

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment Group 1

From: Beverly McCurdy <bodiegold2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 3:41 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Proposed. Modoc Bikeway & Modoc Preserve

#6

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Director Das Williams
Director Gary Hart
Director Bob Nelson
Director Steve Larvignisimo

Dear Directors:

Thank you for reading my letter regarding the proposed bikeway.

As an elder who has owned and lived in own my home since 1964 I am well acquainted with La Cumbre Mutual Water Company and the Santa Barbara Land Trust. They have enhanced our area in thought and deed. They made it possible for the Preserve to become a "Preserved in perpetuity."

I was active in the campaign to help establish the Modoc Preserve when it was facing possible development in the 80's and 90's. I was one who went door to door to share that information with my neighbors. We worked with the water company and sent in considerable donations to the Land Trust to help us to designate and protect the place for the future.

It was a true grassroots collaboration. Many individuals were involved, and I fortunately have lived long to be able to savor its special features.

I was then an equestrian, 40 years of riding and keeping my horse at home and riding to the Preserve on a regular basis. Those were good years.

In time health required that I no longer ride, so now I walk. I walk with a walking stick with my collie on a leash. And we find the solitude and unembellished open space a pleasurable important place to walk through every day, especially when the rest of the world seems to be thrumming and speeding around us.

When the former manager of the water company was faced with cleaning up the area after the Painted Cave fire he was faced with judging which trees had to be re shaped, which had to be cut down for the safety of the walkers and riders.

Dean and I walked the Preserve and I showed him where the Red tailed hawks perched and where they had a nest built. I remember he was impressed with the actual wildlife we saw that day. Two weeks later an article appeared in the SB News Press highlighting his decision to save all the trees that were sound. And the tall perch trees were saved.

It would not have been preserved if the Manager had not walked the Preserve at that crucial ail time.

I have walked in earlier decades during rainy seasons to where a live stream diverts from Laguna Blanca Lake by underground tunnel into Modoc valley to cascade down into Cieneguitas Creek, which flows to close to where I live on Arboleda road and there to join Atascadero Creek which flows directly to Goleta Beach. I am as innately interested in the creek life, as I am with the wildlife that inhabit the space.

I have been a part of a national citizen science effort (Frog-watch USA) in an effort to help monitor, identify and list native frog and toad amphibians existing in the creek (junction) near the bridge - it's all part of a project organized by the Association of zoos and Aquariums for data to add to the online national database.

Yes, it is Science and yes, it matters. Because left alone and protected It provides a continuation of the wildlife corridor that starts near the Lake (of course when there is a rainy year) and goes all the way to the ocean.

So, you may ask why this is important? When so many citizens could be accommodated by a widened and enlarged project. I say

Precisely, the two ideas can exist, comfortably.

the Preserve can remain a natural resource in all seasons of the year by just limiting the extent of the bikeway.

To recognize and preserve's fragile autonomy. On the edges yes, but as a part of the whole, still an encroachment. The Preserve is being caught up in the bikeway issue.

Ladd and I love to walk the Preserve. We know the trails intimately. The restoration of the valley is coming along and it is so important to keep all perimeters viable for the land mammals that live and travel through the area.

I tell you these things because I feel the construction and modification to the rather fragile perimeter strip of the Preserve will modify the whole of the Preserve. it will still be intrusive.

There is honesty and respect and integrity in valuing this natural place preserved for quiet contemplative time.

As a compromise to all out ripping up road and applying concrete, I suggest a compromise. that the existing bikeway could be enhanced as it is. with striping and green boundaries and if necessary speed bumps and reduced speeds on MODOC. the bikeway has been a good thing, I don't navigate it's important. I just feel a modification can and would make do.

Please consider a senior citizen's honest request. Keep the Preserve unencumbered and protected and go all out to improve the roadway as it is with lines and stripes and slower speed signs.

Sincerely

Sent from my iPad



de la Guerra, Sheila General Public Comment

From: Todd R. Master <toddrmaster@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2022 9:14 PM
To: office@lacumbrewater.com; sbcob
Subject: Support for bike path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

As a resident and taxpayer of Goleta, I am writing to express my support for the planned bike path. As an occasional bike commuter, this would increase the frequency of my biking with a safer alternative to Modoc, especially in the winter when the it is dark during commuting hours.

I understand some residents who don't want changes in their area are expressing opposition, but this project is beneficial for the vast majority of the community. Please listen to families and residents who love the benefits of a safe, bike friendly town.

