

David Cutaia

From: David Cutaia
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2021 8:16 AM
To: David Cutaia
Subject: April 15 workshop- Please DROP Project R-13 (Los Carneros Way re-alignment)

> Dear Goleta City Council, Charlie Ebeling and Mayor:

>

> I cannot believe the expense of the re-alignment of Los Carneros Way with Camino Vista is even being considered! It is UNNECESSARY, UNWANTED (except by developer Towbes), USELESS, and a huge WASTE OF MONEY! It doesn't serve any benefit or purpose. This would be an extreme example of bureaucratic WASTE of the City's taxpayers' money.

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> I lived at Willow Springs 2 years ago and will soon be moving back there. Most of the traffic turning south onto Los Carneros Way comes from Los Carneros Road. Most of the traffic leaving north bound Los Carneros Way turns west towards Los Carneros Road. Very few people need to drive from Camino Vista to Los Carneros Way or visa versa. Creating this re-alignment would only make the traveling distance longer, with longer street signal waits, for vehicles going both directions. So this very expensive re-alignment would serve very little purpose and very few people. Installing an expensive street signal there would only slow down traffic that moves very well as-is. Also, the re-alignment would infringe on the City's own setback requirements from the wetlands!

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> So who even wants this except a developer who doesn't care about the City's wet-lands setback ordinances? Why is such a wasteful project even being considered for a moment?! It should be DROPPED. It would be a shameful waste of money that could well be spent on REAL WORKFORCE HOUSING, i.e. not the super expensive apartments that only the highest paid local tech firm employees can afford. High rent "luxury" projects are the only projects the City seems to approve (and even then, they are just overpriced small square footage boxes). That doesn't help our workforce housing shortage! They only benefit greedy developers.

>

> The 4 apartment complexes just west of Los Carneros Road charge over \$2800 per month for a 1 bedroom apartment!!!! Are you even aware of that??? Essential local employees cannot afford such high rents and do not benefit from these expensive developments. So, they have to commute to Ventura or Santa Maria, causing huge amounts of environmental pollution every day from thousands of daily automobile long commutes. Essential employees (store clerks, medical workers, etc.) need one bedroom apartments that they can rent for \$1000 per month OR LESS! For an employee who makes \$15.00 per hour, even just \$1000 would be approximately 46% of his/her net monthly take-home pay!!!

>

> Thank you for your consideration and using common sense in your determination of the need for Project R-13..

>

> Bill Woodbridge
> 56 S. Patterson Ave. #207
> Goleta, CA 93111
> 805-679-5372

David Cutaia

From: eharris@silcom.com
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2021 6:12 AM
To: ebeling@cityocfgoleta.org
Cc: City Clerk Group; Michelle Greene
Subject: Realignment of Los Carneros Way, CIP R-13

Dear Charlie Ebeling, Public Works Director;

Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council has a long history of restoring and cleaning up Goleta's creeks. We have also been a strong advocate for improved planning policy and for development that protects and enhances creeks and wetlands. We are A 501(c)(3) that has helped over 3000 members and families across the south coast over the past 32 years with their vision for healthy and productive watersheds. We are writing you to request that the Los Carneros Way Realignment Project, City Capital Improvement Project R-13, be abandoned.

Our concern is that this project would place the road in the Los Carneros Wetlands and would not respect Goleta City General Plan Policy 3.5, which calls for protection of important wetlands and which requires a minimum 50 foot buffer. The Los Carneros Wetland is one of the largest wetlands in the city. Wetlands are important for many reasons and should be preserved as resources that are essential to Goleta's quality of life. Wetlands promote good water quality by filtering pollutants from runoff. Wetlands diminish flooding risks by retention of storm-water. Wetlands also provide habitat for wildlife and birds prized by Goletans, and provide infiltration into groundwater resources.

It is not clear what benefit will result from proceeding with the realignment of Los Carneros Way at this location. There does not appear to be a traffic conflict or other reason that would justify loss of functional benefit that the wetlands provide.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns about harm that would result from CIP R-13. We hope that you will scratch the Los Carneros Way Realignment Project from the Public Works program. Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

Eddie Harris
Member of Board of Directors
Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council

David Cutaia

From: Ken Palley <kpalley1946@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2021 11:40 AM
To: Charlie Ebeling; City Clerk Group
Cc: Michelle Greene
Subject: Los Carneros Way Realignment Project

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council members and City Manager Michelle Greene,

Surfrider Foundation Santa Barbara Chapter urges the City of Goleta to reconsider the City of Goleta's Los Carneros Way Realignment Project.

