



General Public Comment Received

Name of Sender	Distributed prior to hearing	Distributed after the hearing
Tatiana Cruz	X	
Colleen Reynolds	X	
Cliff Warren	X	
Ben Parnas	X	
Melissa Cunningham	X	
Rebecca Vincent	X	
Emily Foley	X	
Susan Shields	X	
Sophia Keane	X	

From: [Tatiana Cruz](#)
To: [SSAC Secretary](#)
Subject: May 22 SSAC meeting comments
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:22:26 PM

You don't often get email from tatianacruz4@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL

Good afternoon,

I wanted to give comment on Zoom but it doesn't seem like we're getting an opportunity to speak anytime soon so please see my comments so far:

A protected bike lane needs to be a priority before hosting events that will draw pedestrians onto the state street roadway. It's disappointing to hear the opening presenter say that it is not a goal right now. Bike lanes should be first before drawing pedestrians downtown or setting up events in the street that would block bikers from getting through our ONLY truly protected bike space(I mean protected from vehicular traffic).

I bought a bike at the same time state street was closed off to cars because it created essentially a huge protected bike path and I've enjoyed it that way for the past 3 years. I want it to continue to be a safe space for biking. I bike on state street every single day and that's not an exaggeration. I take the cabrillo bike path on the beach, up state st, and down anapamu to my office by the SB court house. I walk to state st during lunch breaks and coffee breaks. I bike there for fun to go out for drinking & dining. I also bike on state st to get to my gym on state & carrillo. I bike on the road on cabrillo and then take garden st to get to the funk zone. There is a lot of work to be done for bike safety such as protected and designated lanes AND connectivity to adjacent streets and beyond.

vacant spaces- retail and office spaces doing poorly. Do away with them and convert the 35+ vacant downtown/paseo Nuevo/ state st spaces into housing. I am astonished that we're talking about economics and no one so far in this meeting has commented on how much money the 38 vacant commercial spaces losing for our local economy by just sitting there. It will never go back to the days before online shopping. I would like to see a focus on housing, housing, housing, and dining. You want bodies on state st to spend money? Put the housing there. Put farmers market type stores on state st. I go to the farmers market twice a week- once on tuesday on state st and one on saturdays on Anacapa. Lots of people go there to spend money yet there is NO permanent space for the farmers market or produce and groceries on state st. We also need more than one tiny art museum and one kids museum. These businesses will not die out the way retail does because one is a necessity and one is an experience that draws the community downtown.

Lastly, I urge the commission not to even consider any plan where cars return to state street. You don't need to drive on state st to access businesses, you just need cheap parking nearby. We need safe walkable and bikeable space. State st is the perfect opportunity to take a step in a better direction instead of trying to bring back cars and retail that no one in the community is asking for.

Thank you,

Tatiana

From: [Cliff Warren](#)
To: [SSAC Secretary](#)
Subject: State Street Design
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:22:14 AM

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EXTERNAL

Dear Members,

Recently we visited the City of Burlingame, which is near the SF airport. We really liked their “solution” for a street layout with parklets. Our suggestion is:

1. Allow two way traffic (one lane in each direction).
2. Allow parklets in front of restaurants only
3. Allow auto parking where there are no parklets with limited time parking (they have meters)
4. Bike riding on the streets must follow State vehicles codes (no special lanes for bikes, but rules enforced)
5. Keep the well maintained landscaping and cleanliness we have now.

Thanks for your efforts to make our City better. We live downtown and walk and bike often,

Cliff Warren

From: [Ben Parnas](#)
To: [SSAC Secretary](#)
Cc: beparnas@gmail.com
Subject: Public comment in favor of pedestrianized State Street
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:37:44 AM

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EXTERNAL

Hello,

I support a pedestrianized State Street promenade because:
It is my favorite place to go when I visit my partner in SB. We love biking into town to get lunch, or some drinks with friends.

From: Ben Parnas
Zip code: 90230

***Please note that this email was sent by Ben Parnas via a Google form (found at StrongTownsb.org), so while the sender of this email appears to be info@strongtownssb.org, clicking "Reply" will in fact reply to Ben Parnas's email address: beparnas@gmail.com

From: [Susan Shields](#)
To: [SSAC Secretary](#)
Subject: State Street long-term plan
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 3:20:37 PM

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EXTERNAL

My comment relates not to the entire length of State Street but to the so-called promenade. There is a seemingly minor point about the design of a real promenade that is never mentioned but which makes all the difference. In the UK and Japan and other places where I have often walked in pedestrian promenades there are no sidewalks, so the pavement extends smoothly all the way from one side to the other and is entirely available for walking without any step or curb on either side. If you think about it, this is a significant design benefit as it prevents tripping hazards and makes the entire width of the passageway inviting and available for walking safely, and pushing strollers and wheelchairs. This is something that our designers ought to consider.

Susan Shields
City resident for 55 years

