

VeloRaptors Cycling Club

Montclair District, Oakland CA

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January 26, 2018

To: Daniel Swafford

Subject: Antioch Court Improvement Project

Dear Daniel:

The VeloRaptors is a cycling club that has been riding out of Montclair since 1998. We have over 100 members, and as a club we are highly concerned about safety on the roads. Moreover, as we have been riding out of Montclair for many years, we are particularly aware of how vulnerable cyclists and pedestrians are when navigating the narrow, winding and hilly roads in Montclair Village.

The Antioch Court Improvement Project is well-designed to address our health and safety concerns. By clearly marking adequate pedestrian crossings, the project goes a long way toward untangling the complex and dangerous intersection where Antioch meet Mountain Blvd. Clarifying pedestrian zones helps cyclists as well by specifying where cyclists can expect to find pedestrians. In addition, the plan eliminates vehicular left turns from Antioch onto Mountain and that should help reduce surprises for cyclists riding north or south on Mountain.

Our members also walk their bikes when shopping at stores in Montclair. Pedestrian improvements will help us in moving around the area and parking our bicycles. Most importantly, calming traffic in the dense commercial space around Antioch Court will help create a friendlier and more walkable community. That will benefit all Montclairians and visitors.

Based on all of the above, we heartily endorse funding of this project and urge the City of Oakland to act promptly on the matter.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Blair".

Dr. Stephen Blair - President, VeloRaptors Cycling Club

Tom Willging - Board Member and Liaison to Bike East Bay

