03 PM

From : "Michael Holper" michael.holper@gmail.com

To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"
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Cc : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com"
Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com, "hello@kidsafesf.com" hello@kidsafesf.com,
"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com
Subject : Close the great highway to cars

Dear Supervisors and Commissioners,

The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Walkway (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements. It's been a wonderful way for my friends, family, and I to wander around the shore of San Francisco, and making it a place where people can actually enjoy it, instead of people driving along it in just a few minutes, is a much better use of it as a public resource.

I join Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Walkway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The pilot — proposed by the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (SFMTA), and supported by RPD's Commission and SFMTA's Board — will allow RPD/SFMTA to address car-traffic concerns while increasing access to The Walkway for a diverse group of residents and collecting better data to make an informed decision.

The SFCTA's survey showed that about 80% of San Franciscans support a promenade in some form, with a majority of San Franciscans and Sunset residents supporting a four-lane promenade 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. SFMTA's data shows that more than 144,000 people are using The Great Walkway monthly — making it the second-most used public space in San Francisco — and that's

before tourists flock to this amazing public space as our city reopens. It's clear that the majority of San Franciscans love The Great Walkway and want it to be saved.

It's important to address concerns about the Great Highway closure, but the answer is not to kill the Great Walkway and put cars back on the beautiful and joyous public space.

I join Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Walkway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Thank you,

Michael Holper
1275 17th Ave Apt. 10
San Francisco, CA, 94122

Date : 6/21/2021 4:56:06 PM

From : "Sandy Carter" carters989@gmail.com

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Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com, "hello@kidsafesf.com" hello@kidsafesf.com,
"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com
Subject : Close the Great Walkway to cars and support a pilot to extend the
promenade's life...

Dear Supervisors/Commissioners,

The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Walkway (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements.

I join Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Walkway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The pilot — proposed by the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (SFMTA), and supported by RPD's Commission and SFMTA's Board — will allow RPD/SFMTA to address car-traffic concerns while increasing access to The Walkway for a diverse group of residents and collecting better data to make an informed decision.

The SFCTA's survey showed that about 80% of San Franciscans support a promenade in some form, with a majority of San Franciscans and Sunset residents supporting a four-lane promenade 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. SFMTA's data shows that more than 144,000 people are using The Great Walkway monthly — making it the second-most used public space in San Francisco — and that's before tourists flock to this amazing public space as our city reopens. It's clear that the majority of San Franciscans love The Great Walkway and want it to be saved.

Concerns about car traffic in the Sunset are valid, and SFMTA's work with Supervisor Mar has already succeeded in calming car traffic and diverting it to the arterials (Sunset Boulevard and 19th Avenue). Data shows that Sunset streets are safer, including collisions being down more than 30% from before the pandemic — traffic-calming measures are working and will continue to have positive impacts on the Sunset. Furthermore, Sarah Jones, Director Maguire, and Director Tumlin have stated that Sunset Boulevard and 19th Avenue can both take more car-traffic capacity and congestion levels are at satisfactory levels and much better than other arterials in the city.

Concerns about north-south traffic to/from the Richmond are valid, and there are a number of ways to improve north-south transportation while keeping The Great Walkway safe and fully open. These include, but are not limited to, diverting car-traffic from Chain of Lakes to Crossover Drive and Great Highway, improving north-south public transit service, optimizing traffic-signal timing on Sunset Boulevard and 19th Avenue, or allowing southbound-traffic to use MLK to get to Sunset Boulevard. Solutions to these concerns are feasible and effective — we can improve north-south travel while keeping The Great Walkway open for people to safely walk, connect, and commute using sustainable modes. Making these improvements will be a win-win for everyone involved, while a "compromise" will make everyone upset and leave us worse off.

The “weekday/weekend” compromise is problematic, because it marginalizes people who use The Walkway on weekdays (e.g. people who commute using sustainable modes, service-industry workers, childcare providers, families, etc.) and would negatively impact the promenade space by mandating the space be clear for cars.

The “half-highway and half-promenade” compromise is problematic, because it would make the promenade more dangerous, noisy, and unhealthy while forcing people using the promenade to navigate sand dunes, making it inaccessible for people with disabilities, kids, and people using bikes.

It's important to address concerns about the Great Highway closure, but the answer is not to kill the Great Walkway and put cars back on the beautiful and joyous public space.

I join Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Walkway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Thank you, and please take care.

Sandy Carter
1275 17th Avenue, Apt 10
San Francisco, CA, 94122
410-829-2120

Date : 6/21/2021 5:52:31 PM

From : "'Mike Regan' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

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melgarsf@gmail.com**

**Subject : Comments for June 22 10 am SFCTA Meeting Regarding Pilot
Program for Great Highway**

As a member of OPEN THE GREAT HIGHWAY GROUP I have just received the attached two documents and I am incensed.

I think that it is disingenuous for SFMT to make these documents public the day before the public hearing slated for June 22nd.

There are a number of items in the document that I and many others take exception to. One of the most glaring is the stated bike and pedestrian usage chart (figure 7). There is no way that the stated numbers are anywhere near the numbers quoted. This is a total fabrication on the part of SFMTA to make the closure look good. We have documented videos of the daily usage of this road way which shows minimal use. Even if you took the obviously exaggerated 26,400 weekly visitors claimed. It doesn't compare with the 27,000 DAILY or 189,000 people weekly who are being deprived of using the Great Highway. If this one item is in question it puts the whole report in question. I do not believe one thing in these reports and believe them to be completely biased. In addition I believe that SFMTA is not to be believed in anything they say. Just this fabrication discredits the whole report and project.

"From October 2020 to March 2021, the Upper Great Highway had on average 3,200 weekday bicycle and pedestrian users and 5,200 weekend day users (see Figure 7). This is about 26,400 weekly visitors."

I also question the quoted cost to remain a four lane highway "Full 4 lane for cars \$8.6 million" why is it going to cost that much money to open the gates and make sure the sand is removed? More lies, in my eyes SFMTA has completely lost it integrity.

Figure7

[Upper Great Highway Concepts Evaluation MEMO](#)

[Great Highway Evaluation Report ENCLOSURE \(1\)](#)

[Great Highway Evaluation Appendices ENCLOSURE](#)

Mike Regan

Date : 6/21/2021 4:53:42 PM

From : "'Ratna Shekhawat' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

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**Subject : Comments for June 22 10 am SFCTA Meeting Regarding Pilot Program
for Great Highway**

**Attachment : June 21 Chain of Lakes 915am.JPG;May 7 Great Highway
1pm.JPG;**

To all it may concern;

I'm writing in opposition of the pilot program for the Great Highway. The Great Highway closure was a _temporary_ pandemic relief measure. Now that the economy has reopened, we need to reopen the Great Highway to cars.

TRAFFIC IS NOT THE END OF THE WORLD, BUT IT'S BAD. Despite "traffic calming measures," it's increasingly difficult to get from the Sunset to the Richmond and back, especially with 19th Ave road work and safe street road closures. It's frustrating and confusing, and I've repeatedly seen frustrated drivers do crazy things, like driving around barricades. When the 19th Ave. road work began, I remember seeing two signs on Park Presidio Blvd. One said something like "Great Hwy Closed - Use 19th Ave," and the next said "19th Ave Road Work, find alt route." No viable "alt route" has been proposed. More cars are on the road now with kids in group activities and people going back to work in person. It will get worse in Aug-Sept when school starts and when more workers are expected to return to the office in-person. We need to re-open the roads.

I GREW UP IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND STILL MANAGED TO LEARN HOW TO RIDE A BIKE AS A CHILD. An argument I hear repeatedly to keep the Great Highway closed is that kids need a place to learn a bike. I grew up in San Francisco, and learned how to ride a bike as a child just fine. I'm also the parent of a young child. We've gone to the Great Highway for recreation during the pandemic. It's been lovely. And, most of the times we've gone there, it's been fairly empty. I'll also note that the last time we went, May 7th, it was sunny and beautiful. Hardly anyone was there, but a lady on a road bike -- probably enjoying the wide open road -- still almost plowed into my five year old. I'd rather have her learn to ride her bike somewhere safe.

THIS IS BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT. More cars in traffic. More cars stopping and going on residential streets. More congestion on roads in Golden Gate Park. More people driving their bicycles to the Great Highway area to ride their bikes.

PLEASE GET AN ACCURATE READ ON WHAT CONSTITUENTS WANT. I'm not sure what data is being used to promote the Great Highway closure, but when considering this pilot, please include people from the peninsula who use the Great Highway to commute. Please include people in the Richmond District. Please include the VA. And please do not assume that every person who has used the Great Highway for recreation during the pandemic supports its long-term closure.

I've attached a photo of the Great Highway from (beautiful, sunny) May 7th at about 1pm, and another from bottleneck traffic on Chain of Lakes at about 9:15 this morning.

Let me close with a question. In the fall, when kids will presumably be in school and most adults will presumably be back to work, who would benefit most from the Great Highway being closed to cars? And who would benefit most from it being open to



cars?



Best wishes,
Ratna Shekhawat
District 7
Inner Parkside





Date : 6/21/2021 6:05:57 PM

From : "'Yasmin Staton' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

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Cc : "Mark Staton" msstaton@sbcglobal.net**

**Subject : Comments for June 22 10 am SFCTA Meeting Regarding Pilot
Program for Great Highway**

Good afternoon,

We are writing in advance of tomorrow's (June 22) meeting to express OUR STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE CONTINUED CLOSURE OF THE GREAT HIGHWAY for the two-year pilot.

This closure has wreaked havoc, traffic, congestion and filth for the entire neighborhood as you push drivers (WHO WILL CONTINUE TO DRIVE BECAUSE WE HAVE TO) onto our residential streets.

The proposed pilot discriminates especially against the elderly and the disabled. Please consider all the thousands of folks who CANNOT ride bicycles or walk to get on with their daily lives. You've pitted all of us against the very strong bicycle coalition and folks who have the luxury of working at home and then taking a nice stroll along the ocean during their lunch breaks -- or whatever it is they're claiming they can finally do because God knows we don't have enough parks and recreational space in this city. (Yes, that's sarcasm.)

As for actually getting people out of their cars, we can't tell you the number of cars we've counted of folks clearly DRIVING across town to bring their bikes/walk on the GH. You're actually adding to carbon emissions in the area!

Thank you for entering our comments into the record.

Yasmin and Mark Staton
District 4

Date : 6/21/2021 5:45:32 PM

From : "'SHEILA STUART' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

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Subject : Comments for June 22 SFCTA meeting re Great Highway**

Pilotrogram

Dear Supervisors & Commissioners,

Please support the western section of this city.... We are residents and voters whose use of the Great Highway is essential

The pandemic has affected us all in countless ways. As our city was shut down, so was the Great Highway. This has negatively impacted residents of SF as well as people from outside of SF who need and use the Great Highway. We've been dealing with traffic, unsafe driving conditions, increased emissions, cars cutting through on Sunset Streets, bottlenecks and gridlock, blocked a vital emergency route in and out of SF, and many other issues. Furthermore, we know those 18,000 to 20,000 cars are not going away: the studies and facts show this.

The data gathered was when the city was closed down. If surveys were done now and over the next few months,... They would show a larger call for reopening the Great Highway and fewer people walking and biking.... Especially once schools are open again and more people return to offices. The Great Highway has ample walkways on both sides to accommodate walkers and bikers and allow the cars to return.

We do not need a "pilot program" to tell us what we already know: this is not working. It's time to reopen the Great Highway. As our city opens up, it makes the most sense to un-block this vital roadway and restore peace, safety, and access to San Francisco, especially for those of us with north/south needs.

Thank you,

Sheila Stuart
756 12th Avenue

Date : 6/21/2021 4:59:04 PM

From : "john bautista" jvabautista599@gmail.com

To : "Mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" Mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org

BCc : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Subject : Comments for June 22 SFCTA Meeting Re: Pilot Program for Great Highway

Dear Supervisors, Commissioners, and Mayor Breed,

I am a resident of the Richmond District. My husband grew up in our home on Cabrillo Street. I am 100% against a 2 year pilot program closure for the Great Highway.

I understand that the closure was *temporary* and we need the Highway open and functioning to accommodate all people, as intended. **As it exists today, a major thoroughfare to our city is literally cut off, blocked.** The issues created by this closure could be resolved by simply opening the roadway. Sunset streets are not safe. Traffic is at an all time high, and so is frustration regarding this closure.

- People need this main route - families, grocery trips, workers to the VA, seniors, people with disabilities. Suggesting that people bike or take public transportation works only for a small percentage of the population.
- The Great Highway is SAFE. There were no vehicles involved in collisions on the highway pre-closure in all of 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- Vehicles are racing through the neighborhood setting off car alarms close to our front doors and Sunset Nursery on Lawton.
- Traffic mitigation costing nearly \$500,000 has not relieved the residential neighborhood from the traffic diversion from the highway, it has only moved it to different north/south avenues in the neighborhoods and to Chain of Lakes.
- The L Taraval Police Department lacks the staff to adequately provide traffic enforcement to implement the traffic mitigation efforts regarding no left or right turns into the neighborhood or adherence to stop signs.
- 220 other beautiful parks exist, several close to and some bordering each side of this 2-mile scenic highway.
- The extra foot traffic and garbage from unrestricted public access to the sand dunes over the past 14 months has killed landscaping and damaged this fragile protected wildlife sanctuary.
- **Emergency responders are slowed down and delayed by lack of access to the Great Highway. This inhibits rescue for those in trouble in the neighborhood, on the beach, or in the ocean.**

- **The Highway was used by vehicles including big rigs throughout the nights and during rain, high winds and low temperatures, but it is now empty of everyone during those times while traffic fills our neighborhood streets 24/7.**
- The usage of the Great Highway by pedestrians needing space for social distancing is in the past, as is the use of the center lanes of highway which are practically empty during weekdays.

I am requesting that you **do not go forward** with a 2-year pilot to close this necessary, safe divided highway to the thousands of vehicles who use it. For 14 months it has been closed with devastating effects on our neighborhood. The claim that more data is needed is simply not true.

Gratefully,
Victoria A. Bautista
S.F. Native and resident

Date : 6/21/2021 5:05:50 PM

From : "'Shelly' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

To : "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org

Subject : Comments for June 22nd SFCTA Meeting - Re-Open the Great Highway ASAP!

As the city is poised to re-open, it is along long past time to get the Great Highway back open. The closing of this key North/South roadway is very detrimental to residents of the Outer Richmond like myself. Traffic is terrible, and an extra 10- to 15 minutes (each way!) has been added to any trips in need to make in that direction, cars are being displaced into the neighborhoods creating unsafe conditions.

The additional space for recreation was delightful when the city was closed down and we were all staying home, but now that the pandemic is waning and the city is opening back up the continued closure of this major highway must not continue. The traffic and delays are terrible and there are numerous alternate wonderful options for recreation on the westside... the Beach itself, the bike and pedestrian path that parallels the Great Highway, Golden Gate Park, the path around Lake Merced... etc.

The Great Highway was built and designed to move traffic quickly and efficiently on the westside... let's get it back open and doing what it was designed for.

Thank you

Date : 6/21/2021 4:45:08 PM

From : "Murphy, Jordan A" jmurphy9@tulane.edu

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mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org
Subject : Comments for SFCTA Meeting on June 22 at 10 Regarding Pilot
Program on Great Highway

Dear Supervisors, Commissioners, and Mayor Breed,

I am 100% against a 2 year pilot program closure for the Great Highway. The closure was *temporary* and we need the Highway open and functioning to accommodate all people, as intended. As it exists today, a major thoroughfare to our city is literally cut off, blocked. The issues created by this closure could be resolved by simply opening the roadway. Sunset streets are not safe. Traffic is at an all time high, and so is frustration regarding this closure.

- Those 18-20K cars still exist. People need vehicles - families, grocery trips, works, seniors, people with disabilities. Suggesting that people bike or take public transportation works only for a small percentage of the population.
- The Great Highway is SAFE. There were no vehicles involved in collisions on the highway pre-closure in all of 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- There are now 570,000 vehicles per month in our residential neighborhood, including big rigs taking down phone and power lines.
- We have large numbers of dirt bikes and motorcycles race through the neighborhood setting off car alarms close to our front doors.

