

Circulate San Diego

1111 6th Avenue, Suite 402 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: 619-544-9255 Fax: 619-531-9255 www.circulatesd.org

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Honorable members of the Infrastructure Committee,

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, I would like to comment on two of today's agenda items, specifically items 2 and 3 listed on the Consent Agenda.

Both of these items propose road widening. Specifically, Item 2 proposes to expand the current four-lane Mission Bay Drive Bridge with six lanes, and Item 3 proposes the widening of Miramar Road to eight lanes with Class 2 bike lanes from east of the I-805 interchange to approximately 500 feet east of Eastgate Mall. This project was initially approved in 1998, almost 20 years ago.

Both projects are listed as achieving the City Strategic Plan Goal #2: Work in partnership with all of our communities to achieve safe and livable neighborhoods.

Widening roads does not achieve safe neighborhoods. In fact, widening roads throughout the City has led to increased vehicular speeds and contributed to the high number of crashes the City experiences. Further, widening roads is not consistent with the goals of the Climate Action Plan or Vision Zero. Even if the 'improvements' include bicycle lanes and pedestrian facilities, overall, the increase in speeds undermines the safety of these other modes.

As this Committee continues to review these projects, and as the City continues to define infrastructure priorities, we ask that they be evaluated against goals within the Climate Action Plan and Vision Zero.

Furthermore, the City of San Diego is preparing to develop a Transportation Master Plan in the next fiscal year. This document can and must include new mechanisms to reevaluate how the City prioritizes and funds new transportation expenditures. We would ask that Vision Zero and the Climate Action Plan inform that document, and the City's ongoing infrastructure spending.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Kathleen Ferrier

Director of Advocacy