

October 20th, 2021

Mayor and City Council
200 E. Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95112



Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
www.bikesiliconvalley.org
96 N. Third St, Suite 375
San Jose, CA 95112
408-287-7259

Dear Mayor and City Council,

On behalf of the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, I am writing about the quality of the trails, in particular, a fairly recent development - cars on the trails.

I'll make this very short since we're not telling you anything you don't already know. Cars on the trails are dangerous and someone is going to get hurt. A number of our members have complained about several incidents where they have almost been hit by a car while riding on the Guadalupe trail.

SVBC understands the complicated nature of this issue, especially during a pandemic, and we are committed to doing more than simply complaining. Housing solutions - Safe parking policies, sanctioned encampments, the construction of affordable housing - are all solutions SVBC supports. We also want to commend the City and County for its commitment to building housing through Homekey funding. Thank you and importantly **DO NOT LET THE DETRACTORS DERAIL YOU FROM IDENTIFYING SITES AND MOVING FORWARD.** You are right. They are wrong.

That said, and knowing the City is full of committed public servants who are working hard on this issue, we also feel compelled to say the following. These solutions must be expedited and prioritized **EVEN MORE.** It is the right thing to do and if we don't someone is going to get hit by a person driving a car on the trails as a result of a dearth of housing. Build more housing for those most in need and build it faster.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shiloh Ballard".

Shiloh Ballard
Executive Director
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition

cc: City Attorney, City Manager

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