- Traffic mitigation costing nearly \$500,000 has not relieved the residential neighborhood from the traffic diversion from the highway, only moved it to different north/south avenues in the neighborhoods and to Chain of Lakes.
- The L Taraval Police Department lacks the staff to adequately provide traffic enforcement to implement the traffic mitigation efforts regarding no left or right turns into the neighborhood or adherence to stop signs.
- 220 other beautiful parks exist, several close to and some bordering each side of this 2-mile scenic highway.
- The extra foot traffic and garbage from unrestricted public access to the sand dunes over the past 14 months has killed landscaping and damaged this fragile protected wildlife sanctuary.
- Emergency responders are slowed down and delayed by lack of access to the Great Highway. This inhibits rescue for those in trouble in the neighborhood, on the beach, or in the ocean.
- The Highway was used by vehicles including big rigs throughout the nights and during rain, high winds and low temperatures, but it is now empty of everyone during those times while traffic fills our neighborhood streets 24/7.
- The usage of the Great Highway by pedestrians needing space for social distancing is in the past, as is the use of the center lanes of highway which are practically empty during weekdays.

I am requesting that you **do not go forward** with a 2-year pilot to close this necessary, safe divided highway to the thousands of vehicles who use it. For 14 months it has been closed with devastating effects on our neighborhood. The claim that more data is needed is simply not true.

Sincerely,
Jordan Murphy

Date : 6/21/2021 5:11:23 PM

From : "Jane Dunlap" dunlapjc@att.net

To : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org, "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org, "rec-thegreathighway@sfgov.org" rec-thegreathighway@sfgov.org, "mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "greathighway@sfmta.com" greathighway@sfmta.com, "Tom.maguire@sfmta.com" Tom.maguire@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org" Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "rec-greathighway@sfgov.org" rec-greathighway@sfgov.org, "dennis.kern@sfgov.org" dennis.kern@sfgov.org, "board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org" board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org, "chanstaff@sfgov.org" chanstaff@sfgov.org, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org" catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org, "Gordon.mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "Dean.preston@sfgov.org" Dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.haney@sfgov.org" Matt.haney@sfgov.org, "Melgarstaff@sfgov.org" Melgarstaff@sfgov.org, "mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org" mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.walton@sfgov.org" Shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org

Subject : Comments for SFCTA Meeting on June 22 at 10 Regarding Pilot Program on Great Highway

Dear Supervisors, Commissioners, and Mayor Breed,

Re-open the Great Highway NOW. I am completely OPPOSED TO THE 2 YEAR PILOT PROGRAM to close it. The closure was a temporary measure meant only as a relief outlet during the Covid pandemic, with zero long term planning in place, and barely any planning for the short term closure. Open the Highway so it can serve as a functioning road to accommodate all people, as intended. As it stands right now, a major thoroughfare to our city has been severed, with no safe or effective alternative. The issues created by this closure could be resolved by simply opening the roadway. Sunset streets are not safe. Traffic is at an all time high, and so is frustration regarding this closure. It has caused severe divisiveness in communities, especially within the Sunset neighborhood, which prior did not exist.

- Those 18-20K cars still exist. People need vehicles - families, grocery trips, works, seniors, people with disabilities. Suggesting that people bike or take public transportation works only for a small percentage of the population.
- The Great Highway is SAFE. There were no vehicles involved in collisions on the highway pre-closure in all of 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- There are now 570,000 vehicles per month in our residential neighborhood, including big rigs taking down phone and power lines.
- We have large numbers of dirt bikes and motorcycles race through the neighborhood setting off car alarms close to our front doors.
- Traffic mitigation costing nearly \$500,000 has not relieved the residential neighborhood from the traffic diversion from the highway, only moved it to different north/south avenues in the neighborhoods and to Chain of Lakes.
- The L Taraval Police Department lacks the staff to adequately provide traffic enforcement to implement the traffic mitigation efforts regarding no left or right turns into the neighborhood or adherence to stop signs.
- 220 other beautiful parks exist, several close to and some bordering each side of this 2-mile scenic highway.

- The extra foot traffic and garbage from unrestricted public access to the sand dunes over the past 14 months has killed landscaping and damaged this fragile protected wildlife sanctuary.
- Emergency responders are slowed down and delayed by lack of access to the Great Highway. This inhibits rescue for those in trouble in the neighborhood, on the beach, or in the ocean.
- The Highway was used by vehicles including big rigs throughout the nights and during rain, high winds and low temperatures, but it is now empty of everyone during those times while traffic fills our neighborhood streets 24/7.
- The usage of the Great Highway by pedestrians needing space for social distancing is in the past, as is the use of the center lanes of highway which are practically empty during weekdays.

I am requesting that you do not go forward with a 2-year pilot to close this necessary, safe divided highway to the thousands of vehicles who use it. For 14 months it has been closed with devastating effects on our neighborhood. The claim that more data is needed is simply not true.

Sincerely,
Jane Dunlap
SF Sunset District
Member of Open the Great Highway

Date : 6/21/2021 7:15:57 PM

From : "Brian Dx" bdxsfu@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org" connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org" Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org" shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "Kristen Leckie" kristen@sfbike.org, "phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org, "jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org, "tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org
Cc : "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org" MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Marstaff (BOS)" marstaff@sfgov.org
Subject : For our Neighborhood's safety, Immediately Reopen Upper Great Highway to Vehicle Traffic

Aloha Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As a longtime resident of the Parkside / Outer Sunset neighborhood, I would love to see the Upper Great Highway reopened to vehicle traffic. This could be on a permanent basis, shared time (weekend/weekday), or shared lanes (the compromise options given during the mobility study where one direction / 2-lanes were used for mixed use pedestrian/bike and the other 2-lanes were vehicle traffic).

Please picture a beautiful meadow, full of wildflowers and sunshine, that has been fenced off from the adjoining yards and streets. Activists who wish for everyone to enjoy this meadow convince people to tear down the fencing so that now anyone can walk right into the meadow and enjoy the flowers and sunshine. They did this without considering that the fence was put up to keep the bulls that lived in that meadow from trampling across all the yards and people that lived nearby. Now people travel from all over town to enjoy the meadow, but the locals who lived by the meadow now have bulls running over everything. **This** has been what it has felt like here ever since the Upper Great Highway was closed. The closure is penny wise (*sure, having open spaces is great! Now bikes won't have to fight with cars on ONE street*) but pound foolish (*ALL of the other streets in the area have become more dangerous to bike or walk on as traffic has been pushed onto our slower neighborhood streets.*)

I bicycle as my primary transportation around the city & I really dislike all the cross-neighborhood traffic funneled from UGH (Upper Great Hwy) onto all of our other neighborhood streets. This has led to much more speeding through our area and frequent close calls with frustrated drivers. When combined with the additional closures & one-way streets in the area due to the Muni turnaround & other

construction on LGH (Lower Great Highway) & Taraval, there are constant daily near-misses between cars as people try to zip up/down Santiago, Rivera, etc. and across LGH/48th/47th/46th. There have been added stop signs (which I appreciated) and SO many speed bumps added in the neighborhood which have slowed some traffic, but they have also seemed to increase the frustration of angry drivers who still speed every chance they get until they can find a direct route. (And both Sloat and Lincoln are yet not set-up to funnel people safely, swiftly, and correctly through lights or across Golden Gate Park. Sunset is not the best cross-neighborhood replacement option either since people must then either head east or west to get around the Park again.)

We already have the ample multi-use path between Upper & Lower Great Highway for jogging/walking/biking, a promenade along the beach side, and the many "slow streets" closures throughout the neighborhood for exercising on (in addition to the entire beach area and Golden Gate Park). I would definitely prefer that the people who wanted to bypass the area by car had the option to use UGH and we residents of the neighborhood could better enjoy our streets with safer traffic levels and speeds. Make ALL of our existing streets safer for biking instead of protecting one at the expense of the rest and funneling more dangerous and now frustrated drivers directly into the neighborhood.

The noise has also increased dramatically on this block because of the closure. Great Highway is a very popular weekend route for motorcycle clubs and now they roll 30 to 90 deep down our neighborhood streets and right by our homes on every sunny weekend since Upper Great Highway is no longer an option.

Again, I am a cyclist, pedestrian, and member of the SF Bike Coalition — and I would like to see Upper Great Highway reopened to traffic for the safety of all neighborhood streets. I don't feel that sacrificing those of us that live nearby is worth having one more exercise option on a street that already has a paved mixed-use path AND existing beach promenade. Thank you for any information and clear plans for the Upper Great Highway and any support in getting it reopened.

- Brian Devereux
San Francisco

Date : 6/21/2021 5:25:26 PM
From : "John Arnaudo" bonifide@sbcglobal.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Great Highway Concept Comments

I am an 89 year old man. I have lived in the Richmond District my whole life. Having the Great Highway closed is incredibly inconvenient and in my case, even dangerous because I cannot quickly get to necessary medical appointments. The closure creates dangerous conditions on both Chain of Lakes and Sunset Blvd. as well on the residential avenues. The traffic back ups cause increased pollution and frustrated drivers, which can cause additional and unnecessary problems.

PLEASE REOPEN THE GREAT HIGHWAY !!!!!

John Arnaudo

Date : 6/21/2021 7:26:27 PM
From : "Gabriel Donohoe" gabedonohoe@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Great Highway Concern

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of the West side of San Francisco(94127), I wanted to share my concern that the Great Highway be reopened to traffic as soon as possible.

Traffic levels in the Sunset/Parkside as well as traffic on 19th Ave and Sunset Boulevard have been much increased with the Great Highway closed. Quality of life is being negatively affected, there is no reasonable muni option that goes North-South.

As a native San Franciscan who grew up in the Sunset I recall when the Great Highway was redone to its current setup. I in fact have used the path that runs along the side of the road for years to run on and always thought it was a great compromise to have the open space with the road next to it. The beach is also available to run or walk on as well, it's seem ridiculous to me that we'd close a major artery to traffic especially in case of emergency.

Please open it.

Sincerely,

Gabe Donohoe

Date : 6/21/2021 4:50:08 PM

From : "Joe Email" Joewarne@comcast.net

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Cc : "lisawarne@comcast.net" lisawarne@comcast.net

Subject : GreatHIGHWAYclosure.

I am a 74 year old resident of San Francisco and was born and raised on 48th ave.I cannot for the life of me understand the reasoning for prolonging the closure of the Great HIGHWAY.Forcingthousands of cars daily on to neighborhood streets is not only a major inconvenience for drivers,a waste of fuel and a cause of increased air pollution it also increases the risk to pedestrians and neighborhood children.How many proponents of the closure live in the neighborhood?They want to load their kids and bicycles into their cars and drive to ocean beach(the coldest part of S.F.to ride bikes)Instead of using ample bike and jogging trails throughout the city.Fact the powers that be in this city have for whatever reasons have wanted to close the great-highway for years and have used the pandemic as an excuse for closure.On most days the highway remains empty.Why not close it when it will be used,weekends and special events.Why is it closed during morning and evening rush hours and at night?Does the bicycle lobby have that much power.What are you afraid of?OPEN THE GREAT HIGHWAY!

Date : 6/21/2021 5:29:32 PM

From : "Brady Donaldson" bradydona@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org,

"dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org"

Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org"

myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org"

rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"

Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org"

shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org,

"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Madelman and Commissioners,

I am a Noe Valley resident and I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. I've been enjoying this space since it was first made available to non-car traffic in April 2020. It has been a fantastic experience to see people walking, biking, rolling, and creating art in this shared community space. This weekend I took a friend visiting from San Deigo to visit Great Highway on our bikes. He was inspired to see the community space and said that, "San Francisco is light years ahead of San Deigo with pedestrian infrastructure" – I agree! And I want to keep it that way!

A car-free Great Highway not only protects this community space, but it also enables people to enjoy our beachfront more easily, makes it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems (a critical step in combatting climate change), and improves air quality for those exercising in and enjoying SF's public spaces. Now is the time to prioritize the Great Highway for people, for the citizens and visitors to San Francisco, not for cars.

Thank you very much for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Brady Donaldson

Date : 6/21/2021 7:10:17 PM

From : "Jake Kaplove" jake.kaplove@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org,

"dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org"

Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org"

myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org"

rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"

Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org"

shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "Kristen Leckie" kristen@sfbike.org,

"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org, "Tilly Chang"

tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in *NOPA*, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Sincerely,

Jake Kaplove

San Francisco, CA

Date : 6/21/2021 7:08:08 PM

From : "Victoria Groom" vgroom@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org" connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org" Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org" shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org, "phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org, "jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org, "tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in *[put your district or neighborhood here]*, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Thank you,

Victoria

Date : 6/21/2021 6:16:34 PM

From : "Yvonne Santamaria" yvonesantamaria@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org,

"dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org"

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myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org"

rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"

Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org"

shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org,

"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in the Richmond district, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars, especially since so many are working from home now.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Yvonne

--

yvonesantamaria@gmail.com

ph. (714) 471-9380

Date : 6/21/2021 6:06:44 PM

From : "Erica B" erica.bleicher@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org" connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org" Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org" shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org, "phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org, "jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org, "Tilly Chang" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in District 8, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities.

As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Sincerely,
Erica Bleicher

Date : 6/21/2021 4:32:39 PM

From : "Abbey Levantini" levantinia@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org,

"dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org"

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shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "Kristen Leckie" kristen@sfbike.org, "Ginsburg,

Phil (REC)" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org, "jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org"

jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org, "tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

I am writing to express my support for the continued closure of the Great Highway. My family loves exercising on this incredible coastal area daily, whether walking, biking, skating or scooting. My five-year-old daughter has been learning to bike without training wheels in this safe and beautiful space. Please keep the GH closed to cars permanently! The GH has been well-used and well-loved by my family and fellow San Franciscans throughout the pandemic and should remain in its present state for the future health of our City.

I live just one block from the GH (48th Ave at Judah) and I think that the small annoyance of the slight increase in neighborhood traffic is absolutely worth it for the amazing benefits of having the GH open to people walking and biking. (I am also a car owner and driver, and do not feel inconvenienced by the GH closure.) I appreciate the City's ongoing efforts to mitigate traffic flow in the surrounding neighborhoods with new speedbumps and no-turn barricades.

Every day on the GH, I encounter friends and fellow citizens of all ages safely enjoying this gorgeous area. Please keep the GH closed so that the PEOPLE may enjoy it, and so that the beach ecosystem may benefit from less pollution. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Abbey Levantini

D4 resident

Date : 6/21/2021 4:27:32 PM

From : "'Christian McNeill' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org" connie.chan@sfgov.org, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org" catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, "aaron.peskin@sfgov.org" aaron.peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "matt.haney@sfgov.org" matt.haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "hillary.ronen@sfgov.org" hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org" shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" ahsha.safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org, "phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org, "jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org, "tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in Potrero Hill I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Sincerely,
ChristianMcNeill

Date : 6/21/2021 8:20:52 PM

From : "Gregory Hutchins" greg.m.hutchins@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org,

"dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org"

Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org"

myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org"

rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"

Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org"

shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org,

"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a 24/7 closure of the Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in *corona heights (district 8)*, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Almost every weekend since the great highway has been closed my 3 year old daughter and I have ridden through the park and onto the great highway. There is no better way to enjoy our great city than by bicycle!!

—Greg

Date : 6/21/2021 4:27:11 PM

From : "Nima Afshar" nimaafshar@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org,

"Dean.Preston@sfgov.org" Dean.Preston@sfgov.org,

"Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org,

"myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" myrna.melgar@sfgov.org,

"rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org,

"Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org,

"Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org" Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org,

"Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org"

kristen@sfbike.org, "phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support a car-free Great Highway

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

I live in the Inner Sunset and I'm writing to ask the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Thank you!

Nima Afshar

Date : 6/21/2021 7:09:09 PM

From : "DAVID THOMPSON" thompsondaviddt415@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org,

"dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org"

Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org"

myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org"

rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"

Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org"

shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org,

"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I Support Car-Free Great Highway

Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in Noe Valley in District 8, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7. Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Thank you.

David Thompson
920 Diamond Street, SF 94114
415-999-9636

Date : 6/21/2021 6:02:40 PM

From : "Ellen Koivisto & Gene Thompson" offstage@earthlink.net

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine Stefani" Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org,

"Aaron Peskin" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "Gordon Mar"

gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org,

"Matt Haney" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org"

myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "Rafael Mandelman"

rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary Ronen" Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org,

"Shamann Walton" shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha Safai"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "Kristen Leckie" kristen@sfbike.org,

"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : I support the 24/7 closure to cars and opening to EVERYONE ELSE
of the Great Highway!

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in on the lower Great Highway and has been here for decades, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free, safe, and environmentally better space on the Great Highway 24/7.

Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. We've had fewer crashes and those that have happened have resulted in bruises, not fatalities, because *no cars were involved*.

But direct battering isn't the only way cars kill. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation. We have an opportunity here to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change. This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. And there's a lot more that needs to be done.

