

From: Carol Mone

Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 4:41 PM

To: mckinleyvillemac@gmail.com

Cc: Miller, John <jpmiller@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Richardson, Michael <MRichardson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Ford, John <JFord@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Subject: Reduce Central Ave to 2 Lanes in Town Center

Dear MMAC members, Humboldt County Planning team, and Fifth District Supervisor Madrone:

I am writing in support of reducing Central Avenue in the town center from four to two lanes, for overall safety, accessibility improvements for disabled residents and visitors, and for aesthetics.

It seems that the planning team has only heard that “everybody in McKinleyville has a car.” I would imagine that the vast majority of residents do. But that does not mean that restricting transportation planning to cater only to car users is the best plan stepping forward into the future. Many people would like to ditch their cars more but given unpleasant walking and bicycling conditions and limited public transportation don’t do so. In less optimistic scenarios for the future, many more people might be compelled to find alternative ways to get around.

Vibrant communities are not car centric. Healthy people use public transportation and non-motorized ways of moving about. Young people, old people and people with various disabilities do live in McKinleyville and work, shop and recreate there. Planning cannot ignore them. If we have the good fortune to live to healthy old age, the time comes when driving is not prudent for ALL of us. By not planning for car alternatives, we force otherwise able people to be dependent.

Safety for drivers and pedestrians is greatly improved when lanes are reduced. Traffic is not slowed appreciably, but opportunities to drive like a jerk are buffered.

And consider this: folks in their thirties and younger are not so enamored of cars as previous generations since many of them realize overall mode shift-and not just in transportation-is crucial to our survival.

The aesthetics of a narrower roadway with wider pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure and perhaps more greenery, has a calming, pleasant effect on the public. I would like to see it. And, since we are talking about McKinleyville, don’t forget the horses!

Sincerely,

C E Moné

Trinidad