Todd Master



Lia Graham

General Public Comment

From: Melissa Cunningham <melissa@coast-santabarbara.org>
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 10:43 AM
To: Hart, Gregg; Nelson, Bob; Lavagnino, Steve; Supervisor Das Williams; Hartmann, Joan; sbcob
Cc: Wageneck, Lael; Friedlander, Mark K.; Sneddon, Chris
Subject: Modoc Multi-Use Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

We wrote the following letter as a preamble to our petition which is still active. Since writing it 3 weeks ago, the county has shown additional willingness to compromise with the residents in favor of saving some trees while completing the path as set out in the grant application. We are pleased with the county's efforts and still feel very much in support of Alignment B. We feel the net benefits to the environment are best with this alignment and urge you to support it in November. At the bottom, I have included comments from the public our petition has received.

We at MOVE Santa Barbara County (formerly known as SBBIKE+COAST) support the County of Santa Barbara's grant-funded project to construct the 1 mile multi-use path along Modoc Road (the Modoc Path) connecting the City of Santa Barbara's path near Calle De Los Amigos to the widely-used Obern Trail at Encore Drive. This new path will provide safe, enjoyable, access along a corridor where sidewalks currently don't exist. It will enable the young and old, residents and visitors, able and less able-bodied to access the beach, the Mesa, schools, shopping, jobs and most importantly, the outdoors. The success of the Las Positas-Modoc path is evidence that we need to close the gap in our Coastal Route and connect the cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta with a safer, more accessible facility the whole community can enjoy.

The completion of the Modoc Path will provide equitable access to the public open space of the Modoc Preserve for users of all ages and abilities. The Modoc Preserve, owned by La Cumbre Mutual Water Company and managed by the Land Trust, is an undeveloped, open space with a network of trails for pedestrian and equestrian use. The Modoc Path will seamlessly integrate with the Preserve's natural areas and trail network and supports the Preserve's mission of nourishing lives and, by providing access by foot and by bicycle, will substantially decrease the need for land-intensive vehicle parking.

We value trees and their benefits to the environment. The County's preferred Modoc Path 'Alignment B' was chosen because it limits the impact to existing trees. The County, the Land Trust, and the project documentation commit to replanting trees with a focus on sustainability and restoring habitats.

The Modoc Path will create a vital link between two existing multi-use paths, creating a more complete network of safe, off-street facilities spanning from Carpinteria to Goleta. It will connect the Las Positas-Modoc, Obern and Maria Ygnacio multi-use path systems, providing a continuous connection between homes, jobs, schools and open spaces. The Modoc Path gap closure will result in 14.5 miles of linked multi-use paths.

The Modoc Path will replace unsafe on-road facilities and allow people of all ages and abilities to travel with ease by foot or by bicycle. This section of Modoc Road has discontinuous sidewalks and the bike lanes are narrow and unprotected. Bike lanes along roads with vehicle speeds in excess of 35 mph are not recommended for most cyclists, especially children. A crash between a vehicle and bicyclist or pedestrian at over 40 mph has an 80% chance of being fatal. On Modoc Rd, there have been 9 crashes involving cars and bicyclists in the last 11 years.

In California, 40% of our emissions come from our transportation system. This is substantially above the national average of 30%. Although California is doing a great job of successfully cutting emissions in other sectors, in transportation it is failing, and at our current rate, we will not meet our climate commitments. Automobile dependency is a major factor in our climate goal shortcomings. The more motor vehicle trips we can each replace by walking or biking, the better. If just one person replaces their daily drive and instead walks or bikes along this segment of trail, 400 lbs less of CO2 will find its way into the environment. In comparison, a tree will absorb 48 pounds of CO2 during the same period.

We find ourselves today in a world whose climate is changing more rapidly than ever, with dire results, and the single-most impactful thing any person can do to reduce carbon emissions is choose more often to travel by foot or bicycle. We owe it to our future generations, and our Earth, to support safe paths for walking and biking. While not ideal, sacrificing some trees, which will be replaced, to potentially save lives and enhance our community in untold ways is worth it. We urge the County Board of Supervisors, the La Cumbre Mutual Water Company, the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County and the Santa Barbara community at large to support completion of the Modoc Multi-Use Path project without delay, while of course mitigating the removal of trees as much as possible.