It's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

Thank you,
Ellen Koivisto

Date : 6/21/2021 8:48:23 PM
From : "Kamile Greene" k_spazzz@hotmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : IMPORTANT: Please Re-Open the Great Highway

Dear San Francisco County Transportation Authority,

With all due respect, please re-open the Great Highway. That road is critical for our first responders.

I was born in the Sunset, attended SF State, have surfed Ocean Beach for 13 years, and witnessed countless surf rescues by SFFD. Permanent highway closure would compromise rescue efforts with the ensuing foot traffic, in addition to snarled vehicular traffic on residential streets. The Great Highway provides nearly four miles of immediate visibility for staging rescue strategy to the dunes; timing is key in the perilous Ocean Beach current. Even with SFFD's current access to the gates, rescue efforts will be further complicated on any given day, let alone when inland crowds pack the area during hot fall weather. We don't want that.

It would be in the best interest of all for the SFCTA, SFMTA, and SF Recreation and Parks to thoroughly consult SFFD about the pros and cons of permanent highway closure.

Those who fear loss of the Great Highway as a recreational space needn't worry. It's a time-honored Outer Sunset tradition when the ocean winds cover the highway with sand: the highway closes, the neighborhood comes out to play. Riding my skateboard behind the closed gates is every bit as blissful as watching my neighbors teach their kids to ride their bikes there. Ultimately, clean-up and re-opening occur, and we enjoy closure even more the next time around. And we welcome everyone when it does, be it weather or events. We always have.

We can have our cake, and eat it too. Re-open the Great Highway.
Respectfully,

Kamile Greene
Outer Sunset District, San Francisco

Date : 6/21/2021 5:27:59 PM

From : "maryellen healy" maryellenhealy1@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Subject : Open the Great Highway

To all:

To continue to keep the Great Highway closed from Monday through Friday is detrimental to the commerce of the city. Workers are forced to add more time to the commute, add more gas causing traffic jams, short tempers and more pollution to the park and general areas.

There is no reason why a main traffic road should be turned over to leisure use for seven days a week!!!!

Please, please help us!!

Sincerely,

MaryEllen Healy

741 11th Ave

San Francisco

Sent from my iPad

Date : 6/21/2021 4:46:18 PM
From : "Rebekah Kurth" rebekah.kurth@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Open The Great Highway

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to ask that the Great Highway be reopened as soon as possible. It is unfair to keep the Upper Great Highway closed, since the reason for the closure - COVID distancing- no longer exists. The economy is almost back in full swing, traffic is horrendous and getting worse, and the upcoming Hardly Strictly and Outside Lands concerts in Golden Gate Park will bring thousands of additional cars through the Outer Sunset and Richmond Avenues, creating additional pollution and dangerous conditions. Just as important, the Upper Great Highway has bike lanes and a multi-use path which can easily accommodate the demand. There is no need to block the highway to cars. This closure is really hard on workers and families, adding many additional hours to our commutes and travel.

Sincerely,
Rebekah Kurth

Date : 6/21/2021 5:59:53 PM
From : "Debbie Frank" dfrank524@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Cc : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org
Subject : Open the Great Highway to cars

Please consider the overall picture of life on the west side of San Francisco. Official city websites are sadly skewed and therefore I ask that you listen to BOTH sides.
Some points supporting opening the highway to cars:

-Students are not assigned to their neighborhood schools, so they must be driven to all parts of town on a daily basis. Closing the Great Highway has made this infinitely more difficult for many of us. (Please don't even think that primary school kids can take muni on their own, much less ride their bike). Parents can't spend two hours every morning and afternoon taking a bus with their child to school and then getting themselves to work. You are "driving" (no pun intended) families with kids out of the city so it's not surprising that school enrollment is down. Be aware that closing streets is contributing to this issue.

-The numbers you are using in some of your decision making (I.e.usage numbers) are not representative of the present time. Things were different in late October and November.

-When issues such as the cost of maintaining the signals are brought up it is obvious that the decision makers are looking for excuses. We have tens of thousands of signals on SF streets. A few more won't break the bank. On the other hand, the spending on mitigation goes on and on and, in my opinion, has been wasteful.

-There were no significant safety issues re vehicular/bicycle/pedestrian injuries along the Upper Great Highway, Lower Great Highway and La Playa before and after the closure of the GH. Most collisions do not involve pedestrians at all. The "safety for walking" issue is a non-issue given the experience of below average pedestrian injury rates with the Great Highway fully open in the past.

-I object to the use of the D4 mobility study to support closure and the purported 54% pro closure vote. It fails to note that 74% of Richmond district residents wanted the Great Highway open to cars. 54% of 3700 respondents is only 1988 individuals. This is likely not a representative sample. As of June 9th, the change.org petitions for re-opening had 8767 signers to reopen the Great Highway compared to 4918 for closure. That's twice as many people wanting the GH reopened. 18,000 cars used the Great Highway at all hours of the day, all days of the week, during all weather. 4,000 people use it for recreation with long periods of time with nearly zero use (night time, poor weather).

Lastly, I said something to my husband that he thought he would never hear from me. I said I think we should consider leaving the city. I am a native and have never ever thought of leaving. My family has owned independent businesses in the city and I am one of the few who does 90% of my shopping at local stores. Sadly, all that will be left are families that can afford private school, homeless, a few elderly, and young tech workers who stay for a few years and then move on.

Lots of other reasons to open the Great Highway have been outlined by others. Please think of what is best for those of us who actually live here.

Debbie Frank

Sent from my iPhone

Date : 6/21/2021 5:47:09 PM
From : "Lisa Warne" lisawarne@comcast.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Open The Great Highway

> To whom it may concern,

> I am writing as a concerned community member. I have followed this issue from the beginning and have attended events coordinated by the community most effected by this closure. While I understand the bicycle coalition has a stronghold on much of the city and the decisions being made, I am frustrated by the total lack of concern for the people who actually live in the area. The coalition represents a very small percentage of people in San Francisco yet they have so much power. Many of the public's comments concerning this issue who are in favor of keeping the HIGHWAY closed are from people living in other areas of the city. I appreciate their desire to use the highway on weekends but I must remind all of you how much this closure negatively impacts those of us on this end of the city. I was born and raised in San Francisco and was able to learn to ride a bike and found many places to play just fine without the great highway needing to be closed. Living just south SF now I use this part of the city very often. I have been able to teach my own children how to ride their bikes without the great highway. This city has so much free and open space and various bike lanes that idea that the great highway is needed for that is ludicrous. June 15 was a date that this city "opened back up". This should include opening the Great Highway. All the voters in the Sunset and Richmond districts know that this closure had nothing to do with the pandemic but more to do with the agenda to close this major roadway. As nice as your vision is for The City is it is impossible and unrealistic to believe that you can close a highway and expect no negative ramifications. It is simple, SF is a city with cars. A city with cars needs roadways to connect neighborhoods and flow with ease. Closing the great highway restricts so many and causes more carbon emission and gridlock into neighborhoods. As schools go back in session in the fall the traffic being pushed out into the avenues is only going to get worse as will the moods and good faith of the voters in these neighborhoods. Please, as you decide the fate of this highway keep in mind all of the points that actual community members are making and know that we see the false data. Go to the great highway at rush hour and compare the number of bikes utilizing the closure to the thousands of cars that are zig zagging throughout the sunset just to get to and from work. I appreciate your time and sincerely hope you look at this with a critical and open mind.

> Respectfully,

> Lisa Warne

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

Date : 6/21/2021 6:00:11 PM
From : "Ken Bentubo" ken@bentubo.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Open the Upper Great Highway

The time has come to open the Upper Great Highway. The state has opened up, San Francisco has opened up and there is no longer a need to create large expanses of open space for people to socially distance outdoors.

The residents of the Richmond District have been cut off from the peninsula and the residents of the Sunset District have endured long enough the arbitrary traffic management by way of street closures.

Furthermore, it seems that the Department of Parks and Recreation has taken to social media to promote the permanent closure of the Great Highway which I feel is out of scope for their responsibilities. The traffic management INSIDE the park is another story altogether.

Please open The Great Highway. Please open up San Francisco again.

Respectfully,
Ken Bentubo
Richmond District resident.

Date : 6/21/2021 7:42:53 PM

From : "elt lee" photogyrl@hotmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org" connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org" Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org" shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org, "phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org, "jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org, "tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org, "marstaff@sfgov.org" marstaff@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org" MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "mandelamnstaff@sfgov.org" mandelamnstaff@sfgov.org
Subject : Open Upper Great Highway!

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to express my disbelief and disappointment with the continued closure of the Great Highway. This is a major thoroughfare that allows traffic to get from point A to point B. I live at the end of Santiago Street near Lower Great Highway and since the closure of Upper Great Highway, there has been an increase in traffic, noise, and confusion in my once peaceful, sleepy neighborhood. It has driven the one thing I prized the most about living near the ocean into the toilet, the quiet of this part of the City.

My husband, who has attended and been present for community meetings about the closure of the road told me there was a poll about the closure. Of the million or so people that live in San Francisco, 4000 people answered the poll and 53% of those folks wanted the road closed. Well, that's a lot of hooey! That was tiny sampling of the people and certainly not representative of the neighborhood that is most affected by the closure. With roads blocked off and redirected, I am no longer able to do the simplest of errands. What was once a straight forward shot to go to Safeway on La Playa is now, a trip around, around, around the neighborhood, because cars can no longer turn off on Lincoln on to Lower Great Highway. Now I must go, 5 blocks up Lincoln till I'm able to make the now legal right turn to get

home. Increasing my travel time, the gas needed to go at least 10 blocks out of my way. People unfamiliar with the neighborhood, roll through 4 way stops and present a further traffic hazard. More people parking in the neighborhood to use the closed road, cross the street, stepping off the curb without looking up from their phones. These two things alone constitute further intersections of increased danger. I am in no means advocating for stop lights on every single block.

Sure, people want more places to recreate, but why must the majority of people who use the road or are affected by the closure continue to suffer, so that some people can walk on the road? Now because of the additional traffic, there are new speed bumps in the neighborhood and my quiet block which never had stop signs at either end of the block, had them installed earlier this year. That has helped with people not screaming through the neighborhood and has made it a bit safer, but the increase in traffic has made it necessary - which in its own way is a shame. Now, instead of driving on Upper Great Highway, motorcycle clubs use Lower Great Highway to ride, which is certainly more annoying and noisier.

The closed road has been an attractive nuisance for out of neighborhood people to come and set off aerial fireworks. During a drought, this is an additional worry.

I realize that someday in the distance further erosion will close the road. If the City and County is so worried about this inevitable conclusion, then should you not be investing in tetrapods or other shore break mitigation solutions now to prevent this?

As supervisor Mar has stated, "We live in the present" and we must find a way to deal with the traffic problems of NOW by reopening the Upper Great Highway or by finding a shared compromise.

Thank You.

Elsa Lee
San Francisco

Date : 6/21/2021 8:41:37 PM

From : "nancy murphy" nancy_murphy@hotmail.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org, "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org,
"ChanStaff@sfgov.org" ChanStaff@sfgov.org,
"Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org" Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org,
"Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,
"Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org,
"Dean.Preston@sfgov.org" Dean.Preston@sfgov.org,
"Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "MelgarStaff@sfgov.org"
MelgarStaff@sfgov.org, "MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org"
MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"
Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "info@openthegreathighway.com"
info@openthegreathighway.com**

Subject : Opposition to the 2 Year Pilot Program for the Great Highway

Dear Supervisors & Commissioners,

The pandemic has affected us all in countless ways. As our city was shut down, so was the Great Highway. This has negatively impacted residents of SF as well as people from outside of SF who need and use the Great Highway. We've been dealing with traffic, unsafe driving conditions, increased emissions, cars cutting though on Sunset Streets, bottlenecks and gridlock, blocked a vital emergency route in and out of SF, and many other issues.

Furthermore, we know those 18,000 to 20,000 cars are not going away: the studies and facts show this. What we need is for the Great Highway to be open, so that our Sunset Streets are safe once again. I join Open the Great Highway, as well as Concerned Residents of the Richmond, Concerned Residents of the Sunset, and Outer Sunset Safer Streets in urging you to Open the Great Highway as soon as possible. The SFCTA's survey showed that about 53% total of residents supported the closed Great Highway as a promenade, while only 52% of Sunset residents support this concept, and even less from the Richmond District. The total number is barely more than half, and we feel confident if the same survey were fairly and evenly distributed today, the number supporting a full re-opening would be much higher.

We've been dealing with the negative impacts of the Great Highway closure for the past year and half, we do not need a "pilot program" to tell us what we already know: this is not working. It's time to re-open the Great Highway. As our city opens

up, it makes the most sense to un-block this vital roadway and restore peace, safety, and access to San Francisco via the Great Highway.

Thank you.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Date : 6/21/2021 8:12:05 PM

From : "BILL ALVARADO" billalvarado@comcast.net

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org, "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org,
"ChanStaff@sfgov.org" ChanStaff@sfgov.org,
"Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org" Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org,
"Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,
"Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org,
"Dean.Preston@sfgov.org" Dean.Preston@sfgov.org,
"Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "MelgarStaff@sfgov.org"
MelgarStaff@sfgov.org, "MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org"
MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"
Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "info@openthegreathighway.com"
info@openthegreathighway.com**

Subject : Opposition to the 2 Year Pilot Program for the Great Highway

Dear Supervisors & Commissioners, Thank you for your time working on this issue. I am dyslexic and I have arthritis in my hands, so please consider this as I one finger "Hunt & Peck " my way through the writing of this letter.

The Bicycle Coalition is full of young, able, people and because of that they don't have the full, complexities of a citizen as a whole. Most of them just work, socialize and recreate. They do not have the complex, generational life experience to have another point of view. Most of them are from somewhere else. Ask them if their grandparents ride bikes in their towns & cities to conduct daily chores and the work of living. The bicycle Coalition may be able to point to a handful, but generally those people won the Genetic Lottery. We ought to include the majority who have suffered some other kind of accident, illness or some other kind of accidents as the bumps & scrapes of adulthood. Bill Maher has YouTube monologue in which he addresses Ageism as the the one that is considered "Fair Game" to disregard. You couldn't touch some of the comments and philosophies about race or religion that are used daily about the aged. You are all going to get here if you're lucky. We ought to be inclusive and say the majority of us should be considered in the living conditions of the city Especially after most of us have been here for a long time and contributed to the civic engine of this city towards it's well-being now, and in the future. We should be able to access all of the city in whatever physical capacity we have at our age. Being able to access that Highway in our cars is part of the equal access we need to have. They just WANT that HIGHWAY for their discretionary recreational use, for about 8 hours a day, when it's not too cold (55.8 degrees on average), when the wind isn't blowing (6 to 8mph with gusts up to 26 mph) for just their group

and excluding The rest of the San Franciscans access to a safe Highway, that removes any cross traffic, and removes all that traffic from intersecting on surface streets. It is safer for cyclists & pedestrians. 18,000 cars a day X's 30 days in a month is over 500,000 cars a month. Half million cars. Those cars will be dumped onto residential city streets. so the bicycles can have a 3.5 mile, 4 lane Highway to recreate on for a fraction of the day. The Bicycle coalition is using it's political clout (With members of the SFMTA as members of the Bicycle Coalition on the City & County Employ supposing to make impartial decisions about what is good for ALL San Franciscans.) John McLaren ,the Father of Golden Gate Park, was one of the engineers who had the vision to make a safe thoroughfare across the Sunset & Parkside districts. Because when the Highway was built in 1928, the Great Earthquake & Fire, was still fresh in their minds and they had visions of evacuation routes for the city.

The Great Highway is going largely unused. There maybe by my count, 50 people on it in the week day, and maybe a couple of hundred on the weekend.

Give Bicycles a bigger part of Golden Gate Park. That doesn' t interrupt and cause traffic jams with cars idling emitting more pollution and people's lives wasted. It also keeps the bicyclists out of Harm's way with the cars up there.

Before I go, there IS a bike path immediately to the East side of the Great Highway. Right along side of it. It might need a some pavement repair, but it is more than adequate for bicycle traffic.

This isn't about them needing it, it's about them wanting it

I hope I've presented some common sense, non political information.