The current plan will have a significant adverse impact on the Los Carneros wetlands and could destroy or lead to its total demise. While it is true that we cannot surf the wetlands and these wetlands are not in the coastal zone, all wetlands help to filter urban runoff that ultimately ends up in the ocean. Locally, regionally, and nationally, wetlands are rapidly disappearing, and this is one of the few that remain in Goleta.

We understand that the City has indicated that this project is not a high priority and it is not yet funded. We urge the City to drop the project now, before the City becomes more fully invested in the project in the future. It is our understanding that General Plan Policy 3.5 requires a 50-foot buffer for inland wetlands, something the project as currently conceived clearly does not do.

If the City of Goleta does determine now or in the future that some sort of realignment of Los Carneros Way is necessary, we urge you to find a way that does not destroy an important wetland.

Respectfully.

Ken Palley

Executive Committee

Surfrider Foundation

Santa Barbara Chapter

David Cutaia

From: catherine mullin <mullin@shelter-vet.com>
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2021 2:49 PM
To: eling@cityofgoleta.org
Cc: City Clerk Group; Michelle Greene
Subject: Los Carneros Way Realignment Project

This letter is in regard to the City of Goleta's Los Carneros Way Realignment Project: City Capital Improvement Project R-13.

The Santa Barbara Sierra Club is dedicated to protecting wildlife and wildlands, clean air and water, public health, a sustainable future and a healthy environment across the Santa Barbara region. Goleta Public Works is considering many projects totaling hundreds of millions of dollars; the Los Carneros Way project should be dropped from that list for the following reasons:

1) This area of Goleta contains some of the last relatively undeveloped wetlands. In fact, it is the second largest wetland second only to Lake Los Carneros. Wetlands should be considered an "endangered" species as California has lost 90% of its bogs and sloughs. These critical habitats not only protect the rest of the city by mitigating flooding but also are critical lands for birds and other wildlife. Goleta's General Policy 3.5 requires a 50-foot buffer for inland wetlands. This realignment project would encroach too close to the wetlands.

2) Los Carneros Road is already dangerous for bicyclists headed toward the mountains at the overcrossing over Highway 101. This is largely due to the addition of a dedicated right turn lane a few years ago. This dedicated right turn lane leads to the southbound freeway onramp from Los Carneros. It cuts across the bike lane with cars accelerating to high speed as motorists weave and scramble to dodge bicyclists in the bike lane.

This new proposal would add a double right turn lane in place of the already hazardous single right turn lane. In plain English, this would make that route "bicycle proof".

3) Why is this project necessary? The current configuration seems to be adequate for the amount of car traffic. Taxpayer monies would be better spent elsewhere.

Basically, this project is not in Goleta's best interest. We urge the City to drop it entirely from the Public Works Plans. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely
Sierra Club Santa Barbara

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Catherine Mullin, VMD, MS
Sierra Club Santa Barbara
Conservation Chair
mullin@shelter-vet.com

David Cutaia

From: katherine.emery@lifesci.ucsb.edu
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 1:06 PM
To: City Clerk Group
Cc: Charlie Ebeling; Michelle Greene; Jessie Altstatt; Scott Cooper; Jessie Altstatt; Lori Gaskin
Subject: Letter on Public Works Department's Work Plan
Attachments: 2021-04-12 Letter City Council Work Plan.pdf

Dear City Clerk,

Thank you for the opportunity for Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS) to comment on the work plan for the City of Goleta's Public Works Department. Please see attached letter and confirm receipt.

SBAS thanks the City Council for considering our comments and recommendations.

Respectfully,
Katherine

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Katherine Emery, PhD
Executive Director
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org



**SANTA BARBARA
AUDUBON SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 6737
Santa Barbara, CA 93160
www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

April 10, 2021

City Council
City of Goleta
Goleta, CA
cityclerkgroup@cityofgoleta.org

Cc's: Mr. Charles Ebeling, Goleta Public Works Director, cebeling@cityofgoleta.org
Ms. Michelle Green, Goleta City Manager, mgreene@cityofgoleta.org

Re: The City of Goleta, City Council Workshop on April 15, 2021, dealing with the Public Works Department's Work Plan

The Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS) would like to thank the City of Goleta's Mayor and City Council for this opportunity to comment on the work plan for the City of Goleta's Public Works Department. SBAS is a chapter of the National Audubon Society with approximately 1100 members in the Goleta and Santa Barbara areas. The mission of the SBAS is to protect area birdlife and habitat and connect people with birds through education, conservation, and science. Our members, many of whom reside in Goleta, frequently use the open spaces, parks, and natural areas in and around the City of Goleta for recreational and outreach activities and we have partnered with the City on educational programs for children.

