

POTENTIAL LOCAC LETTER:

To: San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors

Dec xx, 2020

From: Los Osos Community Advisory Council

Ref: LOCP item in Dec 15th Meeting

Los Osos is largely a residential community. Many of our residents are concerned with the vehicle traffic on their neighborhood streets. These streets must also accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists; many being children. These concerns for the need for better neighborhood bicycle and pedestrian safety were raised in 2015 during County Planning's LOCP outreach sessions and in formal comments to the 2018 draft LOCP and EIR. Unfortunately, no analysis was performed to determine what impact the proposed new growth will have on streets from the pedestrian or bike rider's perspective.

This deficiency was brought up in the Planning Commission hearings. The latest revision to the LOCP added a new item in Table 2-3, Plan Policies – Program Implementation, identifying the need for a Pedestrian and Active Transportation Plans, but without a defined commitment to complete. It is important to the residents of Los Osos that these studies and plans be completed before new growth is allowed to proceed. This is a similar consideration that has been placed on new growth regarding evidence that sufficient water resource to sustain existing and new development, but for our streets.

The LOCP highlights the need to retain the unique characteristic of the area. County policies aim to maintain resident's quality of life. Please a condition to complete the Pedestrian and Active Transportation plans before new growth proceeds to the proposed LOCP before approval.

EXPLANATION FROM JEFF KREPPS:

The LOCP process did not evaluate the impact of new growth to our existing streets from the pedestrian or bicyclist's perspective. As you know most of our streets are shared by vehicles, bikes, and pedestrians. Upon raising this concern the Planning Commission had the latest revision to the LOCP add an item in the Plan Implementation section to complete a Pedestrian and Active Transportation Plan. However, there is no specified completion period nor any identified funding. The need for street safety has been an ongoing theme for the community and a critical element to the livability of our neighborhoods. Without proper plans in place in advance, new growth will further stress the safety of our streets.

Once the County's meeting file system is set up, I will be sending a letter as public comment for input to the County's BOS meeting on December 15th. I have two objectives.

1. Have the Supervisors condition completing these plans prior to allowing new growth to proceed.
2. Raise awareness regarding inequity of metrics used the vehicle modeling. Present vehicle volume metrics do not factor in safety or added congestion considerations for our non-standard

system of streets, plus the need to accommodate multi-users types. This causes under-reporting of road improvements that could be justified through RIF funding. We also learned at last month's General Meeting that PW is conducting a new "comprehensive Circulation study...but neglects examining pedestrian or bike use of these same streets. While basic in concept, there is a lot of background to understand this point and other modelling deficiencies. Plus, this would not actually be a revision to the LOCP, but rather a revision to the BOS guidance for PW to use. I have left this out of the suggested LOCAC input to keep things simple.

I believe this is important to our community and it would be beneficial for LOCAC to submit a letter as input to the BOS meeting. I have drafted a letter for LOCAC's possible use, to modify, or write another as you see fit.