Thank for reading this,

Bill Alvarado, concerned citizen

Date : 6/21/2021 7:17:11 PM

From : "D. Coursey" dnb001@hotmail.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org, "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org,
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MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"
Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "info@openthegreathighway.com"
info@openthegreathighway.com**

Subject : Opposition to the 2 Year Pilot Program for the Great Highway

Dear Supervisors & Commissioners,

The pandemic has affected us all in countless ways. As our city was shut down, so was the Great Highway. This has negatively impacted residents of SF as well as people from outside of SF who need and use the Great Highway. We've been dealing with traffic, unsafe driving conditions, increased emissions, cars and motorcycles cutting recklessly through Sunset Streets, bottlenecks and gridlock, and a vital emergency route in and out of SF being blocked.

Furthermore, we know those 18,000 to 20,000 cars are not going away: the studies and facts show this. What we need is for the Great Highway to be open, so that our Sunset Streets are safe once again. I join Open the Great Highway, as well as Concerned Residents of the Richmond, Concerned Residents of the Sunset, and Outer Sunset Safer Streets in urging you to Open the Great Highway as soon as possible. The SFCTA's survey showed that about 53% of residents citywide supported keeping the Great Highway closed as a promenade, while only 52% of Sunset residents support this concept, and even less from the Richmond District. The total number is barely more than half, and we feel that if the same survey were fairly and evenly distributed today, the number supporting a full re-opening would be much higher.

We Sunset residents in particular have been suffering the negative impacts of the Great Highway closure for the past year and half. We do not need a "pilot program" to tell us what we already know: this is not working. It's time to re-open the Great Highway. As our city opens up, it makes the most sense to un-block this vital

roadway and restore peace, safety, and access to San Francisco via the Great Highway.

Thank you,
Durinda Coursey & Leslie D. Ferguson
1573 48th Avenue, #2
S.F., CA 94122

Date : 6/21/2021 6:02:47 PM

From : "s b" eqsantini@gmail.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
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Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "info@openthegreathighway.com"
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We've been dealing with the negative impacts of the Great Highway closure for the past year and half, we do not need a "pilot program" to tell us what we already know: this is not working. It's time to re-open the Great Highway. As our city opens up, it makes the most sense to un-block this vital roadway and restore peace, safety, and access to San Francisco via the Great Highway.

Thank you.

Date : 6/21/2021 4:58:15 PM

From : "Mark Weinberger" msweinberger@hotmail.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
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up, it makes the most sense to un-block this vital roadway and restore peace, safety, and access to San Francisco via the Great Highway.

Thank you.

Mark S. Weinberger



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Date : 6/21/2021 4:57:50 PM

From : "Paula Yue" paulajaneyue@gmail.com

To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
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Thank you.

As a commuter for 25+ years from the Richmond District to Palo Alto, It is time to open the Great Highway. Thank you.
Paula Yue

Date : 6/21/2021 8:47:10 PM

From : "nancy murphy" nancy_murphy@hotmail.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
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up, it makes the most sense to un-block this vital roadway and restore peace, safety, and access to San Francisco via the Great Highway.

Thank you.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Date : 6/21/2021 4:31:03 PM

From : "Libby Adler" libby.adler@gmail.com

**To : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "clerk@sfcta.org"
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"Dean.preston@sfgov.org" Dean.preston@sfgov.org,
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mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org
Subject : Pilot Program UGH**

I would like to be on record as being opposed to the Pilot Program proposal fro the Great Highway.

It is an inequitable program. It is not a boon for the neighborhood as some have claimed. It has created more traffic and unsafe for conditions for families, commuters, and visitors. It is causing environmental damage to the surrounding dunes. It is causing air pollution. People are sitting in traffic with there cars idling. A 10 minute trip is now 30 minutes at times. There is increased traffic throughout the Avenues, along Lincoln, Fulton, Sunset, through the park (where you can still drive) and around Lake Merced.

Traffic flow actually worked prior to this TEMPORARY shut down. It makes no sense to try and fix what wasn't broken. Taking advantage of a situation to benefit one group to the detriment of whole neighborhoods is just wrong. Dumping thousands of cars onto streets that weren't designed for them when there is an extremely safe option already in place makes no sense.

Who benefits? There a very few people out there even on the best of days, on the usual days it is all but deserted. People and bikes have plenty of available options in this City for recreation. Please do not close the road to cars.

Sincerely,
Libby Adler

Sent from my iPad

Date : 6/21/2021 6:53:28 PM
From : "kate o'hearn" kateohearn@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Please open Great Highway
Please open the Great Highway.

As commuters go back to work, traffic will be a mess.

Thank you,
Kate O'Hearn

Date : 6/21/2021 7:16:42 PM

From : "'JOAN WIDJAJA' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Subject : PLEASE OPEN THE GREAT HIGHWAYTHANK YOU!

Dear Board

I have been living in our wonderful San Francisco for over 40 years. What makes it so beautiful is the scenery of many places especially our Great Highway. I have many memories of driving on the Highway and each time grasping our magnificent ocean waves and the sands and beaches as I drive by. At times I even park on the side, not for long, but safely, to enjoy the lovely views and welcome the cool breezes.

Please open the Highway so that locals like myself, or tourists or Anyone can drive to enjoy this stretch of road. The Highway should be open to All people. Bicyclists already have their long lanes. People already have the plentiful miles of beaches to walk on and play. Please open the highway so that motorists like myself can enjoy driving on this stretch. Please don't deprive us of this beautiful privilege. Let us all be able to share what was given to us years ago.

I thank you for your time and I pray members of the board will open the Great Highway, to make possible again for beautiful scenery & memories.

Thank you so much. God bless you.
Joan Widjaja

Date : 6/21/2021 8:59:08 PM

From : "Lauraine Edir" laurainemarie@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Subject : Please open the great highway!

Dear Members of the Board:

Please do not approve this final study. I have lived in this neighborhood long time and I'm here to tell you that the Great Highway being close is not helpful at all.

My children go to school in Richmond district and I can't even imagine the hell that we will have to experience trying to get to and from their schools from our home and the sunset.

SFCTA is *biased* in its data analysis in favor of permanent closure, as are efforts of RPD and SFMTA. These three city agencies have worked relentlessly for 14 months to close this highway forever to the detriment of the safety of thousands of residents and commuters of two districts. All data has been acquired not during normal traffic times, but during the worst pandemic in 100 weeks years which renders it moot and useless. Also, please do not approve the RPD/SFMTA Pilot Program that will leave the UGH closed for the next 2 years. This is unfair for thousands of people, while a relatively small number of people are using the highway for recreation, especially during the week. Please remember the working commuters who are stuck in traffic daily and the residents in danger when walking and biking the residential streets when making your decisions on these matters. Also please note that **8,711** people have signed our "Open the Great Highway petition.

Thank you.

Lauraine Edir

Date : 6/21/2021 8:46:28 PM

From : "Maria Chambers Hutchins" mariachambers@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" gordon.mar@sfgov.org,

"dean.preston@sfgov.org" dean.preston@sfgov.org, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org"

Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org"

myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org"

rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"

Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org"

shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "kristen@sfbike.org" kristen@sfbike.org,

"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Cc : "Mundy, Erin (BOS)" erin.mundy@sfgov.org, "MandelmanStaff, [BOS]"

MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org

Subject : Please preserve car-free JFK and Great Highway!

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

I am writing to implore you to maintain the car-free JFK and Great Highway. I live in Corona Heights and bike-commute my 3 year old daughter to & from school through Golden Gate Park. On weekends, she bikes there regularly with her dad. Georgia learned to ride a pedal bike in 2020 and the fact that we can bike without the danger of cars has been a game-changer. She can now bike from the panhandle all the way to ocean beach without the danger of cars. Both her dad and I have commuted across the city by bike over the past decade, but having safe car-free (and exhaust-free) streets to ride has been incredible. I know not all "slow streets" can be made permanent, but these two corridors deserve to remain car-free for the safety and enjoyment of all. It is a cultural win as families and friends gather to play music, make art, run, walk, rollerskate, dance... you name it. This is a wonderful thing. Please keep it going.

Thank you so much for all that you do!

Maria Chambers Hutchins

Levant Street

~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ *

"We must be the change we wish to see in the world."

- Mahatma Gandhi

Date : 6/21/2021 5:16:22 PM
From : sffred@comcast.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Please reopen the Great Highway

Dear SFCTA

Please reopen the Great Highway

As Covid restrictions are ending, traffic will increase.
Construction delays will be present on 19th avenue.

In order to maintain a vibrant city, we need to keep roads open.

- Better access for emergency vehicles.
- For a safer lower Great Highway, pedestrians to cross safely and vehicle traffic there.
- For a better experience for travelers passing through, and commuters and contractors in the west area.

There was no planning or process for the decision to close. The current closed roadway has no pedestrian or bicycle guidelines, and is dangerous due to speeding bicycles.

There is already a plan to narrow the great highway at the south end and close the coastal extension south of Sloat Blvd.

There are several "human nature effects" to also consider:

- Young people still wish to drive in groups and "cruise" in cars and motorcycles. These groups have used the west coast areas roadway (upper great highway) for many years spanning many generations and this will continue.
- Some persons are inclined to drive faster and make unsafe decisions when frustrated. Closing roads, speed bumps, and no left turns add to this frustration.

Thanks
Fred McFadden
2486 Great Highway
San Francisco CA 94116
sffred@comcast.net
415 218-0338

Date : 6/21/2021 8:16:35 PM

From : "Angel Sun" angelsun027@gmail.com

**To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"**

ChanStaff@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

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"Dean.Preston@sfgov.org" Dean.Preston@sfgov.org,

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Cc : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,

"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"

Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com"

Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com, "hello@kidsafesf.com" hello@kidsafesf.com,

"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com

**Subject : Please save the beautiful and joyous Great Walkway and support a
pilot to extend the promenade's life...**

Dear Supervisors/Commissioners,

The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Walkway (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements.

I join Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Walkway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The pilot — proposed by the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (SFMTA), and supported by RPD's Commission and SFMTA's Board — will allow RPD/SFMTA to address car-traffic concerns while increasing access to The Walkway for a diverse group of residents and collecting better data to make an informed decision. The SFCTA's survey showed that about 80% of San Franciscans support a promenade in some form, with a majority of San Franciscans and Sunset residents supporting a four-lane promenade 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. SFMTA's data shows that more than 144,000 people are using The Great Walkway monthly — making it the second-most used public space in San Francisco — and that's before tourists flock to this amazing public space as our city reopens. It's clear that the majority of San Franciscans love The Great Walkway and want it to be saved.

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Thank you, and please take care.

Sincerely,
Angel Sun

Date : 6/21/2021 7:54:16 PM

From : "Siddharth Jain" siddharthjain88@gmail.com

To : "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,

"Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org,

"Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,

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"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,

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Date : 6/21/2021 7:44:03 PM

From : "Helen Laroche" helenlaroche@gmail.com

**To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"
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Date : 6/21/2021 7:35:30 PM

From : "Oliver Gould" ver@olix0r.net

To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,

"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"

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Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com, "hello@kidsafesf.com" hello@kidsafesf.com,

"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com

Subject : Please save the beautiful and joyous Great Walkway and support a pilot to extend the promenade's life...

Dear Supervisors/Commissioners,

As a resident of the outer sunset, I cannot overstate how transformative it has been to have full access to great walkway. Cars drove fast and frequently recklessly, making it dangerous and never-racking for pedestrians, cyclists, and pets alike. We need to continue to invest in a livable, accessible neighborhood.

The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Walkway (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements.

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The “half-highway and half-promenade” compromise is problematic, because it would make the promenade more dangerous, noisy, and unhealthy while forcing people using the promenade to navigate sand dunes, making it inaccessible for people with disabilities, kids, and people using bikes.

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Date : 6/21/2021 7:06:29 PM

From : "Jeffrey Beining" jeffreybeining@gmail.com

To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,

"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"

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Thank you, and please take care.

Jeffrey

Sent from my iPhone

Date : 6/21/2021 7:06:05 PM

From : "Meredith" meredith452@gmail.com

**To : "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,
"Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org,
"Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
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Dear Supervisors/Commissioners, The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Walkway (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements. I join Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Walkway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The pilot — proposed by the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (SFMTA), and supported by RPD's Commission and SFMTA's Board — will allow RPD/SFMTA to address car-traffic concerns while increasing access to The Walkway for a diverse group of residents and collecting better data to make an informed decision. The SFCTA's survey showed that about 80% of San Franciscans support a promenade in some form, with a majority of San Franciscans and Sunset residents supporting a four-lane promenade 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. SFMTA's data shows that more than 144,000 people are using The Great Walkway monthly — making it the second-most used public space in San Francisco — and that's before tourists flock to this amazing public space as our city reopens. It's clear that the majority of San Franciscans love The Great Walkway and want it to be saved. Concerns about car traffic in the Sunset are valid, and SFMTA's work with Supervisor Mar has already succeeded in calming car traffic and diverting it to the arterials (Sunset Boulevard and 19th Avenue). Data shows that Sunset streets are safer, including collisions being down more than 30% from before the pandemic — traffic-calming measures are working and will continue to have positive impacts on the Sunset. Furthermore, Sarah Jones, Director Maguire, and Director Tumlin have stated that Sunset Boulevard and 19th Avenue can both take more car-traffic

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Date : 6/21/2021 6:41:29 PM

From : "Jennifer Anderson" jennifer.anderson001@gmail.com

**To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"**

ChanStaff@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

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"Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "MelgarStaff@sfgov.org"

MelgarStaff@sfgov.org, "MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org"

MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"

Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org"

Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"

Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org

Cc : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,

"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"

Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com"

Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com, "hello@kidsafesf.com" hello@kidsafesf.com,

"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com

**Subject : Please save the beautiful and joyous Great Walkway and support a
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It's important to address concerns about the Great Highway closure, but the answer is not to kill the Great Walkway and put cars back on the beautiful and joyous public space.

I join Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Walkway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Thank you, and please take care.

Jennifer

Sent from my iPhone

Date : 6/21/2021 4:33:58 PM

From : "Brad Bulger" bradbulger@gmail.com

To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,

"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"

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"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com

Subject : Please save the beautiful and joyous Great Walkway and support a pilot to extend the promenade's life...

Dear Supervisors/Commissioners,

I just spent a Sunday on this wonderful walkway, the first time I've been there in a long long time. Let's hold on to good things when we create them, deliberately or not!

Forgive the boilerplate - it expresses the ideas much better than I can.

The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Walkway (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements.

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Thank you, and please take care.

Date : 6/21/2021 8:46:45 PM

From : "Khoá Le" khoadle@gmail.com

**To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"**

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Thank you, and please take care.

Date : 6/21/2021 8:13:32 PM

From : "Elizabeth Holoubek" elizabeth.holoubek@gmail.com

**To : "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "ChanStaff@sfgov.org"**

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"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com

Subject : Please save the beautiful and joyous Great Walkway!

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Thank you, and please take care.

Elizabeth Holoubek
Sunset resident

Date : 6/21/2021 8:35:31 PM

From : "Erinne Davis" writeerinne@gmail.com

To : "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,

"Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org,

"Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,

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Subject : Please save the Great Highway Park - support a pilot to extend the promenade's life

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-Erinne Davis
2494 35th Ave.

Date : 6/21/2021 7:46:41 PM

From : "Jonathan Maguire" j.maguire.sf@gmail.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org, "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org,
"ChanStaff@sfgov.org" ChanStaff@sfgov.org,
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"Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,
"Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org,
"Dean.Preston@sfgov.org" Dean.Preston@sfgov.org,
"Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "MelgarStaff@sfgov.org"
MelgarStaff@sfgov.org, "MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org"
MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"
Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "hello@kidsafesf.com" hello@kidsafesf.com,
"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com**

**Subject : Please save the Great Highway Park - support a pilot to extend the
promenade's life**

Hi, I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the permanent closure to automobiles on the Great Highway. The closure so far has been a wonderful addition to the neighborhood as well as our family's recreation. Our seven year old daughter can now safely ride her bicycle in her neighborhood!

We live at the south end of the Outer Sunset between Vicente and Wawona, and we have not encountered any significant traffic issues or increased driving times as a result of the current Great Highway closure. The traffic safety measures enacted recently throughout the neighborhood have been more than adequate.

Please make the Great Highway automobile closure permanent, as it has created a wonderful quality of life for the Outer Sunset community.

