

By way of introduction, I am a 58 year old retired short order cook and now housewife who does not now, nor has ever driven a car for any purpose other than to obtain a driver's license for a job that required a valid California Driver's license, yet did not require that I drive for my employment. Looking at me belies the fact that I average 4 to 5 thousand bicycling miles a year.

Sitting through this meeting for the past 2 days I am truly impressed by the extraordinary amount of work done, and to me, unfathomable amounts of money allocated to all manner of highway, rail and even aeronautical proposals. It is imperative, if we are to keep the State of California as the fifth largest economy in the world, that our thoroughfares and airspace allow goods and services to move at an accelerated rate.

However, I am distressed that on the Vote List of 76 submitted projects only 6 were specifically bicycle or pedestrian related. How do we convince people to opt for alternate modes of transportation, be it public transit, biking, or walking if we continue to pour billions into increasing motor levels of service; if we reinforce the notion that "the car is king" in California because we continue to increase the capacity of our freeways and arterials at the expense of subjugating mass transit schemes (especially grade separation proposals in high population areas), walkability and bicycling safety to mere footnotes.

You have it in your power to keep goods and services flowing, but at the same time I implore you to allocate more money to overhaul and expand existing mass transit projects and encourage innovative schemes to get the individual single passenger out of his car by funding more pedestrian friendly infrastructure and adopt the attitude that the bicycle is "transportation and not a toy".

Please remember that the only carbon footprint left behind by a pedestrian or cyclist is when he exhales.

Thank you for your attention.

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