



General Public Comment

Name of Sender	Distributed prior to hearing	Distributed after the hearing
1. Cars are Basic	x	
2. Robin Bisio	x	

From: [CarsAreBasic](#)
To: [Community Development HLCsecretary](#); [Community Development PC Secretary](#); [Community Development ABRsecretary](#)
Subject: Financial/street grid Impacts of State Closing - 16 Nov. 2021
Date: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 10:29:59 AM

EXTERNAL

Please see this comment is included in the "Public Record" of the State Street item of today's Council Session

16. [Subject: State Street Advisory Committee Update](#)

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Expand the list of elements to be studied in the State Street Master Plan to include parking, stormwater management, sustainability, infrastructure, and plan implementation and phasing, as recommended by the State Street Advisory Committee (SSAC); and
- B. Receive an update on the State Street Master Plan and process.

16 November 2021

Mayor Murillo and Council

Santa Barbara City Council

Re: Council Agenda Item 16 for 16 Nov. 2021

Cars Are Basic, Inc. (CAB) has serious concern regarding the ongoing closing of State St. in Old Town an moves to narrow / remove street capacity.

In the past two decades CAB has had Financial advisors, Ph.D. Economist, and local business owners, who have clearly stated the adverse Long Range economics of constricted transportation grids. One only has to look at the 4 decade decline of Down Town Santa Barbara, and both the plans and intent to change a 100 year old "working" transportation plan to see the truth of this statement. A basic Economic Geography course at SBCC and CSULB confirmed the need for a flowing transportation in modern society, "IF" you want a long term economic success.

Street Grid

One only has to look at the failures of Detroit, Baltimore, and other high density inner cities to affirm their eventual failures. Comparing Santa Barbara Downtown to the successes of Goleta confirms aspects of successful economics. Recently multiple former Santa Barbara Councilmen have spoken out against this ongoing planning that destroys free flowing transportation and parking.

The past decade current planning favoring high density ignores these failures. The History Channel aired a 2 part transportation analysis transportation options. The outcome clearly stated at the end of their program is; after over a hundred years of experiments and failures what the current modern transportation grid proves (lights, intersections, capacity, parking, no roundabouts,etc.) is what "works."

The "density" planners are the latest "flavor of the month" concept. They ignore reality and outcomes mentioned above.

Financial Impacts

Financial Multiplier for "events" is critical for most of Santa Barbara. It is the "carryover" that provides the "needed" profit businesses need to sustain themselves year in and year out. To be clear the "financial multiplier" is what happens with every dollar spent during an event to support the community and support businesses in an economy.

In the 1960's the multiplier was approximately \$10.00 for every dollar spent. In today's inflated economy the multiplier is approximately \$25.00 for every dollar spent. There are historically 5 parades that are important to Santa Barbara's economy because they are broadly spread over downtown. (Solstice, 4 July, Fiesta, Veterans Day, and Christmas) They are draws for people to downtown. Not just the Beach, or a park, but to the entire Old Town. Down Town needs this. Without these special events impacting broader the geographical area you will see a continued decline. Without a vibrant and efficient street grid you will see a continued decline.

CAB strongly urges you to a) include this in the final debate over State St. discussion, and b) re-open this vital and significant street that carried 20,000 car trips a day prior to the pandemic.

On behalf of the Board, and supporters,

(Electronic Signature)

Scott Wenz, President CAB

Public Comment #2

From: [Robin Bisio](#)
To: [Community Development ABRsecretary](#)
Subject: 801 Cliff Drive
Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 1:40:52 PM

EXTERNAL

My remarks:

As someone who lives on the Mesa and also worries about the catastrophic monarch butterfly decline in Santa Barbara County, I hope that due diligence is given to scientists about how the monarch preserve that was decimated on this property with no oversight can be somehow brought back to life. Substituting trees and placement for the goals of property landscaping rather than actually a plan to restore habitat is my wish. Thanks for asking for neighbors' input.

Robin Bisio

Sent from my iPhone