Thank you
Jonathan Maguire
2646 45th Ave

Date : 6/21/2021 7:14:23 PM

From : "Kali Perry" skinandstone1@gmail.com

**To : "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,
"Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org,
"Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
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"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com
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Dear Supervisors/Commissioners, The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Highway Park (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements. I join Great Highway Park, Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Great Highway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The pilot — proposed by the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (SFMTA), and supported by RPD's Commission and SFMTA's Board — will allow RPD/SFMTA to address car-traffic concerns while increasing access to The Walkway for a diverse group of residents and collecting better data to make an informed decision. * The SFCTA's survey showed that about 80% of San Franciscans support a promenade in some form, with a majority of San Franciscans and Sunset residents supporting a four-lane promenade 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. * SFMTA's data shows that more than 144,000 people are using The Great Highway Park monthly — making it the second-most used public space in San Francisco — and that's before tourists flock to this amazing public space as our city reopens. It's clear that the majority of San Franciscans love The Great Highway Park and want it to be saved. Concerns about car traffic in the Sunset are valid, and SFMTA's work with Supervisor Mar has already succeeded in calming car traffic and diverting it to the arterials (Sunset Boulevard and 19th Avenue). Data shows that Sunset streets are safer, including collisions being down more than 30% from before the pandemic — traffic-calming measures are working and will continue to have positive impacts on the Sunset. Furthermore, Sarah Jones, Director Maguire,

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Date : 6/21/2021 7:14:07 PM

From : "Kali Perry" kaliperry108@gmail.com

To : "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,

"Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org,

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"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com

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Date : 6/21/2021 7:06:40 PM

From : "Victoria Groom" vgroom@gmail.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
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Thank you, and please take care.

Victoria

Date : 6/21/2021 5:12:20 PM

From : "'Alisa Berkowitz' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
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Sent from my iPad

Date : 6/21/2021 5:08:41 PM

From : "'barbara ordahl' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
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Thank you, and please take care.

Barbara Ordahl - I am in support of preserving the The Great Walkway for the people of San Francisco and for anyone who enjoys being in the great outdoors by the Pacific.
Sent from my iPad

Date : 6/21/2021 4:54:53 PM

From : "John H. Hunt" johnhenry9@hotmail.com

To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
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"Dean.Preston@sfgov.org" Dean.Preston@sfgov.org,
"Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, "MelgarStaff@sfgov.org"
MelgarStaff@sfgov.org, "MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org"
MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.Ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org"
Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, "hello@kidsafesf.com" hello@kidsafesf.com,
"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com
Subject : Please save the Great Highway Park - support a pilot to extend the
promenade's life

Dear Supervisors/Commissioners,

The pandemic had countless negative impacts, but one of the few silver linings was the creation of The Great Highway Park (and other people-first spaces in our city). The Walkway has given countless residents a safe place to walk, roll, and connect, and we must save it by approving a pilot to extend the promenade's life while continuing to invest in traffic-calming and north-south transportation improvements.

I join Great Highway Park, Kid Safe SF and countless organizations/residents in urging you to approve a two-year pilot that extends The Great Highway's life beyond the emergency health order as a four-lane promenade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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Thank you, and please take care.

Date : 6/21/2021 4:53:44 PM

From : "Page Rockwell" pagerockwell@gmail.com

To : "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org" Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org,
"Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org,
"Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org" Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org,
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"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "hello@kidsafesf.com"
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"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"responses@greathighwaypark.com" responses@greathighwaypark.com
Subject : Please save the Great Highway Park - support a pilot to extend the
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Dear Supervisors/Commissioners,

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Date : 6/21/2021 4:33:19 PM

From : "Emily C. Kalanithi" emster@gmail.com

To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, "Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org"
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Emily Kalanithi

Date : 6/21/2021 4:26:16 PM

From : "Michelle Fliegau" michelle@internationalyoga.com

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
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Thank you, and please take care.

Michelle Fliegauf
1626 Great Highway, #3
San Francisco, CA 94122

Date : 6/21/2021 8:37:40 PM

From : "'Adam Ouderkirk' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

**To : "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org"
Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"
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Thank you.

Adam Ouderkirk
San Francisco resident, bike-rider, and supporter of the Great Highway Park.

Date : 6/21/2021 5:36:46 PM

From : "Burke, Christian" jcburke1@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "connie.chan@sfgov.org"

connie.chan@sfgov.org, "Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org"

Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org"

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"phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org,

"jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org" jeffrey.tumlin@sfmta.org,

"tilly.chang@sfcta.org" tilly.chang@sfcta.org

Subject : Please say YES to the 24/7 closure of the Great Highway - make a car free space

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

As someone who lives in the Inner Sunset, I am asking the SFCTA to prioritize car-free space on the Great Highway 24/7.

Since April 2020, this space has become a community hub for art and activism, and welcomes thousands of people walking, biking, and rolling every day. Our city's largest contributor of carbon emissions is transportation, and we have an opportunity to prioritize people-first space on a corridor already drastically impacted by rising sea levels and climate change.

This permanent closure will help us reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and make it possible to restore Ocean Beach's natural ecosystems to the best of our abilities. As the City starts to reopen, it's time we reimagine how we use our streets and plan for the future of SF. Now is the time to think big and prioritize the Great Highway for people, not cars.

This will preserve a wonderful and natural place that is unique to San Francisco. Please join us in making something special for all of SF.

thanks

christian burke

415.317.0302

Date : 6/21/2021 5:23:23 PM

From : "Gary Massing" gmassing@pacbell.net

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Subject : Proposed Upper Great Highway Closure -- I'm Against Closure!

To whom it may concern,

I am an outer Richmond District resident. I realize there are some people who want this area closed for walking and bike riding, but I have commuted along and enjoyed this stretch of road for years and years. It's an important access thoroughfare and also a beautiful and scenic place to drive. I have also car-toured my out-of-town relatives along this road, and they loved it. There are currently places for people to walk and drive their bikes next to, or along, this road — specifically the beach, a bike lane, and a paved walking path which can be used by both walkers and bikers.

Please, let's consider everyone's needs and not take road closures to extremes. Let the Upper Great Highway stay open to cars.

Thanks for your consideration.

Gary Massing

830 41st Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94121

Date : 6/21/2021 7:00:40 PM

From : "Eunice Chue" friendshipcheers@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org"

MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org

Subject : Public Comment on the Reopening of the Great Highway

Dear Members of SFCTA and Mayor London Breed,

I am Eunice Chue, a San Francisco resident in the Outer Sunset neighborhood. I teach at Lafayette Elementary School in the Richmond District.

Please consider reopening the Great Highway as many residents in the Sunset and Richmond districts need to drive across Golden Gate Park daily for school and work. Even with a partial public school reopening last spring semester, there was major traffic congestion during the peak commute hours on Chain of Lakes Drive. Since all public schools will reopen fully this coming August, many more cars will be on the road as parents need to drive their children to and from school. School staff members will also need to travel to and from work. Many residents in the Sunset and Richmond neighborhood must drive across Golden Gate Park in order to get to their destinations. Therefore, we need to reopen the Great Highway in order to ease the heavy traffic on Chain of Lakes Drive. Otherwise, it would be impossible to drive to and from the Sunset and Richmond neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration in reopening the Great Highway.

Sincerely,

Eunice Chue

(Outer Sunset resident)

Sent from my iPhone

Date : 6/21/2021 5:54:56 PM
From : "Chris Mei" cmei722@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org" MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org
Subject : public comment re. Agenda SFCTA Item 11. Please re-open the Upper great Highway to cars now.

If Covid-19 hadn't appeared, the Great Highway (GH) would be open to cars; it would never have been closed.

I live on La Playa and I used to bike the GH when there were cars. It was safe. Drivers respected the bicyclists.

Closing the Great Highway was done to give residents near the GH more room to have more room to exercise outdoors during the pandemic. That was fine during the emergency. Remember that there is still plenty of room to exercise on the beach. In addition, there is Golden Gate Park in which people can exercise and children can learn how to bicycle. Now that San Francisco is opening up there are more opportunities for people to be outside and use the parks, and motorists should be permitted to drive on the GH again.

If the City wants more pedestrian access to the GH, they should WIDEN THE CURRENT PATHNEXT TO THE GH. Easy and cheap.

The GH is an efficient North-South route for motorists, delivery drivers, VA hospital shuttle drivers, and emergency services. If drivers speed along the GH, enforce the law and fine the speeders.

The GH is also much more efficient than 19th Avenue and Sunset Boulevard. Why is that? It's because there are no right or left turns from the GH and the lights are synchronized. There is no middle lane backed up they way there is on Sunset. There are no buses to wait behind. The lights are also synchronized on both 19th Avenue and Sunset Boulevard. Drivers must be patient.

When it's windy and cold there will not be many pedestrians or bicyclists on the GH. I have been there on cold windy days and it has been empty. Sand in one's eyes, ears, and mouth is not pleasant.

Bottom line is to re-open the Great highway to motor vehicles.

Thank you.

Date : 6/21/2021 4:45:44 PM

From : "Karen Myers" karenmsf@sbcglobal.net

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Subject : Reopen Great Highway

I am writing in support of reopening the Great Highway to cars.

I would prefer this reopening to be full-time, but I think a compromise should also be considered. I don't understand why a compromise of closing it to traffic on weekends hasn't been given serious consideration. The eastern side of JFK Boulevard in GG Park was always closed to cars just on weekends, but for some reason in all the city meetings I've attended, the planners say how this would be too difficult or confusing to implement for the Upper Great Highway. That makes no sense to me and would be a win-win for all sides.

I live at 44th & Irving, so the Upper Great Highway was always my favorite scenic drive to head south to Sloat or San Mateo. It is much more efficient and environmentally cleaner for the 18,000+ commuters who drove this route, it helps with the congestion of 19th Ave and Sunset Boulevard, and it lessens the danger of the neighborhood streets of the Outer Sunset where cars now drive through.

The temporary closure made sense during a pandemic when we had to practice social distancing and quarantining. But as things return to "normal," people go back to work, and kids go back to school, this is going to be a nightmare. 19th Ave, Sunset Boulevard, and the Great Chain of Lakes are getting more and more clogged without the highest level of normal traffic. How would these routes be able to handle everyone in an emergency?

I love being in nature, but we have miles and miles of parks, ocean, and recreational space in this city, not to mention an existing walkway right next to the UGH. I have a disability and need a car to get around and to access this nature. Of course alternative means of transportation are ideal, but cars are a necessity of life for many people. Please work with the reality that exists on our roads and in our Outer Sunset neighborhood.

Thank you for staying open minded on this topic.

Sincerely,

Karen Myers
1285 44th Ave. #1
SF, CA 94122

Date : 6/21/2021 6:07:55 PM
From : "AMMor10" almsfnative@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Reopen the Great Highway

I am a lifelong resident of the Sunset District's Parkside neighborhood, and the Great Highway has become the major thoroughfare for the western part of the City from north to south. Since the closure of the Great Highway due to the pandemic there has been more car traffic since drivers are now diverted to the side neighborhoods as well as Sunset Blvd and Sunset Blvd's neighboring streets 33rd to 35th Avenues, and 36th to 37th Avenues between Sloat and Lincoln Way.

1.) First Responders/Emergency Preparedness

Besides neighborhood safety with cross-traffic for those living between 40th and 48th Avenues, LaPlaya, and Lower Great Highway between Sloat and Lincoln Way due to the Great Highway closure, which has impacted the neighbors of the Outer Sunset, Outer Richmond but also the city's first responder (SFPD, SFFD, paramedics). With cross-traffic going into neighborhoods and Great Highway closed, the emergency response times are not good. It takes longer for first responder vehicles to get to calls. Like for instant search and rescue off of Ocean Beach, the SFFD Rescue Teams have hard to get their hook and ladder trucks up to help in the search while the heavy search and rescue has to navigate its way to Fort Funston for the cliff rescues, etc.

Question/Inquiry:

Was there any communication with the City and County of San Francisco's SFFD, SFPD, and SF Sheriffs; and paramedic groups [like AMR (American Medical Response) and King-American Ambulance Company, to name a few]; and hospitals like Seton Hospital in Daly City (San Mateo County), and UCSF Medical Center on Parnassus and Veterans Hospital (in San Francisco)]?

What is the City and County of San Francisco going to do about first responder response to the neighborhoods of Outer Sunset and Outer Richmond as well as possible surf and rescue off of Ocean Beach, Fort Funston by SFFD, US National Park Service/Golden Gate National Park Staff?

Has the city taken account for this emergency response to neighborhoods and off of Ocean Beach and Fort Funston?

What is the response times for search and rescues off of Ocean Beach and the cliff rescues at Fort Funston -- from call is made to when they get to those locations the emergency accident/incident occurred?

2.) Cross-Town (north, south traffic)

There is no cross-town roads as represented by Great Highway if it closes and put more pressure to the only major road that goes north and south (going north to

Marin County and North Bay, going south to South Bay) which is California Route 1 also known as 19th Avenue and Park Presidio Drive which also connects to I-280.

The closure of the Great Highway does not only affect the Outer Richmond/Richmond District and Outer Sunset/Sunset/Parkside but also Lake Merced in San Francisco; San Mateo County since I-280 goes through this county besides City and County of San Francisco); and Marin County (mostly the residents by Mill Valley, Tiburon and Sausalito).

Even California Route 35 (northbound) will have traffic too which will affect San Mateo County with surrounding neighborhoods in Daly City off of Skyline Blvd.

Question/Inquiry:

Has the City and County of San Francisco even consider that the closure of the Great Highway will have major impact to residents in Daly City's Westlake District (Westlake District is in Daly City which is in San Mateo County) as well as drivers commuting from Marin County/North Bay as well as San Francisco Peninsula (San Mateo County) and South Bay (County of Santa Clara)?

Has the City and County of San Francisco talked to the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County and Marin County about the proposed closures, and how it can impact their communities and residents?

Comment:

If there is a major accident or incident, or even a stall on California Route 1 which is 19th Avenue/Park Presidio roadway in Golden Gate Park, people driving from Marin County/North Bay Areas heading south to South Bay will then get off into the side streets of the Richmond then head to Great Highway thinking the Great Highway is open (or even Chain of Lakes Drive in Golden Gate Park which has congestion right now due to Great Highway closure) to bypass the traffic jam not realizing that Great Highway is closed then will go onto Lower Great Highway, La Playa, 40th to 48th Avenues between Sloat and Lincoln where it will have more traffic jams and clogging up the side streets that has public and private schools in area making it hard for kids to get to school or parents dropping them off as well as unsafe for neighbors.

Besides this, Sunset Blvd will have more congestion as well and provide unsafe conditions for neighbors on 33rd to 35th Avenues, 36th to 38th Avenues between Sloat and Lincoln Way as well as Lincoln Way.

Same going from South Bay to Marin County/North Bay commuter drivers, where they will go onto 16th to 18th Avenues between Vicente and Lincoln Way (where public and private schools are located along route which will be dangerous street conditions to neighbors and schools in the neighborhood as well as more traffic jams as well), and more traffic will come to Sunset Blvd, which then give more traffic to those from Brotherhood Way to Sloat and Lincoln Way (north route on Sunset) with people turning to Sloat to head west to get to Great Highway then causing congestion to that Outer Sunset (40th to 46th, La Playa, and Lower Great

Highway -- and there are public and private schools in this area), and could bring back up into Daly City's Westlake District.

3.) Healthcare/Medical Appointments/Hospital Visits

People go to Veterans Hospital in San Francisco, and Seton Hospital in Daly City. Those that go to VA and Seton Hospital prior to pandemic closure took the Great Highway to get to their medical/healthcare appointments & visits, and it has taken them longer to get to their appointments/visits.

Question/Inquiry:

So how is the City and County of San Francisco going to work with the VA Hospital and Seton Hospital as well as UCSF Medical Center on Parnassus?

Comment:

If there is a major accident on CA Route-1 the only main access from north to south and south to north, it will take these people longer to get to their appointment visits to VA and Seton, or getting to the emergency room at UCSF Medical Center on Parnassus via car and/or ambulance.

4.) Sunday Streets

What happened to Sunday Streets? Why did it stop?

On Sundays, the Great Highway was closed. Neighbors were fine with that then all of a sudden somehow Sunday Streets stopped. Why did this happen? Sunday Streets lasted until about mid-2010s (went from the 1970s to about mid-2010s) with no explanation why this program stopped on Sundays.

Why not bring back Sunday Streets to the City and County of San Francisco, and have the Great Highway closed to vehicle traffic on Sundays for everyone to use. Bring back Sunday Streets.

Even Golden Gate Park was closed on Sundays. Still do not understand why the City and County of San Francisco stopped Sunday Streets.

Hope someone can explain that.

Looking forward to some feedback, and hope that the City and County of Board of Supervisors, SFMTA and SF Rec and Park be able to listen to the residents that are affected or will be affected with the closure of the Great Highway.

Best.

