

Davidson, John

From: Michael Mulcahy [Michael@sdsnexgen.com]
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2011 3:09 PM
To: Davidson, John
Cc: shirleylewis@comcast.net; Liccardo, Sam; Oliverio, Pierluigi; Larsen, Hans
Subject: Envision 2040 with Regard to Lincoln Avenue

Dear Mr. Davidson:

As part of the work of the Envision 2040 General Plan update, it has come to my attention that there is a significant decision being made with respect to some of San Jose's streets. Creating "Complete Streets" will be very good for our City by promoting slower traffic, less cars, and an orientation that honors bikes and pedestrians. I have heard it referenced as giving them "road diets" or the creation of "Main Streets." I applaud this approach.

However, I am very surprised to learn that one of our most prominent existing Main Streets is not being considered for this designation by the Envision 2040 task force. I am formally petitioning the task force to consider Lincoln Avenue, one of the most storied commercial districts in the City, but one that is challenged by too high a speed limit, no bike lanes, and unsafe crosswalks. We need to improve such conditions on the Avenue, not only to improve commerce, but most importantly, to prevent the accident waiting to happen. Moreover, the City and County's limited attention to the dangers created by mixing commuter traffic, insufficient bus safety, and high speeds with small business storefronts, parents with children and dogs, and two nearby schools is hard to believe and irresponsible.

I encourage the task force to add Lincoln Avenue to the list of streets under consideration for reduction from 4 to 2 lanes of traffic: one-lane each direction, with a center lane for left-turns and bike lanes along-side the parallel parking. Traffic would move more efficiently, the commercial district would better serve its customers, and the impact on through-traffic would be minimal. I would like to see the lane reduction start just past Pine Avenue on the southern end of the district and widen back to 4 lanes at the Highway 280 overpass on the north end.

While I know this cannot be accomplished overnight, but we have to start somewhere and I urge the task force to at least get Lincoln Avenue on the list for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael P. Mulcahy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Michael P. Mulcahy
Willow Glen Resident, Property Owner, Business Owner, and Customer

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