
From: Kerry Radcliffe
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 11:23 AM
To: MTC Info
Cc:
Subject: Support for Richmond/San Rafael Bridge Access Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Nguyen,

I am write to urge you to please include the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge Access Improvement Project in Plan Bay Area and the 2015 Transportation Improvement Plan. As you well know, this project will close major gaps in the San Francisco Bay Trail, i.e. a key section of the Point Molate Trail in Richmond, as well as the planned Bay Trail between Contra Costa and Marin Counties.

We live in a community (and culture, the whole of the Bay Area) where biking to work to reduce congestion, save gas and reduce greenhouse emissions is encouraged. In addition, biking for physical health and pleasure are central to many resident's lives. This 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.

My husband bikes to work as often as he can. We live in Point Richmond and he works at the University of San Francisco. In order to do this he must drive across the bridge and park his car. Or, he must ride to BART. In addition, he rides through Point Molate areas for fitness and recreation. 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. This is very dangerous. 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,

Kerry Radcliffe

Point Richmond, Ca