Ai Lin Moten

--

A. Morten

408-520-0274 (Office)

650-590-9415

415-866-5089 (Mobile)

almsfnative@gmail.com

Date : 6/21/2021 5:49:29 PM

From : "Carrie Mainelli" carrie_mainelli@comcast.net

**To : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "clerk@sfcta.org"
clerk@sfcta.org, "greathighway@sfmta.com" greathighway@sfmta.com,
"Tom.maguire@sfmta.com" Tom.maguire@sfmta.com,
"Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org" Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "rec-
greathighway@sfgov.org" rec-greathighway@sfgov.org,
"dennis.kern@sfgov.org" dennis.kern@sfgov.org,
"mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org" board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org,
"chanstaff@sfgov.org" chanstaff@sfgov.org, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org"
catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org"
Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org, "Gordon.mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.mar@sfgov.org,
"Dean.preston@sfgov.org" Dean.preston@sfgov.org,
"Matt.haney@sfgov.org" Matt.haney@sfgov.org, "Melgarstaff@sfgov.org"
Melgarstaff@sfgov.org, "mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org"
mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org
Subject : Re-open the great highway to cars!!!**

To whom it may concern:

Re-open the great highway to cars!!!

The capital and maintenance costs for a full promenade greatly exceeds the cost of fully or partially opening to cars: Full 4 lane for cars \$8.6 million, northbound only \$10.5 million, full closure \$12.4 million (Table 9 on page 39 of the summary) using the top number in the given range.

There were no significant safety issues re vehicular/bicycle/pedestrian injuries along the Upper Great Highway, Lower Great Highway and La Playa before and after the closure of the GH. Most collisions do not involve pedestrians at all. The "safety for walking" issue is a non-issue given the experience of below average pedestrian injury rates with the Great Highway fully open in the past.

They claim that the recreational use of the GH exceeds that of Crissy Field (page 10) but fail to point out that making Crissy Field a recreational site was not done by closing a major traffic artery. The more appropriate analogy would be to compare converting Crissy field to recreational use by closing Marina Blvd and Lombard to cars and having traffic spill over into Cow Hollow as that traffic gets diverted from a major traffic artery.

Traffic diverted from the GH to Sunset Blvd (70%), local streets (25%) and 19th Avenue (5%). They acknowledge the major traffic delays along Sunset, Lincoln Way, Chain of Lakes, 36th Ave and Lincoln intersection with proposals for mitigation. There are several discussions about the continued closure of MLK with traffic signals installed at choke points, possible future closure of Chain of Lakes between Lincoln Way and MLK if MLK is reopened which would split the east/west traffic and decrease the congestion the most but may require a separate bicycle path at the MLK and Chain of Lakes intersection. They point out that traffic speeds will continue to be below the posted speed limits along 19th Ave and Sunset Blvd with worsening slowing of Muni along the north south routes as speeds decline. They also point out that there are plans to create HOV and Muni only lanes to mitigate that which of course also means less availability of lanes for cars. The various options to address the chokepoints are enlightening with intersection time delays and queueing lengths projected for complete reopening, complete closure without mitigation and GH closure with infrastructure improvements.

I continue to object to the use of the D4 mobility study to support closure and the purported 54% pro closure vote. It fails to note that 74% of Richmond district residents wanted the Great Highway open to cars. 54% of 3700 respondents is only 1988 individuals. As of June 9th, the change.org petitions for re-opening had 8767 signers to reopen the Great Highway compared to 4918 for closure. That's

twice as many people wanting the GH reopened. 18,000 cars used the Great Highway at all hours of the day, all days of the week, during all weather. 4,000 people use it for recreation with long periods of time with nearly zero use (night time, poor weather).

Clearly now is not the time to close a major traffic artery - not with construction on 19th Avenue, no mitigation in place to handle the traffic being diverted and creating bottle necks, the violation of the both Ocean Beach and SF Park and Rec Master Plans which acknowledged the need to keep the GH open for car traffic, for very little benefit given the many other recreational options open to walkers and bicyclists.

OPEN THE Great Highway now!

The Mainelli family

14 year tax paying residents of the Richmond district who are sick and tired of sitting in traffic caused by this temporary and silly road closure

Sent from my iPhone

Date : 6/21/2021 5:04:15 PM
From : "Joseph Conroy III" jconroyiii@sbcglobal.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Cc : "joseph conroy" jconroyiii@sbcglobal.net
Subject : Reopen the Great Highway to Vehicular Traffic

To Whom it May Concern: The purpose of this e-mail is to present my opinion for why the Great Highway should be reopened to vehicular traffic.

*The closure of the Great Highway has made our neighborhood streets unnecessarily unsafe for residents, children, and pedestrians.

*The closure of the Great Highway has created a problem where none previously existed.

*The measures taken thus far have only diverted traffic onto residential streets that never previously experienced such heavy traffic loads nor should they.

*The Outer Sunset neighborhood residential streets should not have to bear the burden of the increase in both commercial and non-commercial vehicle traffic. There are now Safeway semi-trailer trucks and large SFMTA driving on streets which never before had such traffic.

*There is already a large expanse of land which is both underused, conveniently located, and parallels the Great Highway. It is the beach.

I implore the committee and its board members to reopen the Great Highway to vehicular traffic.

A Concerned Citizen,
Joseph T. Conroy III

Date : 6/21/2021 7:49:15 PM

From : "Mark Di Giorgio" markadigiorgio@att.net

**To : "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org" MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org,
"clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "Supervisor Connie Chan"
chanstaff@sfgov.org**

Subject : Reopen the Great Highway

We are at a cross roads as the economy and state reopen. It is time to reopen the Great Highway.

Why do we need to keep the Upper Great Highway closed? The reason for the closure - COVID distancing- no longer exists. The economy is almost back in full swing, traffic is horrendous and getting worse, and the upcoming Hardly Strictly and Outside Lands concerts in Golden Gate Park will bring thousands of additional cars through the Outer Sunset and Outer Richmond area, creating additional pollution and dangerous conditions. Just as important, the Upper Great Highway has bike lanes and a multi-use path which can easily accommodate the demand. There is no need to block the highway to cars. This closure is an additional burden on workers and families.

Sincerely,

Mark Di Giorgio

819 38th Avenue

Date : 6/21/2021 8:30:17 PM
From : "laurel winzler" flaurell@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Re-open the Great Highway

Dear SFMTA Board -

I can't be present for the hearing on June 22, but wanted to express my view that the Great Highway needs to be re-opened to auto traffic.

I live in the Outer Richmond District, and travel around the city and the Bay Area in my job as a florist. I'm 100% in favor of re-opening the Great Highway for the following reasons:

- 1) The Richmond District currently has only 3 access points that cross Golden Gate Park: Chain of Lakes Drive, the Upper Great Highway, and 19th Avenue. Closing the Lower Great Highway effectively reduces that number to 2, and the resulting congestion, delays and frustration are off the chart.
- 2) The pedestrian and bike usage of the closed portion of the Great Highway was important during the shutdown, but with people going back to work and kids going back to school the usage will drop dramatically. The benefit gained by the shutdown doesn't justify the loss to the Richmond District in terms of access into and out of our neighborhood.
- 3) Many of the supporters of a permanent closure don't live in the Richmond and have no interest in how this closure will adversely affect our neighborhood. The "greater good" needs to work for all citizens, and we in the Richmond are consistently overlooked in terms of making these kinds of decisions.
- 4) The negative effects of a closure will be magnified due to road work and lane closures on Park Presidio/19th Avenue and the continued closure of MLK Drive West. The overflow back into neighborhood streets affects safety and quality of life for all Richmond District citizens.

In a perfect world, adding pedestrian and bike space would be a plus. However, the world we live in requires access for all residents into and out of their neighborhoods, and a balancing of priorities to

include all stakeholders. The west section of the city already has vast amounts of space for recreating, and while adding to that would be nice, the negative effects to many citizens don't justify this overreaching land grab.

Please listen to those of us who are most directly and negatively impacted, and consider our needs on an equal level with those who advocate for a permanent closure.

Thank you.

Laurel Ann Winzler (she/her)

Laurel Designs

www.flaurel.com

415.386.8360

Date : 6/21/2021 6:48:54 PM
From : "lucet1969@yahoo.com" via Clerk "clerk@sfta.org"
To : "London Breed" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org, "Commission, Recpark (REC)" recpark.commission@sfgov.org, "MTABoard" mtboard@sfta.com, "Transportation Authority" clerk@sfta.org, "Maguire, Tom (MTA)" tom.maguire@sfta.com, "Ginsburg, Phil (REC)" phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org, "rec-greathighway@sfgov.org" rec-greathighway@sfgov.org, "Kern, Dennis (REC)" denniskern@sfgov.org, "boardofsupervisors@sfgov.org" boardofsupervisors@sfgov.org, "Chan, Connie (BOS)" connie.chan@sfgov.org, "catherinesstefani@sfgov.org" catherinesstefani@sfgov.org, "Gordon Mar" gordon.mar@sfgov.org, "Gordon Mar" marstall@sfgov.org, "matthaney@sfgov.org" matthaney@sfgov.org, "dem.preston@sfgov.org" dem.preston@sfgov.org, "mandelmanstall@sfgov.org" mandelmanstall@sfgov.org, "Shamann Walton" shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "abha.safai@sfgov.org" abha.safai@sfgov.org, alhasa.safai@sfgov.org
Subject : Re-Open UGH for meeting tomorrow
Attachment :
TimePhoto_20210526_082606.jpg;TimePhoto_20210514_173204.jpg;received_1854169004759963.jpg;PB_IMG_1621554057429.jpg;PB_IMG_1621473859923.jpg;PB_IMG_1621473861721.jpg;PB_IMG_1621473874892.jpg;TimePhoto_20210515_160940.jpg;TimePhoto_20210514_173204.jpg;
To all of you involved,

I don't know how many times we need to reiterate for the voices of the actual people that live out here in the Sunset and Richmond District, that we need this thoroughfare open (at least M-F) to get to the grocery store our schools, our work, our neighbors homes, our parents homes and doctors.

I'm aware that the big guns, with the big money, and the politicians they have in their pocket are pushing this... but, I'm speaking to you as a parent and as of Resident, and a native, who uses this everyday. PLEASE, reopen it at least Monday through Friday.

Please, have the sense to compromise, there is no absolutely no need for pilot program, we just HAD a "pilot program" of 15 months, now people are speaking their minds, the pandemic is over, and the majority of people that you say are using this during the week are not. The numbers you are suggesting are not true, people are not using it that much during Monday- Friday.

It should not take me an hour to get to North Beach for work, it should not take me an hour to get home from the Golden Gate Bridge. We need this for our daily lives, let alone emergencies, reopen the Great Highway please, reopen the Golden Gate Park as a cut through, especially with 19th Avenue a mess and a gateway to Marin and the Peninsula. It shouldn't take 25 minutes to get from Lincoln @ 25th to the crossover!!!

This is absolutely absurd. Fix the trail on Great Highway for bicyclists so that IF out on Great Highway walking we don't get ran over by them.

PLEASE COMPROMISE!!!!

PS you need a traffic control officer standing at ugh at Lincoln it's an absolute Hazard three lanes into one pedestrians honking screaming all the no turn Lanes AND 45th at SLOAT.

Thank you for listening, please speak for the residents.



May 26, 2021 8:26:06 AM
514 Funston Avenue
San Francisco County
California

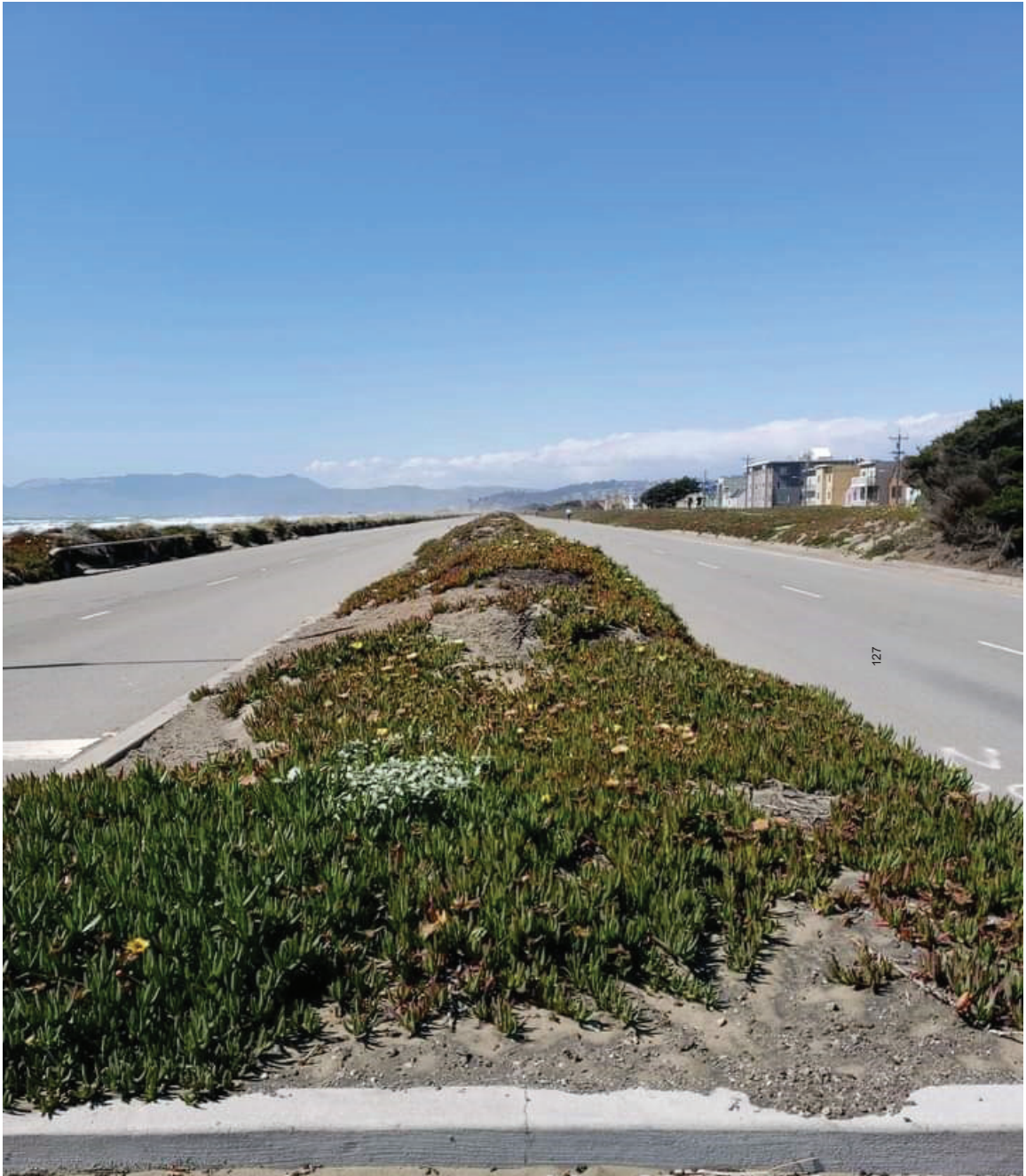


May 14, 2021 5:32:04 PM
2518 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco County
California