Some recent comments from supporters of the path that reflect the need for this project to be completed:

I regularly use the bike path to commute to UCSB and this section is scary due to the speed and proximity of passing cars. Several years ago, I was struck by another bicycle and fell into the roadway. I narrowly escaped getting hit by a passing car, which would have been the end of me. Anyone who says this bike path is not needed has likely never ridden this section or does not bike at all. SB has plenty of non-native flora, why do we need to preserve more at the detriment of native Santa Barbarian humans!

Alternative B will be great, fully support it as a valuable community asset. While tree loss is always a bummer, they are being replaced with many, many other native species, and the couple decades while they grow in will be a blip in history compared to how it will look and benefit future generations.

Safe bike lanes are good for sustainability in the long-term and because the trees needed to build this bike lane are invasive eucalyptus species that will be replaced by native plants

I want the kids riding home from San Marcos to have a safe place to bicycle. I have never felt very safe along that section on my bike.

I think the Las Positas bike path is a fabulous success and will provide immeasurable community benefits going forward. Any additional opportunities we provide for outdoor recreation especially for our youth is a good thing. I love the trees along Modoc but the eucalyptus are an extreme fire hazard especially in a sundowner event like the Painted Cave Fire.

This Class 1 bike path is long overdue. Hard to believe people are opposed to this in any fashion. The trees can be moved or new ones planted nearby. If you ride through this area once, you will understand its need.

Cities need bike friendly paths. I would love to bike my way to work. but too many areas are risky. I would love to get rid of my car, because then we would need one less, just for travel. My husband already bikes to work downtown!

The individuals on the "other side" of this issue have become extreme to the max, irrational and totally unreasonable. The county is working hard to make this a good project for the maximum number of stakeholders. The other group is only interested in trees and birds and have lost sight of the positive impact the project will have on humans. The Alignment that they are promoting is neither accessible nor safe for many. The county is jumping through many hoops to make the removal of trees for the Modoc Alignment as close to zero as possible. We need to be reasonable, not hysterical.

The Modoc Path will provide safe, ADA-compliant access that is separated from fast-moving traffic for our schoolchildren and the whole community along a long stretch of Modoc Road where sidewalks don't exist.

Alignment B only requires the removal of seven, non-native trees and will preserve all of the canary palms along the proposed route.

I ride this path every day. The gap is dangerous and should be filled. Bike paths never leave a community worse off than before. This project checks all the boxes for making our community more accessible and climate resilient. Let's get this done.

Safety for all road users is critical in our community: what about our Vision Zero effort? There have been 9 crashes involving cars and bicyclists in the last 11 years on Modoc Rd!!! Such numbers show that Modoc Rd is not a safe place to ride a bike... Of course, nobody wants to remove trees but the completion of a multi-use path with all the benefits listed on this petition is needed without delay.

We can ride bikes 350 days a year here, but right now Modoc road is a death trap waiting to happen. Cut down on car emissions, promote healthier lifestyles, and create opportunity for more people to access Santa Barbara safely by bike! I love trees, but as long as the county plants some new ones, that will be fine.

Bike safety is critical for increasing bike riders in our community. More bike riders means less carbon emissions. I support completion of the Modoc multi-use path.

Thank you all so much,
Melissa Cunningham

Melissa Cunningham
Director of Strategic Initiatives
MOVE Santa Barbara County (FKA: COAST+SBBIKE)
805.845.8955 x 3
melissa@coast-santabarbara.org

Lia Graham

General Public Comment

LATE
DIST

From: Joanna Kaufman <joanna.kaufman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2022 12:03 PM
To: Hart, Gregg; Nelson, Bob; Lavagnino, Steve; Supervisor Das Williams; Hartmann, Joan; sbcob
Subject: Modoc Multi-Use Connection

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Esteemed Supervisors,

I can't believe I have to write this email just as much as you probably can't believe you have to deal with this whole ridiculous situation.

The people opposed to this project have said they would litigate if even ONE tree is removed. This is irregardless of whether or not it is in the preserve. This was not a County bait and switch. It's called submitting an application, getting funding to work on engineering and design and realizing that some trees need to go that were not originally anticipated. From my understanding, county staff has frantically tried to find a feasible solution once they realized there was a group of concerned citizens. These grants are highly competitive. We should celebrate staff's victory rather than chastise them.

