
From: mateo
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 9:41 AM
To: MTC Info
Cc:
Subject: Support for Richmond/San Rafael Bridge Access Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Nguyen,

I am writing to request that you include the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge Access Improvement Project in Plan Bay Area and the 2015 Transportation Improvement Plan. This project will dramatically enhance access to Bay Area cities and parks for pedestrians and cyclists, and close major gaps in the San Francisco Bay Trail. In particular, it will make it possible for bicycle commuters to easily travel between Marin County and East Bay cities - a major commuter route that is currently poorly-served by transit, and completely impassable to cyclists.

The Project is especially critical in providing pedestrian and safe bicyclist access to Point Molate Beach Park and the rest of the City of Richmond's Point Molate shoreline. Currently, the I-580 corridor blocks pedestrian access to the northern side of I-580, and bicycle access is possible only by riding on the shoulders and sharply curving exit ramps of the freeway where a motorist killed one bicyclist and left another paralyzed. The project's Point Molate Bay Trail section between Marine Street and the Stenmark Drive exit on the northern side of the I-580 corridor will eliminate this dangerous situation.

However, please modify the project description to extend the bi-directional bicycle/pedestrian path to Castro Street in Contra Costa County, rather than terminating it at Marine Street. This will provide an important connection with the combined AC Transit and Golden Gate Transit bus stop at Castro Street and Tewksbury Avenue.

Sincerely,

Matthew Lewis

Berkeley, CA