

**From:** [Bruce](#) [REDACTED]  
**To:** [-- City Clerk](#); [-- City Council](#)  
**Subject:** N. McDowell Boulevard improvements  
**Date:** Monday, July 17, 2023 5:24:52 PM

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Dear and City Council and Staff:

Thanks for the progress on the ground for this critical piece of Petaluma mobility. We applaud the inclusion of continuous sidewalks and safe crossings, and look forward to driving and bicycling through a secure, smooth-flowing and native canopy tree-lined street.

However, as Safe Streets Petaluma noted when the Council addressed this project last fall, Petaluma can't afford to ignore this opportunity to include *contiguous miles of all-ages bike lane* to this major north-south arterial.

In rejecting the option of barrier-protected bike lanes, the consultant's slides invokes the fear of vehicle traffic congestion but doesn't address the decongestant potential of 1) moving drivers onto bikes and e-bikes and other proven alternatives, 2) using roundabouts at problem intersections, and 3) encouraging through-traffic to use the new 3-lane freeway and not residential streets.

Giving Petalumans more mobility choices can create temporary friction and adjustment, but it should not be used as an excuse to kick our climate, health, and equity commitments down the road. It's time for Council leadership.

The Safe Streets Petaluma Coalition looks forward to working with the City of Petaluma and our City Thread partners on the accelerated mobility program (AMP) to build 25 miles of high-quality active transportation facilities in the next three years.

Thanks!

Bruce

Bruce Hagen

[Safe Streets Petaluma](#)

