

February 22, 2008

County Redevelopment Agency
Betsy Lynberg, Agency Administrator
701 Ocean Street, Room 510
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: Bicycle Access to 9th Avenue from East Cliff Drive

Dear Ms. Lynberg:

I am writing on behalf of the Bicycle Committee of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission to urge you to consider a minor improvement which would provide bicycle access on to 9th Avenue from East Cliff Drive.

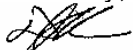
At their meeting on Monday, February 11, 2008, the Bicycle Committee received a presentation from RDA Capital Projects Program Manager Paul Rodrigues who discussed a number of RDA projects including the Twin Lakes Beach Front Project. After some commentary and brainstorming, members overwhelmingly supported a minor improvement to enable bicycle access onto 9th Avenue. While 9th Avenue is signed "do not enter – wrong way" at the southern end, Bicycle Committee members felt that adding an "except bikes" sign to the current sign would provide a substantial enhancement to safe bicycle travel. Although not critical, members commented that creating a cut out in the bulb-out for bicycles would add to this enhancement and divert bicycle traffic off of East Cliff Drive before the 7th Avenue intersection. Members noted that the left turn lane from East Cliff on to 7th Avenue is too narrow for cyclists and motorists to travel side by side and they find themselves frequently squeezed out by motorists while performing the left turning maneuver.

Similar access for bicycles exists within the City of Santa Cruz and served as the inspiration to Committee members' request. The Committee's Bicycle Coordinator is available to provide photographs, should those be helpful.

Thank you very much for considering this request and responding to the Committee with your evaluation. Your attention to improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities is always appreciated.

Please feel free to contact the Regional Transportation Commission's Bicycle Coordinator and staff to the Bicycle Committee, Cory Caletti, for more information. She may be reached at (831) 460-3201 or by email at ccaletti@scrtc.org.

Sincerely,



Daniel Kostelec
Chair, SCCRTC Bicycle Committee

cc: Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Bicycle Committee
County of Santa Cruz Public Works Department