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regarding possible changes to downtown traffic and bike lanes.

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From [REDACTED]

Date Thu 2/5/2026 7:36 PM

To Planning <planning@cityofsebastopol.gov>

As a physician and business owner in Sebastopol on Palm Avenue, I can attest that previous changes adding a bike lane on Petaluma Avenue and leaving only one line for traffic between where the road begins at the solar panels to the Joe Rodota Trail already backs up traffic for that entire distance, from Hwy 12 to the solar panels for much of the afternoon, when it is often very difficult to turn left onto Petaluma Avenue to enter a backed up stopped line of cars. Any idea to now make Main street only one traffic lane to favor bicycles and parklets completely ignores the needs of those of us who need to commute to work or even just get through downtown, and will never again in our lifetimes ride a bicycle. I can assure you that that traffic nightmare that will be backing up from Bodega Ave all the way to High school road will spur us to just use side residential streets to avoid the gridlock you are proposing to create. Besides those negative impacts on neighborhood west of Main street, this will very adversely impact my (and other people's businesses- adding probably 10 minutes to the time required to get through downtown.

Sorry, but the reality is, 116 and 12 are majorly trafficked state highways and the only real way to satisfy all groups to have a more walkable bike able downtown would be to have a bypass as was done in Cloverdale and Willits. Since that is impossible in this case, maybe more efforts should be made to reroute the bicycles out of the main highways. Creating severe traffic stress and gridlock on 116 and 12 will not incentivize anyone to ride a bicycle who already isn't., and a very small percentage of bicycle riders compared to cars should not drive any drastic changes.

In other words, both directions keep one way and do NOT eliminate any lanes!!

Gail Dubinsky. M.D.