
STG DOWNTOWN COMMENTS

From LOOKYLOU [REDACTED]
Date Sun 2/8/2026 3:41 PM
To Planning <planning@cityofsebastopol.gov>

I've lived here for 26 years, change is slow. It would be nice to see downtown rise from its ashes.

The current traffic flow does not lend itself to stopping, parking, window shopping, errand running, seeing faces, sharing smiles. The focus for all these years is on traffic rather than thriving businesses and community. The bike lanes were a start, but as they are not actually separate from the cars they remain far too dangerous to use, so our bicycles sit in the garage. It would be wonderful to see people out of their vehicles, and when in them, and driving FAR slower (10mph) so that bicycles (and the families on them) have a chance, and become desirable. Places to safely lock/ park bikes that are close to retail businesses would be a great help. More high density housing is being built in/ near downtown this adds to the current congestion. Let's get the downtown looking attractive so folks will be motivated to slow down, run errands or commute by Bicycle and exchange face to face greetings. Foot travel once parked is easy, but unattractive, few seem to know what (or where) a Pedline is, Bicycle travel is dangerous and entirely inconvenient. There are so many lights, signs, colours of pavement, and non-intuitive turns. Currently it seems people are downtown just to get elsewhere as quickly as possible.

Crowded high density Telluride Colorado did it (no totally separate bike lanes, but all downtown traffic is 5mph, so everyone can take a breath and flow nicely together)

Crowded high density New York City did it (using a greenway on major avenues and also hourly bike rentals)

Uncrowded Sebastopol surely can triumph.

Thank you for your consideration

Simone