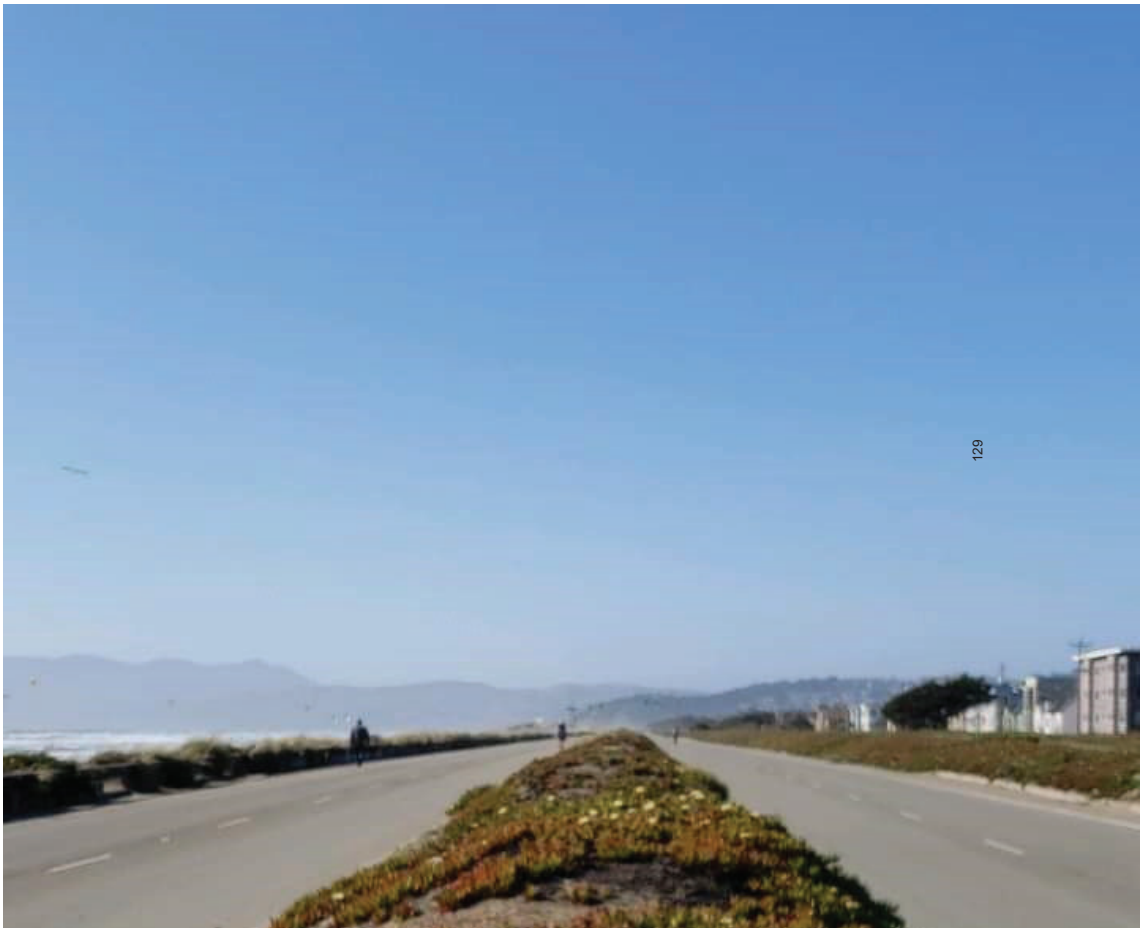


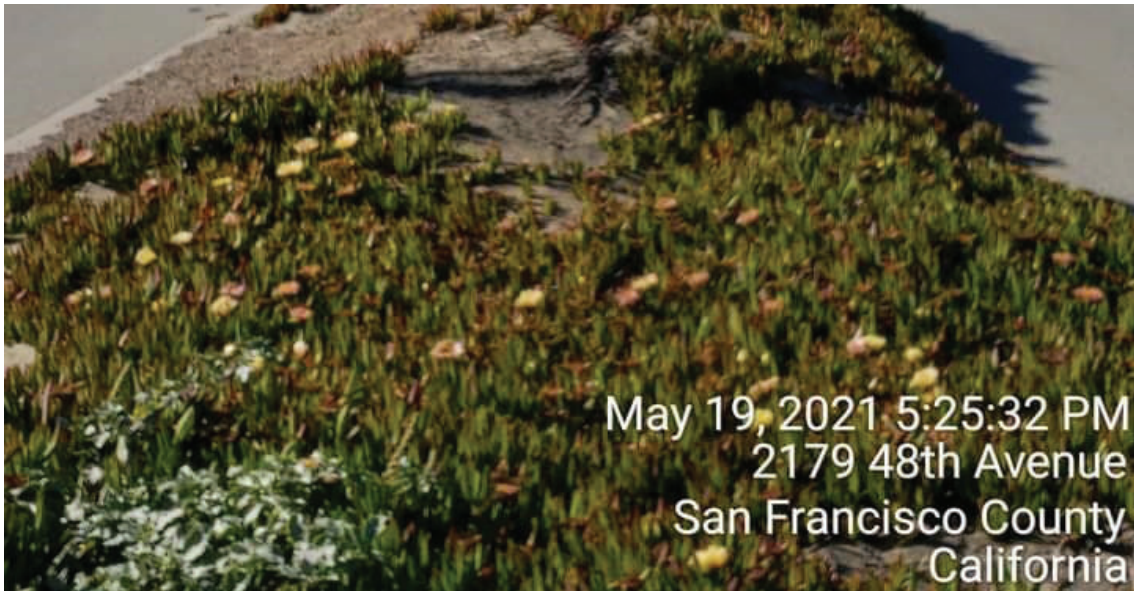
May 14, 2021 5:32:19 PM
2518 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco County
California









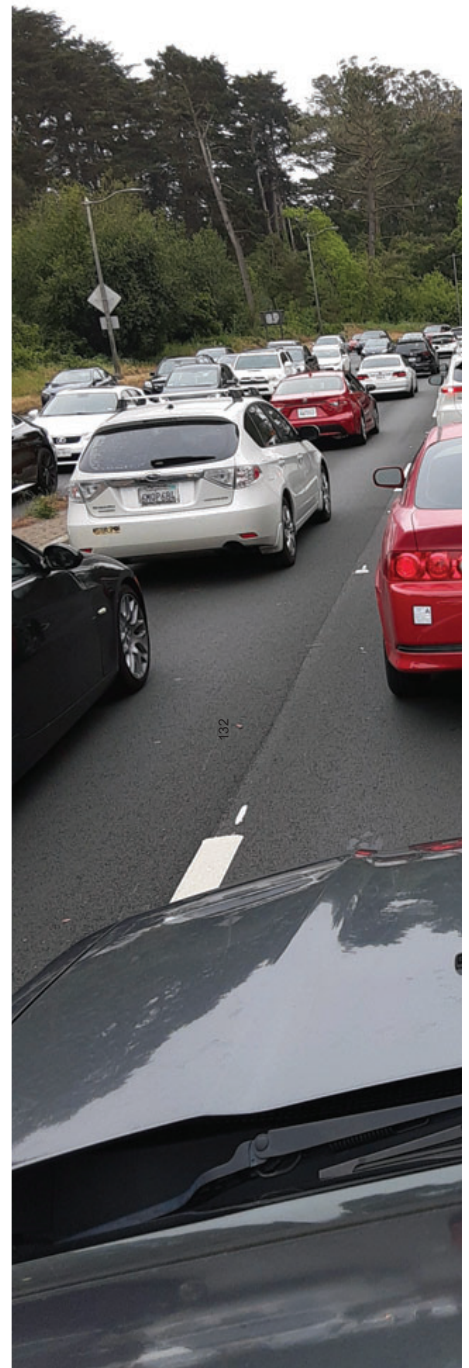


May 19, 2021 5:25:32 PM
2179 48th Avenue
San Francisco County
California



May 19, 2021 at 11:34:09 AM
1692-1772 Great Hwy
San Francisco CA 94122
United States





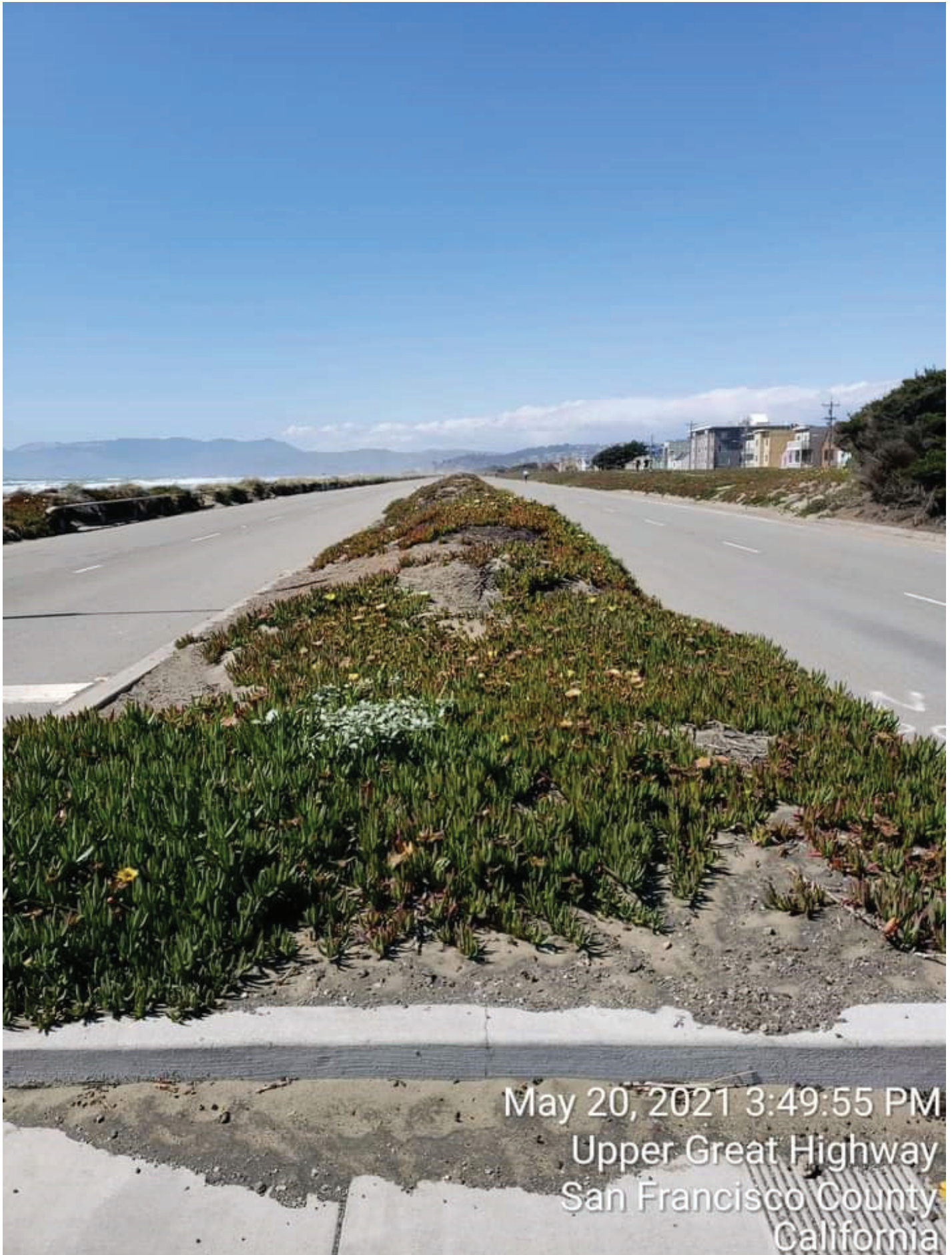




May 14, 2021 5:32:04 PM
2518 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco County
California



May 14, 2021 5:32:19 PM
2518 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco County
California



May 20, 2021 3:49:55 PM
Upper Great Highway
San Francisco County
California

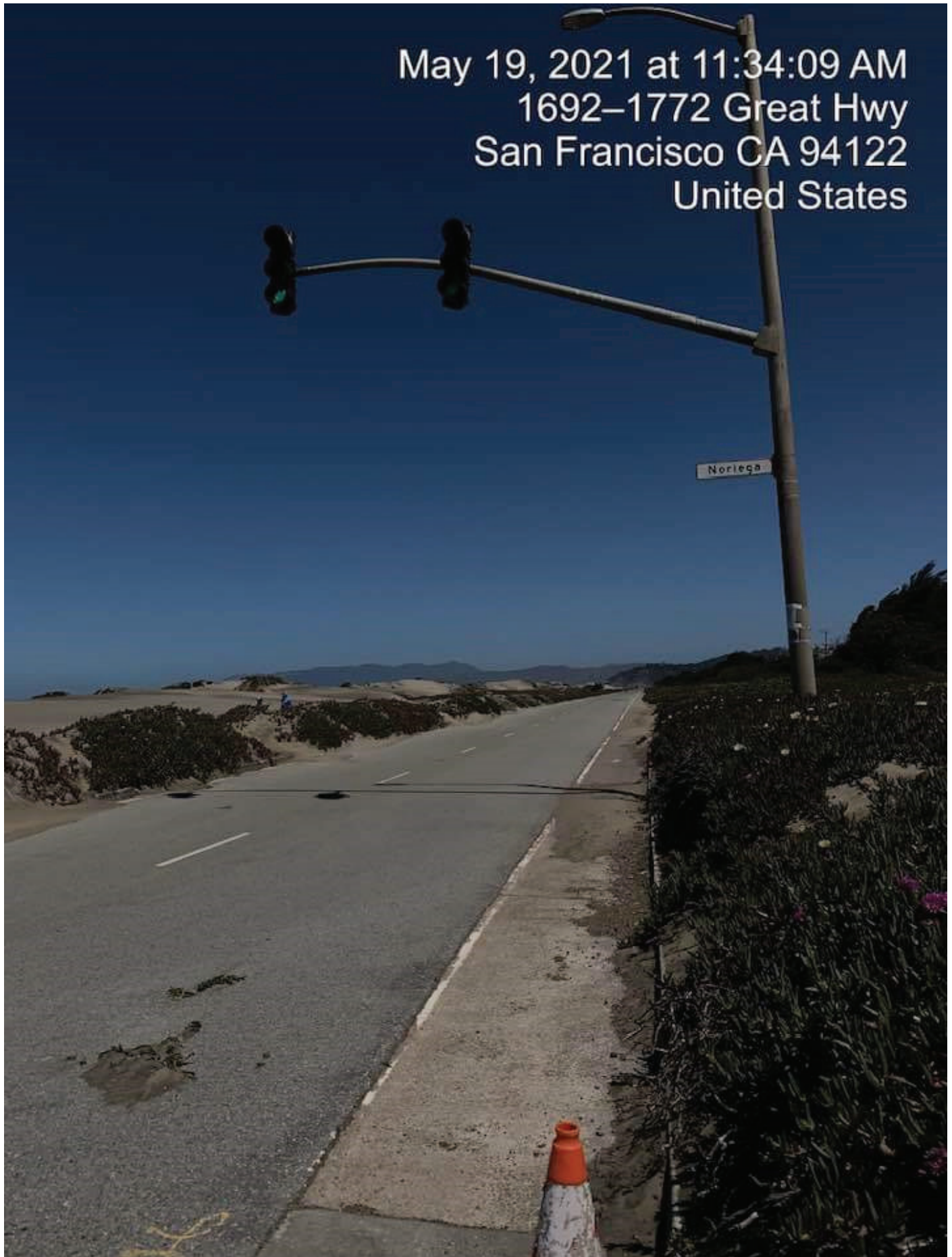


May 19, 2021 5:25:48 PM
Upper Great Highway
San Francisco County
California



May 19, 2021 5:25:32 PM
2179 48th Avenue
San Francisco County
California

May 19, 2021 at 11:34:09 AM
1692-1772 Great Hwy
San Francisco CA 94122
United States





May 15, 2021 4:09:40 PM
50 Stow Lake Drive
San Francisco County
California



May 14, 2021 5:32:04 PM
2518 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco County
California

Date : 6/21/2021 4:51:54 PM

From : "'jenna russo' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

To : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "mtaboard@sfmta.com"
mtaboard@sfmta.com, "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "clerk@sfcta.org"
clerk@sfcta.org, "greathighway@sfmta.com" greathighway@sfmta.com,
"greathighway@sfmta.com" greathighway@sfmta.com,
"Tom.maguire@sfmta.com" Tom.maguire@sfmta.com,
"Tom.maguire@sfmta.com" Tom.maguire@sfmta.com,
"Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org" Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org,
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catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org"
Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org, "Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org"
Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org, "Gordon.mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.mar@sfgov.org,
"Gordon.mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.mar@sfgov.org,
"Dean.preston@sfgov.org" Dean.preston@sfgov.org,
"Dean.preston@sfgov.org" Dean.preston@sfgov.org,
"Matt.haney@sfgov.org" Matt.haney@sfgov.org, "Matt.haney@sfgov.org"
Matt.haney@sfgov.org, "Melgarstaff@sfgov.org" Melgarstaff@sfgov.org,
"Melgarstaff@sfgov.org" Melgarstaff@sfgov.org,
"mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org" mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org,
"mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org" mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org,
"Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org,
"Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org,
"Shamann.walton@sfgov.org" Shamann.walton@sfgov.org,
"Shamann.walton@sfgov.org" Shamann.walton@sfgov.org,
"Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org"
Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org

Subject : Stop the "Pilot Program" and Open the Upper Great Highway

I currently reside in District 1 and have been a lifelong resident of both Districts 1 and 4. I am one of the 8,600+ people who have signed the petition for reopening the Great Highway. I am writing to express my opposition to the two-year pilot program for the Upper Great Highway.

Please do not approve the two-year pilot program.

