



Willow Glen Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 8467  
San Jose, CA 95155  
[www.WGNA.net](http://www.WGNA.net)  
[www.facebook.com/WillowGlenNA](https://www.facebook.com/WillowGlenNA)

May 31, 2015

VIA E-MAIL: [Jim.Ortbal@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Jim.Ortbal@sanjoseca.gov)

Mr. Jim Ortbal  
Interim Director of Transportation  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Community Pulse on the Lincoln Avenue Road Diet Trial

Mr. Ortbal:

As a reminder of our organization's purpose, the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association ("WGNA") is a grassroots community volunteer organization that is dedicated to improving the quality of life in our neighborhood. WGNA exists to offer the community an opportunity to be heard, and in the case of the Lincoln Avenue Road Diet Trial in Downtown Willow Glen ("Road Diet Trial"), we have done so by facilitating public outreach (via social media, our website, email updates, etc.) and community meetings on November 20, 2014, February 12, 2015, as well as an upcoming meeting scheduled for June 18, 2015 at the Willow Glen High School Cafeteria (rescheduled from June 11). As of the date of this letter, we are roughly three months into the Road Diet Trial.

We would like to take a moment to clarify our role and the expectations of our organization in connection with the Road Diet Trial.

The WGNA Board of Directors has had the opportunity to hear feedback on this project from hundreds of neighbors, friends, and members of the community thus far. Contrary to the perception of some members of the public, a final decision on the Road Diet Trial is not that of the WGNA Board to make, but rather the decision of the City of San Jose's Department of Transportation, and ultimately, the San Jose City Council.

Given where we are to date on the Road Diet Trial and the passionate feedback that we have heard on both sides of this issue, we wish to advise you and your staff that, following the June 18 community meeting, there is a possibility that the WGNA Board may not be able to make a recommendation on the Road Diet Trial per our organization's Bylaws. Section 2 of our Bylaws states that "WGNA represents all members and does not endorse candidates for political office, political parties, or divisive issues." ([www.wgna.net/by\\_laws\\_and\\_policies](http://www.wgna.net/by_laws_and_policies)) After the final community meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup> and review of the data collected, we will be in a better position to make a determination as to whether taking a position on this issue violates our Bylaws.

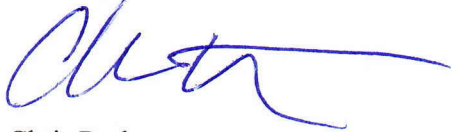
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We truly appreciate having the opportunity to take part in this process, and we also appreciate the hard work and time that City staff and community volunteers have put into this effort. In the coming weeks, WGNA will continue its work as follows:

- 1) Reviewing and analyzing your department's final Road Diet Trial traffic and data report (to be released to the public on Monday June 1<sup>st</sup> at [willowglenroaddiet.com](http://willowglenroaddiet.com) under the "Resources" page)
- 2) Conducting an online public survey to further gather community feedback; we will provide the results of this survey to City staff and the public prior to and at the June 18 community meeting
- 3) Encouraging interested residents to attend the June 18 community meeting
- 4) Hearing further feedback from our neighbors at the June 18 community meeting

I respectfully submit this letter to you and your staff on behalf of the entire WGNA Board.

Best Regards,



Chris Roth  
President, Willow Glen Neighborhood Association

cc: Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio