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Cc: [Mary Gourley](#); [Lawrence McLaughlin](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8
Date: Monday, October 04, 2021 5:57:33 PM

Dear City Councilmembers,

I am concerned about the proposal to remove the bike lanes on Morris Street and replace them with Sharrows. How does this advance the cause of alternate transportation? How does this say that Sebastopol supports those of us that move around town on our bikes? It doesn't in the least. It would once again give priority to vehicles over bikes. Whether the vehicles are parked or moving. If the issue is with RVs overhanging the bike lane, I think the remedy is to relocate the RVs or enforce laws which prohibit parking in a bike lane. If your RV does not fit in a 7' wide parking lane, then you'll have to park elsewhere. I would hazard to guess that the Morris Street bike lanes are some of the most used bike lanes in the city because of the connection between the Joe Rodota and West County trails, as noted in the staff report. Why would the city consider removing them?

I am also completely against widening the 10' vehicular travel lane. Narrow travel lanes keep vehicular speeds down and 12' wide lanes would be ridiculous on Morris Street where the straight street with no stops already encourages speeding.

If we want people to get out of their cars, we need to make biking safe. Eliminating bike lanes and widening driving lanes make bikers less safe and will discourage people from doing it.

Please reject both of these options, and enforce traffic laws by prohibiting RVs from encroaching on the bike lanes.

I will also note that while I appreciate the fact that people living in their RVs need a safe place to park, the Morris Street location has made others in the community to feel less safe. My wife walks Morris Street regularly and now does so exclusively on the west side of the street, where there is no sidewalk, because she feels safer there than walking on the sidewalk on the east side of the street. This is unsafe situation needs to be addressed.

Regards,
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