

Supplementa Item for Agenda Item No. 10 –

**Correspondence for Oak Park Boulevard Improvements**

**Supplemental Item No. 10**

**Correspondence for Oak Park Boulevard  
Improvements**

**(CC Mtg 4/20/2020)**

## Wendi Sims

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**From:** Karen Aydelott <kaydelott@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2020 4:41 PM  
**To:** Wendi Sims  
**Subject:** Re: Oak Park Boulevard Improvements

Dear Mayor and City Council Members of Grover Beach,

I am writing in support of the proposed protected bike lanes on South Oak Park and the additional safety measures to the Oak Park and Grand intersection. I am very impressed by these efforts to increase the safety and enjoyment of cycling and walking in your city while at the same time achieving stronger and more resilient neighborhoods.

I have a particularly pertinent reason for supporting all safety measures to calm traffic and make cycling and walking safer. I was struck from behind by a distracted driver and consequently lost my right leg just below the knee. I still am an avid cyclist while still being aware of the dangers often posed. Therefore i am particularly in favor of protected bike lanes as they provide increased safe separation from traffic. These measures will help prevent further tragedy at this busy and dangerous junction that so many pedestrians already frequent.

The proximity to residential housing, as well as the presence of convenience retail and a transit stop at this intersection, means the city should prioritize the safety of its walkers and shoppers over the convenience of vehicles. We need safer and slower streets everywhere, which will help Grover Beach toward its goals of Economic Development and Street and Bicycle Safety. Please move forward with these changes tonight. Thank you for protecting your residents and those of us who enjoy cycling, walking and shopping in Grover Beach.

Sincerely,  
Karen Aydelott  
Board Member, Bike SLO County

## Wendi Sims

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**From:** csells@charter.net  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2020 11:03 AM  
**To:** Wendi Sims  
**Subject:** Oak Park bike lane project

I am writing in support of the proposed project to add protected bike lanes on South Oak Park. I believe it is a great way to try out the idea of protected bike lanes. It is a small project and will determine if this is a good idea. I don't bicycle but know and see many others who do and I want to see them protected as much as possible. We need to do as much as we possibly can to protect our pedestrians and bike riders and Grover has this opportunity to once again set an example for the rest of the county.

Thank you,

Cathryn Sells  
724 Mentone Ave.  
805-473-3880

## Wendi Sims

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**From:** Gary Havas <gphavas6953@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2020 1:10 PM  
**To:** Wendi Sims  
**Subject:** Oak Park Boulevard Improvements

Greetings Mayor and Council Members!

I support the improvements to cycling infrastructure you'll be presented with tonight. I also stand by the modifications called out by my colleague Jim DeCecco. I believe he sent those to you already. Dedicated bike lanes all the way. I'm not in favor of Sharrows as I really believe motorists don't know how to work with them, AND the most important demographic to get out cycling (the timid and the cautious/concerned) hesitate or refuse to use them. I regret hearing the woes of lost convenient parking, and encourage you and them to have a look at this just one of the many articles that support cycling's ability to make neighborhoods better (and more desirable economically for those already living there).

<https://thenarwhal.ca/why-new-bike-lanes-are-good-everyone-yes-even-drivers/>

I look forward to riding more and more of your roads and sharing them comfortably with all users: pedestrians, cyclists, and yes, drivers!

Gary Havas, President, Bike SLO County.  
805-458-0755  
Wherever you go, please get there safely!

## Wendi Sims

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**From:** Kevin Buchanan <kevaustinbuch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2020 12:48 PM  
**To:** Wendi Sims; Council Members  
**Subject:** Oak Park Boulevard Improvements

Council Members,

I'm writing to express my support for the proposed redesign of Oak Park boulevard.

[https://www.grover.org/DocumentCenter/View/9720/Item10\\_Oak-Park-Traffic-Safety-Improvements](https://www.grover.org/DocumentCenter/View/9720/Item10_Oak-Park-Traffic-Safety-Improvements)

As a frequent traveler on your streets by bike and on foot, these streets need to be safer for people who aren't traveling by car. Making streets slower, and more pedestrian and cyclist friendly will allow kids to walk or bike safely to school or wherever they need to go. It will allow families to travel safely in the city without being dependent on a car. And improvement such as these proposed have been shown time and time again to increase traffic to local businesses along these roads, as people prefer to visit and do business on streets that are safer and more human scale.

I am completely in favor of removing on-street parking to accomplish this. The city is under no obligation to provide free car storage to all who need it - particularly when it comes at the expense of safer and more accessible streets for all. Free on-street parking is also an economic drain on the city, and a generally inefficient use of our valuable public space.

<https://newworldeconomics.com/the-high-cost-of-free-parking/>

I would also urge you to maintain safe class I or II bike lanes on all roads, rather than incorporating sharrows, which do not adequately protect those who are not traveling in a car. Transit is a network, and you need a full protected network to make it useful to those who need it.

I encourage you to move forward with these changes tonight. Though there will undoubtedly be resistance to the redesign, these are important changes that stand to benefit the city's economy, community and public health.

Kevin Buchanan

## Wendi Sims

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**From:** Jim DeCecco <jrdececco@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 20, 2020 11:12 AM  
**To:** Wendi Sims  
**Cc:** Matthew Bronson  
**Subject:** Oak Park

I was looking over the proposed redesign of Oak Park Blvd. While I am generally supportive of the design, I have a couple of comments.

First, the section of Oak Park going north between Longbranch and Grand has the bike lane disappearing and it turns into Sharrows. Using Sharrows is not appropriate in any bike context. That section of road has 2 lanes going north. Both lanes are 12 feet wide. 12 foot lanes encourages speeding, and then cyclists are suppose to merge and take the right lane? In order to make that section safe, either make that section of road one lane with a protected or buffered bike lane or make each lane 10 feet wide to reduce the speed and make a bike lane with the extra 4 feet.

The redesign of Oak Park between Grand and 101 needs a total overhaul. That section of road is close to 80 feet wide. It has no bike lane from Grand to the top of the hill. People speed because of the road design. Full transparency for a minute. Justin Kissenger was a friend of mine. He didn't die because he was liquored up. He died because he attempted to cross 4 lanes of traffic and 80 feet of asphalt that separated 2 sections of housing with designated crosswalks a quarter mile a way. Crossing Oak Park on that section of road is not safe for anyone.

Years ago when the section of Oak Park between Grand and 101 was resurfaced, I contacted, then mayor, John Shoals and requested to have bike infrastructure put into the design. He told me that staff rejected the bike infrastructure because it wasn't safe to have bikes on Oak Park Rd.

I would say now is the time to install proper bike and pedestrian infrastructure.

In conclusion, I support the new design, but I would like to see my ideas added.

Thank you for your time.

Jim DeCecco

Former Safe Routes Coordinator

Lucia Mar Unified

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone