

December 11, 2020

To: The Board of Supervisors

From: The Los Osos Community Advisory Council

Re: Agenda Item #31, Neighborhood Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

Dear Supervisors Compton, Peschong, Gibson, Ortiz-Legg, and Arnold,

Los Osos is largely a residential community. Many of our residents are concerned with the vehicle traffic on their neighborhood streets. Because there are very few sidewalks or bike lanes, these streets must also accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians; many of whom are children. The need for better neighborhood bicycle and pedestrian safety was 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 Plan, but without a defined commitment to complete. It is important to the residents of Los Osos that impacts on our pedestrian and bicycle paths be understood and acknowledged while new growth occurs. This is similar to the consideration that has been placed on new growth regarding evidence that there are sufficient water resources to sustain existing and new development, only this time it is for the safety of the community on our streets.

The LOCP highlights the need to retain the unique characteristic of the area. County policies aim to maintain a resident's quality of life. We ask that you prioritize developing a Pedestrian and Active Transportation Plan that supports the LOCP. Doing so together with local residents, community groups, LOCAC and county agencies will ensure multi modal access and safety.

Thank you,

The Los Osos Community Advisory Council