Sincerely,

Jenna Russo

Date : 6/21/2021 4:47:10 PM

From : "Tim Anderson" timand67@gmail.com

**To : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "clerk@sfcta.org"
clerk@sfcta.org, "greathighway@sfmta.com" greathighway@sfmta.com,
"Tom.maguire@sfmta.com" Tom.maguire@sfmta.com,
"Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org" Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org, "rec-
greathighway@sfgov.org" rec-greathighway@sfgov.org,
"dennis.kern@sfgov.org" dennis.kern@sfgov.org,
"board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org" board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org,
"chanstaff@sfgov.org" chanstaff@sfgov.org, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org"
catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org"
Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org, "Gordon.mar@sfgov.org" Gordon.mar@sfgov.org,
"Dean.preston@sfgov.org" Dean.preston@sfgov.org,
"Matt.haney@sfgov.org" Matt.haney@sfgov.org, "Melgarstaff@sfgov.org"
Melgarstaff@sfgov.org, "mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org"
mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org
Subject : Stop the "Pilot Program" and Open the Upper Great Highway**

I am writing to express my opposition to the two-year pilot program for the Upper Great Highway.

Please do not approve the two-year pilot program.

Sincerely,

Tim Anderson

Date : 6/21/2021 4:40:59 PM

From : "jlnrusso via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

**To : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "clerk@sfcta.org"
clerk@sfcta.org, "greathighway@sfmta.com" greathighway@sfmta.com,
"Tom.maguire@sfmta.com" Tom.maguire@sfmta.com,
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Melgarstaff@sfgov.org, "mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org"
mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org, "Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org"
Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, "Shamann.walton@sfgov.org"
Shamann.walton@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org
Subject : Stop the "Pilot Program" and Open the Upper Great Highway**

I currently reside in District 1 and have been a lifelong resident of both Districts 1 and 4. I am a member of the group called Open the Great Highway and one of the 8,600+ people who have signed the petition for reopening. I am writing to express my opposition to the two-year pilot program for the Upper Great Highway.

Please do not approve the two-year pilot program.

Sincerely,

Joleen Russo

Date : 6/21/2021 4:56:32 PM

From : "'Maureen Russo' via Clerk" clerk@sfcta.org

To : "mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org" mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"recpark.commission@sfgov.org" recpark.commission@sfgov.org,
"mtaboard@sfmta.com" mtaboard@sfmta.com, "mtaboard@sfmta.com"
mtaboard@sfmta.com, "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org, "clerk@sfcta.org"
clerk@sfcta.org, "greathighway@sfmta.com" greathighway@sfmta.com,
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board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org, "chanstaff@sfgov.org" chanstaff@sfgov.org,
"chanstaff@sfgov.org" chanstaff@sfgov.org, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org"
catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org"
catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, "Aaron.peskin@sfgov.org"
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"Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org" Hillary.ronen@sfgov.org,
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"Shamann.walton@sfgov.org" Shamann.walton@sfgov.org,
"Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org" Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org, "Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org"
Ahsha.safai@sfgov.org

Subject : Stop the "Pilot Program" and Open the Upper Great Highway

I currently reside in District 1 and have been a lifelong resident of both Districts 1 and 4. I am one of the 8,600+ people who have signed the petition for reopening the Great Highway. I am writing to express my opposition to the two-year pilot program for the Upper Great Highway.

Please do not approve the two-year pilot program.

Sincerely,

Maureen Russo

Date : 6/21/2021 5:16:23 PM
From : "Mark Spriggs" m.spriggs@sbcglobal.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : The Great Highway

Greetings,

I am writing regarding reopening the Great Highway. As the restrictions around COVID have eased, more cars are on the road and the far western north-south thoroughfare being closed is forcing additional traffic not only on 19th Avenue (which is having construction projects) and Sunset Boulevard. However, not only those major multi-lane thoroughfares are being affected. The lower Great Highway as well as some other far western streets have taken the brunt of the closure.

There are many places for individuals and families to enjoy the outdoors. Ample parks, and other slow streets for biking, skateboarding, scootering, jogging and just plain walking are available all over the city. It is time restore this important boulevard to its needed and necessary role...getting motorists across town and to increase the safety of the people who live on the lower Great Highway by removing all of the vehicles that are now having to go down their too-busy streets. Just noticing all of the "slow down - drive as if YOUR children live here" signs tells the tale. It is my main route from the south to the north side of the city and the traffic has increased considerably.

Kind regards and thank you for your consideration.

Mark Spriggs
5625 Mission Street, #7
San Francisco, CA 94112

Date : 6/21/2021 5:40:56 PM
From : "John McCammon" johnnymccammon@hotmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : The Great Highway

The time has come to open the great highway. The state has opened up, San Francisco has opened up and there is no longer a need to create large expanses of open space for people to socially distance outdoors.

The residents of the Richmond District have been cut off from the Western peninsula and the residents of the Sunset District have endured the gross mismanagement of street closures for far too long.

The Great Highway already has a Bicycle Path which I have enjoyed riding on for years. If the demand warrants it, this bike path could easily be widened.

Further to all this, it seems as if the Department of Parks and Recreation has taken to social media to promote the permanent closure of the Great Highway which I feel is an inappropriate action for a city agency and may be an inappropriate use of department resources.

Please open The Great Highway. Please open up San Francisco again.

Respectfully yours,

John McCammon
The Richmond District

Date : 6/21/2021 8:02:42 PM

From : "Peter Pirolli" peter.pirolli@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Cc : "Peter Pirolli" peter.pirolli@gmail.com, "Patricia Arack" parack@ccsf.edu

Subject : Transportation Authority Board Meeting 6-22-2021 -- Upper Great Highway Concepts Evaluation Final Report

My public comment:

1. The "Upper Great Highway Concepts Evaluation Final Report" SF-CHAMP modeling shows that District 4 will be forced to take on the burden of more than 5000 additional vehicles on residential streets—never mind the SF-CHAMP predictions for a massive increase of traffic volume on Sunset, traffic delays on Lincoln and Sloat, etc.

- This burden off moving 18,000-20,000 vehicles from the safest N-S artery in San Francisco into District 4 is contrary to Vision Zero—which Tumlin and SFMTA are failing at already.

- The pollution generated by this massive number of vehicles is being placed at the doorsteps of citizens, which is known to produce an enormous number of respiratory and cardiovascular deaths and health issues

- The SF-CHAMP simulations do not include induced traffic by creating a new leisure destination—so the predicted burden on D4 is underestimated

- Concept 4, the weekend closure alternative, is predicted to have a lesser impact on D4, and apparently that does not factor into the evaluation and recommendation, apparently because that recommendation was decided upon months ago.

- SFMTA did not even consider Concept 2 (two-way road), a compromise options that surely would reduce the vehicle volume burden on D4.

- SFMTA continues to avoid presenting Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) projections which is a good predictor of accident rates and pollution, despite repeated requests to provide such data. This metric is a CEQA standard. This suggests that do not want to present such data.

2. The "Upper Great Highway Concepts Evaluation Final Report" should not be adopted and should not be entered into the public record? It is deeply flawed and biased. I have been an Editor or Associate Editor for scientific journals for decades. I have reviewed hundreds of scientific papers. I have published hundreds of scientific papers. This report is a classic case of "lying with statistics".

- * The reported survey is completely not credible. It is not a representative sample. No amount of chart candy can hide that. Entering this statistical garbage into the public record will mean that this nonsense will be quoted as "fact".

- * The low-collision data in Figure 8 is more statistical garbage of traffic data collected in the midst of the greatest reduction in human mobility in all of history. This cherry-picked data which is clearly impacted by the pandemic cannot be used for any assessment of the Upper Grate Highway closure.

- * The report does not include VMT

- * The SFMTA predictions do not include induced traffic expected from a new park destination

—Peter Pirolli
District 4 Resident

Date : 6/21/2021 8:54:29 PM

From : "birdofparadise567" birdofparadise567@gmail.com

To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org

Subject : UGH Public Comment for June 22 10 a.m. Board Meeting

Dear Members of the Board:

Please do not approve this final study. SFCTA is biased in its data analysis in favor of permanent closure, as are efforts of RPD and SFMTA. These three city agencies have worked relentlessly for 14 months to close this highway forever to the detriment of the safety of thousands of residents and commuters of two districts. All data has been acquired not during normal traffic times, but during the worst pandemic in 100 years which renders it moot and useless. Also, please do not approve the RPD/SFMTA Pilot Program that will leave the UGH closed for the next 2 years. This is unfair for thousands of people, while a relatively small number of people are using the highway for recreation, especially during the week. Please remember the working commuters who are stuck in traffic daily and the residents in danger when walking and biking the residential streets when making your decisions on these matters. Also please note that 8,711 people have signed our "Open the Great Highway petition.

Sincerely,

Linda Chan
Resident of District 4

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Date : 6/21/2021 8:30:19 PM
From : "Jelica Baker" jelicakay@gmail.com
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : UGH Public Comment for June 22 10 am Board Meeting

Dear Members of the Board:

Please do not approve this final study. SFCTA is *biased* in its data analysis in favor of permanent closure, as are efforts of RPD and SFMTA. These three city agencies have worked relentlessly for 14 months to close this highway forever to the detriment of the safety of thousands of residents and commuters of two districts. All data has been acquired not during normal traffic times, but during the worst pandemic in 100 years which renders it moot and useless. Also, please do not approve the RPD/SFMTA Pilot Program that will leave the UGH closed for the next 2 years. This is unfair for thousands of people, while a relatively small number of people are using the highway for recreation, especially during the week. Please remember the working commuters who are stuck in traffic daily and the residents in danger when walking and biking the residential streets when making your decisions on these matters. Also please note that **8,711** people have signed our "Open the Great Highway petition.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jelica Baker

Resident and Voter

Jelica Comeaux (Baker)
<http://linkedin.com/in/jelica>

Date : 6/21/2021 8:38:32 PM
From : "Debra Howard" deb127@sbcglobal.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : UGH Public Comment for June 22-10 AM Board Meeting

Dear Members of the Board:

Please do not approve this final study.

SFCTA is *biased* in its data analysis in favor of permanent closure, as are efforts of RPD and SFMTA.

These three city agencies have worked relentlessly for 14 months to close the Upper Great Highway forever, to the detriment of the safety of thousands of residents and commuters of two districts.

All data has been acquired during abnormal traffic times, during the worst pandemic in 100 years, which renders it moot and useless.

Also, please do not approve the RPD/SFMTA Pilot Program that will leave the UGH closed for the next 2 years.

This is unfair for thousands of people, as only a relatively small number of people are using the highway for recreation, especially during the week.

Please remember the working commuters who are stuck in traffic daily and the residents in danger when walking and biking the residential streets when making your decisions on these matters.

Also please note that **8,711** people have signed our "Open the Great Highway petition.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Howard

Resident and Voter in District 4

Date : 6/21/2021 4:51:09 PM
From : "Michael Cawthon" michaelcawthon@comcast.net
To : "clerk@sfcta.org" clerk@sfcta.org
Subject : Upper Great Highway Concepts Evaluation
To Whom It May Concern:

Closing the Upper Great Highway benefits relatively few residents, while negatively impacting a far larger number of citizens. Further, every option for closing the highway is more expensive to implement than simply reopening the road to traffic. In fact, the city would incur millions of dollars of incremental costs just to counteract the negative impacts of the closure in other areas. In addition, the proposed closure of Great Highway is not consistent with city goals and objectives.

In fact, the shutdown negatively affects safety, transit, traffic, quality of life, and climate change. In summary, closing Great Highway benefits far fewer people, at greater financial cost, and with negative impacts to many important city objectives.

The Great Highway will receive considerably less use by citizens as a recreational venue. During the pandemic, staff estimated that the Great Highway received 26,400 weekly visitors, which averages to less than 3,800 users per day. Further, staff expects that long-term recreational use of the highway will continue its declining trend as the pandemic emergency ends and life returns to normal. Staff projects that weekday visitors may average around 2,000 per day, as more people return to school and work in person. Weekend use had already been steadily declining and averaged just 4,700 per day in March 2021. In total, staff expects long-term use of about 19,400 each week, which equates to a daily average of less than 2,800 visitors.

Conversely, pre-pandemic data showed that the Upper Great Highway carried an average of 18,000 vehicles per day. Including passengers, this figure likely translates into at least 24,000 daily users of the road. In order to make an adequate apples-to-apples comparison to recreational users, the total number of people in vehicles should be counted or calculated (i.e. my family of five that goes for a walk on the Great Highway is counted as five recreational users – my same family of five traveling to the Peninsula by car should also count as five users of the highway...not one). In summary, the Great Highway likely received more use each day when it was open to cars than it will in an entire week if it remains closed.

The staff document prepared for the June 10, 2021 public hearing claims that the proposed Great Highway pilot project is consistent with numerous city goals and objectives. Some of these goals and objectives are similar, but many appear to fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Improve safety
- Increase transit use
- Reduce traffic
- Improve quality of life
- Address climate change

Despite staff claims, the proposed pilot project does not meet these goals or objectives. In fact, actual data and results to date indicate that almost all of these areas are worsened by the closure of the Great Highway to traffic.

The proposal does not improve safety. The District 4 mobility study noted that “The rate of collisions in the vicinity of the Great Highway under the pandemic closure remained the same as prior to the pandemic.” Overall traffic volumes and corresponding collision rates declined in District 4 and throughout the city due to the effects of the pandemic emergency (i.e. fewer cars on the road), yet there was not a similar decline in incidents near the Great Highway. Complete closure of the highway to traffic was supposed to be safest option, but this projection was not supported by the actual results. Further, the Great Highway was already quite safe. Its design contributed to its safety (i.e. no cross traffic, well-marked crosswalks, and well-timed traffic lights). Pushing 18,000 cars a day onto other roads that were not intended or designed to handle this volume is only worsening safety and creating much more potential for vehicle/bicycle/pedestrian conflict. For example, many more vehicles are now using Chain of Lakes Drive, which is a narrow winding two-lane road through Golden Gate Park. This road intersects with JFK Drive and MLK Jr. Drive, two roads that receive heavy recreational use by pedestrians and bicyclists.

The proposal does not make transit a more attractive means of travel. The District 4 mobility study projected that every option for closing all or part of the Great Highway would negatively impact transit by slowing routes or exacerbating existing delays. This should be obvious, because pushing 18,000 cars a day from a road that was not used by transit onto other streets used by buses would almost certainly negatively impact transit.

The proposal does not improve the quality of life for San Francisco residents. The closure of Great Highway negatively impacts tens of thousands residents who previously relied upon this route for transportation. These citizens must now travel further and spend more time stuck in traffic. Further, residents in nearby neighborhoods have been negatively impacted by the additional traffic and congestion on their streets.

The proposal does not help combat climate change. In fact, the impacts of the closure will only worsen the volume of greenhouse gas emissions. The Upper Great Highway carried an average of 18,000 vehicles per day before the pandemic. Vehicles that would otherwise use this road now have to find alternative routes that are less direct. The increased traffic on other roads has already resulted in greater congestion. This will only worsen as traffic volumes return to normal. As a result of these changes, residents who drive are spending more time in their vehicles to reach their destinations. The total impact of these changes are significant. Even if each of these trips is lengthened by an average of only five minutes (a very conservative estimate), this translates into an additional 1,500 hours of vehicle use every day (this doesn’t even consider the impact of increased congestion on other motorists who never used the Great Highway but are now spending more time in traffic because of its closure). One thousand five hundred hours. Every day.

Seven days a week. At least 1,500 more hours of cars contributing more greenhouse gases to the environment and contributing to more climate change every day.

The Great Highway has already been closed to vehicles for more than a year. All relevant agencies and other stakeholders have already had ample opportunities during this period to assess the various impacts of the closure. A lengthy pilot project to study the continued closure of the highway is completely unnecessary and wasteful. In effect, there is already an ongoing pilot project in place (14 months and counting). There is no legitimate reason why residents who have already been significantly inconvenienced by the current closure should be negatively impacted for up to two more years. Life is returning to normal in the city. Residents are increasingly returning to work in person, traffic volumes are returning to pre-pandemic levels, students will resume in-person instruction this fall, and major events are soon returning to Golden Gate Park and other venues (e.g. Outside Lands in October). In addition, a major construction project on 19th Avenue commenced in November 2020, and is currently scheduled to last until February 2023. It is unreasonable to prohibit vehicles on Great Highway concurrent with major renovations on 19th Avenue for up to two more years. This is unquestionably the worst time to close a major thoroughfare – right when all other aspects of the city are reopening.

The proposed pilot is not the best use of the city's resources. Instead of unnecessarily creating problems and then spending money to mitigate the resulting complications, why doesn't the city instead spend these funds to come up with truly creative solutions so all citizens can use public resources safely regardless of their mode of transportation.

Please reopen the Great Highway to vehicles and reject the proposed pilot project.

Thank you,
Michael Cawthon