

STG Downtown Comments

From Kathleen De Chadenedes [REDACTED]
Date Sat 2/7/2026 8:50 AM
To Planning <planning@cityofsebastopol.gov>

To the Planning Dpartment:

After reviewing the 4 proposals for updating downtown Sebastopol streets and parks, I urge the Planning Department to consider another alternative - one that includes a multi-level parking structure. That is what downtown merchants desperately need and what would make shopping and dining downtown more attractive to residents and tourists alike.

One-way streets downtown are fine. No need to spend funds to fix something that's not broken.

Removing traffic lanes to allow for a dedicated bicycle lane might sound good as theory, but the reality is that I rarely see bicyclists using the existing bike lanes on Main St. and Petaluma Ave.

I am in favor of the proposed extension of the Joe Rodota Trail, optimizing the timing of traffic lights, adding pedestrian-activated beacons, shortening turn pockets and improvements to the Downtown Plaza.

I oppose, however, proposed streetscape amenities such as the bulbouts that impinge on traffic lanes. Adding to sidewalk space to accommodate seating areas is another idea that sounds good, but hasn't been thoroughly vetted. Who do the planners envision lounging on downtown street corners? Who would want to sit outdoors without access to shade for most of our days? I envision another place for the homeless population to park themselves and their belongings which does not enhance the appeal of our downtown. Spend the funds on a parking structure.

Public art is a plus, but could find many other suitable installation sites other than along downtown streets. Again, spend the money on a parking structure.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns,
Kathleen de Chadenedes