I hope you have had a chance to visit the preserve to see the placement of the path 1st hand to understand that this decision should not be an emotional one, but a technical one. Technically speaking, the purpose of the grant the County won is satisfied by Options A or B, NOT C. Options A and B build off the capital obtained by the City of Santa Barbara to build protected bicycle infrastructure. The small connection at risk of being lost through frivolous litigation is actually a significant one needed to build out a visionary protected bicycle network.

So what are your options:

Option A: The path is not in the preserve. The project opponents can't argue about the conservation easement. They will argue that they want not one tree removed and will litigate for inadequate environmental review. Talk to the experts, biologists in particular, and they will probably tell you a full EIR will not discover new significant environmental impacts that were not already adequately analyzed and mitigated for in the MND. More impactful development happens in this county all the time and these people don't say a thing. I think their threat of litigation is textbook abuse of CEQA requirements.

Option B: They are claiming that a multi-use path is inconsistent with the conservation easement placed over the Modoc Preserve. Many argue that it is consistent with the terms of the conservation easement. This is a lawyer's game because I believe that it can be interpreted in many ways. The document clearly allows removal of non-native trees. Generally speaking I think the issue of the easement isn't a decision maker call. I am not an attorney, but you have attorney's that work for you and I'd be interested to hear what they have to say.

Option C: The opposition is saying this is the only option. Beyond the fact that this option is 1) not protected, 2) presents slopes, and 3) doesn't directly connect to the Obern Trail, the high net worth residents of Vieja Dr. would probably be just as upset that they are increasing traffic on their street and might hire a lawyer to make some sort of BS argument. So it is feasible litigation is still a possibility in this scenario.

I don't envy your position. Aside from the satire that can be made out of this situation if it were to end up in the national news, the Board must make a choice where someone will be upset. As a part-time cycling commuter, I prefer options A and B out of the three options. Perhaps there are other compromises, but I trust staff to present what is feasible to keep the grant funds. Also, I personally know bicycle commuters that frequent this route and families in Hope Ranch Annex that eagerly await the opportunity to use this route once it's fully built out. Families are excited because it will be a fully protected route to the new Modoc-Hendry's Beach paths. Imagine that?! Alleviating some car parking issues at the beach and Alan Rd.

Lastly, remember the cycling community rides for different reasons, some do it out of environmental concern, some for exercise, and some because they can't drive for physical or economic reasons. What unifies us is that we, unfortunately, live in a world that is primarily developed for cars and have to deal with the danger and anger that comes with that. These projects are few and far between and almost always met with some sort of public resistance when they should be met with open arms. Honestly, I've never seen more horrible internet comments then the routine death to cyclists. Many of us are used to it now and maintain hope that there will be a paradigm shift to recognize we are actually in this all together. What I want to say to these people and to the opponents of this project is... Contemplate what our community, especially in a more urbanized area where this project would be located, would look like if everyone who rides a bike decided to jump in a car to drive. That would impact traffic, aesthetics, noise, air quality, trees, owls, hawks, etc. way more than insignificant tree removals as outlined in the draft MND. It must be nice to have time and money to litigate whatever you don't like in this world.

Please make the prudent decision. Also, I welcome you to ride along the new infrastructure the City of SB has built on Modoc and then over to where the multi-use path is proposed.

Respectfully,

Joanna Kaufman
joanna.kaufman@gmail.com

de la Guerra, Sheila General Public Comment -

From: Kim Stanley <kimsz345@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2022 9:31 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Modoc Rd Multi Use Path Supporter



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my support for the Modoc Multi-Use Path with a preference for Alignment B. We need more walking paths and bike lanes in our communities to improve quality of life and provide safe, equitable transportation options.

I am an Environmental Studies major from UCSB and consider myself an environmentalist. I sympathize with the opponents of this project, but have no doubt in my mind the benefits vastly outweigh the cost. I appreciate the County's commitment to reduce the number of trees cut down and plans to plant more appropriate trees for the environment.

This project will provide safe, enjoyable and equitable access along a corridor where sidewalks currently don't exist and separation from a roadway with cars travelling at high speeds 40mph+. It will *fill a missing gap between* two major routes for bicyclists. We need to get less dependent on our cars; we have to make hard decisions and do whatever we can to impact climate change.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Kim Stanley-Zimmerman

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors August 30, 2022
105 East Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I write this letter with great concern for the safety of the school children living and attending school near-by and walking to and from school, the safety of pedestrians walking on either side of the street, and bicyclists traveling in the bike lanes near the street.