We wish to address two issues in our comments on the work plan: (1) the importance of directing the Public Works Department to drop Project R-13, the re-alignment of Los Carneros Way, from its work plan, and (2) the importance of supporting requests from the Stormwater, and Parks and Open Space, staff for funding for planning and projects that would improve creek water quality and protect or restore Goleta's creeks, riparian areas, and open spaces.

Project R-13: Re-alignment of Los Carneros Way to meet Camino Vista and Calle Koral

We respectfully ask that the City Council direct the Public Works Department to drop Project R-13, the re-alignment of Los Carneros Way, from its work plan and CIP list. First, there is no urgent need for this project. The existing intersection, with stop signs, adequately controls the flow of traffic. Second, this project would damage or destroy environmentally sensitive habitat (ESH), the Los Carneros Wetlands, contrary to City policy. Changing the roadway's alignment and paving this new road stretch would destroy ~75 linear meters of riparian (willow) habitat and would encroach into the western edge of the Los Carneros marsh/wetlands. This 7 acre marsh, wetland and riparian habitat was created as mitigation for the Willow Springs 1 development project, so it would be counter-productive to destroy wetland that was created previously as mitigation for the loss of other environmentally-sensitive habitat. According to the *Heritage Ridge Residential Project, Appendix D: Biological Resource Appendix*,

“The northern portion of the Los Carneros Wetland was required to be created both as mitigation for filling a portion of a wetland on Willow Springs I, and to manage stormwater run-off from Willow Springs I & II and the Project” (pg 22).

SBAS does not approve of eliminating habitat that previously counted as mitigation for another development and does not approve of a project that violates the City’s General Policies for wetland protection (Policy CE 3.5). Again, from the *Heritage Ridge Residential Project, Appendix D: Biological Resource Appendix*,

“Policy CE 3: Protection of Wetland. The off-site Los Carneros Wetland, which was previously identified as an USACE wetland (i.e., hydrophytic vegetation, hydrology, and soils) is protected under Policy CE 3.2, as analyzed under EIR Section 4.3.” pg 30

In summary, the proposed re-alignment is a costly project that is not needed and, if built, would remove existing wetlands and associated 50-foot buffers that are protected under the City’s General Plan policies. SBAS strongly opposes Project R-13.

Support for funding requests from the Stormwater and Parks and Open Space Divisions for scoping, planning, and implementation efforts to improve water quality and protect and restore Goleta’s creeks, riparian zones, and open spaces.

Although the staff report was not available at the time SBAS needed to complete and submit this letter, we understand that the Stormwater, and Parks and Open Space, Divisions will request funds that will improve water quality and protect and restore Goleta’s creeks, riparian zones, and open spaces. SBAS strongly supports these efforts because they will protect and enhance environmentally-sensitive habitat required by birds and other wildlife, as well as provide important recreational and aesthetic amenities. Preliminary information indicates that the Stormwater Division is requesting support for coordinating partners, applying for grants, and ensuring the enforcement of stormwater regulatory provisions, and that the Parks and Open Space Division is requesting support for its efforts to collect information, and develop and implement plans, to protect, restore, and enhance Goleta’s treasured natural habitats, open spaces, and wildlife. Many of these efforts, then, are in furtherance of the goals and recommendations of the City of Goleta’s excellent Creek and Watershed Management Plan and in accordance with the City’s environmental policies. We have consulted frequently with, for example, the City’s new open space manager and found him to be responsive, knowledgeable, hard-working, and effective in meeting the City’s goals for its open spaces, so we strongly support requests that will allow him to effectively do his job.

SBAS thanks the City Council for considering our comments and recommendations.

Sincerely,



Katherine Emery, PhD
Executive Director
Santa Barbara Audubon Society

David Cutaia

From: Molly Troup <molly@sbck.org>
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 3:35 PM
To: City Clerk Group; Charlie Ebeling; Michelle Greene
Subject: Santa Barbara Channnelkeeper's Los Carneros Way Realignment Project & CWMP Implementation Comments
Attachments: SBCK_Comments_Los Carneros and CWMP Implementation_4.23.21.pdf

Hello,

Attached are Santa Barabara Channelkeeper's comments regarding items on Goleta's City Council Workshop on the Public Works' Work Plan, which is scheduled for April 27.

