

Kendall Sawyer

Subject: Safe Streets Petaluma comment on 2023+ Goals

From: Bruce Hagen

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:31 PM

To: -- City Clerk <CityClerk@cityofpetaluma.org>; -- City Council <--CityCouncil@cityofpetaluma.org>

Subject: Safe Streets Petaluma comment on 2023+ Goals

---Warning: Use caution before clicking any attachments. THIS EMAIL IS FROM OUTSIDE OUR EMAIL SYSTEM.---

City Council, Staff and Public:

I am Bruce Hagen, speaking tonight for Safe Streets Petaluma. One year and 11 days ago our group spoke in favor of making safe streets a top priority, and the Council unanimously agreed. A majority of the Council supported our [Safe Streets Policy Platform](#), which is as relevant today as it was in 2022.

It's been a year, and much progress has been made. We've seen more active transportation and traffic calming projects working their way through the pipeline. We've seen some mistakes, but we can learn from those.

Our primary concern remains the speed and scale of positive changes people can experience on the ground. Our policies and processes need improving. Our partnership with City Thread's Accelerated Mobility Program will help guide us to best practices in how we engage the community, but two things are clear today:

1. Our default design for reconstruction/resurfacing of arterials and major collectors must be barrier-protected bike lanes and both directions. Any deviations from these must be justified by extraordinary circumstances. Current and coming-soon projects on N. McDowell, D Street, and Caulfield, for example, need to follow this rule. An exception would be where there is overwhelming public support for satisfactory alternatives, which is the case with the Rainier reconstruction project.
2. Our neighborhood street rejuvenations should be creating a multitude of "neighborhood greenways", and the residents initiating them must be supported by a nimble and responsive process. We need to replicate the Burlington, Vermont Community-Led Demonstration Project, starting with streets in front of our schools. To this end, we are delighted that our City Manager and the Superintendent of Petaluma Schools are meeting with us this Thursday to launch STOKÉ (Safe Transportation for Our Kids, Everywhere). You will be hearing more about this project in the weeks to come.

Safe Streets Petaluma looks forward to being a City and community partner in pursuit of these goals.

Thank you.

Bruce Hagen

[Safe Streets Petaluma](#)

brucekeyofh@gmail.com

707-338-7363