Thank you,

Molly Troup
Science & Policy Associate
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper
805-563-3377 x 5
www.sbck.org

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@sbchannelkeeper

What does Channelkeeper do?  
[Watch this 2 minute video](#)





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April 23, 2021

Charles Ebeling  
Public Works Director  
City of Goleta

RE: Los Carneros Wetlands/Los Carneros Way Realignment Project and CWMP Funding

Dear Mr. Ebeling,

I am writing on behalf of Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, a local environmental nonprofit that has been working for the last twenty years to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds, including those in Goleta. Notably, we have engaged over 600 volunteers since 2002 to assist in water quality monitoring of 12 creeks that run through the City of Goleta.

As an organization focused on watershed health, this letter serves the purpose of two asks that have the intended outcome of improved watershed health in the City. First, we support the City's Public Works department recommended actions to begin implementation of the City's new Creek and Watershed Management Plan (CWMP). Second, we request that the City remove project R-13 from the City of Goleta's Public Works Capital Improvement List (CIP).

As one of nearly twenty stakeholders convened to serve on the the Technical Advisory Committee during the year-long creation of the CWMP, we believe that actions to implement the the recommendations included within the plan is a logical next step and one that we fully support. Funds allocated toward clean water projects and supporting stormwater enforcement are investments that will have a positive impact on Goleta's watersheds and the Santa Barbara Channel.

Channelkeeper also requests the removal of project R-13 from the City of Goleta's Public Works Capital Improvement List (CIP). As indicated in the March 19, 2019 Staff Report this project is one of three roadway projects in the vicinity that "...have a low level of priority on the CIP listing." Additionally, the City's General Plan Policy 3.5 generally requires a 50 foot buffer for inland wetlands, and realigning Los Carneros Way would require encroachment within the 50 foot buffer. Wetlands serve many important functions including filtering pollutants from runoff, mitigating flooding, and providing important habitat. With only a fraction of the wetlands that have previously existed in California remaining, we should be working to maintain these existing wetlands, not further reduce them.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these projects.

Sincerely,

Molly Troup  
Science & Policy Associate  
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper



## David Cutaia

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**From:** David Cutaia  
**Sent:** Monday, April 26, 2021 1:00 PM  
**To:** David Cutaia  
**Subject:** FW: tomorrow's PW-City Council meeting comments

**From:** Victor Cox <[vic.cox.freelance@gmail.com](mailto:vic.cox.freelance@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** April 26, 2021 at 12:40:25 PM PDT  
**To:** Deborah Lopez <[dlopez@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:dlopez@cityofgoleta.org)>  
**Subject:** tomorrow's PW-City Council meeting comments

Hi Deborah,  
Would appreciate you distributing my comments below to all Council members, Richard Jenkins of Parks & Rec Commission and Charlie Ebeling of Public Works prior to tomorrow's PW meeting. (note: I've sent my thoughts to Charlie separately but they may not have gone through.)  
Also, please read it aloud as a public comment before the next Council meeting.  
Hope you and your staff are well.

Cheers,  
Vic Cox  
April 23, 2021

Mr. Charles W. Ebeling, PE, TE  
Public Works Director/City Engineer  
City of Goleta

Dear Mr. Ebeling,

This week for the first time the public saw the breakout of the bid results for the "Miscellaneous Park improvements" for Winchester II Open Space (Win II) and three other parks. I was disappointed to learn that the RFP replaced the concept of a berm and a new French drain with a "curb" along the southern side of this park/open space.

Our south side of Warwick Pl. is in essence the drainage of Win II. If I remember correctly there is also a French drain that the County placed along this side of the park because of drainage problems. However, I'm not certain if it still works.

Since the berm was originally your suggestion for safeguarding the homes along this border I urge restoring this item before the contract is signed with the contractor. This is now even more important since the existing grass and natural turf portions of Win II are to be reduced by 4,134 square feet by SpectraTurf "or approved equal" PIP. Add to this a (very necessary) 4-foot-wide ADA concrete pathway that runs 85 feet along the western edge and, as illustrated, over the root balls of some eight existing trees, depending on where it is poured.

From the most recent illustration I've seen this walkway will impact roots of the trees on the north and the east sides on the park. Win II has already lost five trees with no replacements. Wouldn't 50+ feet of concrete curbing worsen the drainage and lead to loss of healthy trees, which help clean our air? Logically, this leads to an enhanced "heat island effect" which afflicts all urban centers--and is contrary to stated City climate goals.

What actions will the City take to prevent water damage to the eight immediately neighboring properties? Why is it that we have not gotten answers to questions we posed to Council? Why are the neighbors that left in the dark while potential contractors have specifications for the work the City wants done?

We look forward to your response,

Sincerely,

Victor Cox  
(805) 968-1109

Cc: JoAnne Plummer, Parks & Recreation Manager  
Richard Jenkins, Chair, Parks & Rec Commission  
City Manager Michelle Greene