Specifically the street is, South San Marcos. South San Marcos seems to become a high speed racing spot for many who, after turning off Hollister Avenue, accelerate and proceed at a dangerous, out of control speed.

El Camino Elementary School is now in session and located at the end of South San Marcos. The school is located soon after making a 90degree turn onto San Simeon Road. The speeding drivers are unaware of the school's location until they round the corner.

The residents living in Sungate Ranch become very aware of the noise of speeding cars and the noise of loud screeching brakes of vehicles rounding the corner at the end of South San Marcos unto San Simeon Road.

Students walking on South San Marcos to and from school, pedestrians attempting to reach their destinations, and bicyclists can be in great danger of the speeding out of control vehicles passing by.

It appears the only means of making South San Marcos less desirable as a race way, would be for speed bumps to be installed, a given distance apart on the street. Speed bumps are designed to slow traffic to a reasonable safe speed. In addition, 25 mph signs could be placed along the street.

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The installation of speed bumps would slow those using the street as a race track, and serve to prevent a serious accident involving a driver, students walking, a pedestrian, or a bicyclist.

I would very much appreciate if you would consider this request and have an understanding of the serious safety concern of those mentioned above and residents near-by.

Linda Muzinich

Thank you in advance for your reply,

With Much Appreciation and Gratitude

Linda Muzinich 805 455 3167 lmuzinich@msn.com

162 Ranch Lane Santa Barbara, CA 93111

de la Guerra, Sheila General Public Comment

From: Melissa Cunningham <melissapaine07@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2022 11:05 AM
To: Meredith Hendricks; Alison Petro; malvarado@lacumbrewater.com;
office@lacumbrewater.com; sbcob
Subject: Modoc Multi-Use Path



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

As a resident of Santa Barbara, an avid cyclist, walker, runner and outdoor enthusiast, I am writing in support of Alignment B for the Modoc multi-use path connection. There are so many reasons why this connection is important and must get built but I would like to focus on the conservation easement and why the path absolutely fits in with it.

The conservation easement allows for the removal of non-native plants and trees. **(Section 3d. Permitted Uses)** In fact, local environmental biologists suggested a far greater tree removal for a healthy environment, but the County is compromising to make it a win-win situation.

In the same section, the Conservation Easement also allows for the construction of trails. There is also already precedent for a paved path as 300 feet of the Obern trail is within the Preserve.

We need this trail because completes a long-standing plan that is widely supported by community members. It provides safe, ADA access for all users, it will not cause damage to the preserve - it will ultimately enhance it by providing new native plants and trees- and Alignment B is a compromise that will be the Best solution for everyone.

I urge the Santa Barbara Land Trust to grant the county the easement to take a small part of the path into the preserve and behind the canary palms so that those may be saved from being felled and we can have a continuous and safe path that all users can enjoy and have access to.

Thank you so much,
Melissa Cunningham

Melissa P. Cunningham
melissapaine07@gmail.com
970.209.9560

Brianda Negrete

General Public Comment

From: alex@pujo.net
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2022 9:37 AM
To: 'Meredith Hendricks'; 'Alison Petro'; malvarado@lacumbrewater.com;
office@lacumbrewater.com
Cc: sbcob
Subject: MUP preferred alignment
Attachments: MUP Preferred Alignment.docx



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Please see attached letter regarding the Modoc Multi-Use Path.

Thank you.

Alex Pujo
2425 Chapala Street
Santa Barbara
(805) 637-7384

Date: September 18, 2022

To: Meredith Hendricks, mhendricks@sblandtrust.org
Alison Petro, apetro@sblandtrust.org
Mike Alvarado, malvarado@lacumbrewater.com,
office@lacumbrewater.com
Cc: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, sbcob@countyofsb.org

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2022 SEP 19 P 3:41

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Re: Modoc Multi-Use Path – Preferred Alignment

From: Alex Pujo, AIA. alex@pujo.net

I encourage you to support 'Alignment B' for the proposed Modoc Multi-Use Path (MUP), the preferred alternative outlined in the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) prepared by the County. Support by the Land Trust and La Cumbre Water will facilitate construction of this very important bicycle and pedestrian connection while protecting the long row of majestic Canary Island Date Palms adjacent to the Modoc Preserve.

The Modoc MUP will connect two existing multi-use paths and become part of an expanding network of safe, off-the-road facilities spanning from UCSB to Carpinteria, and beyond. This vision is part of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) Regional Plan and is listed in the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan. More importantly, the goal of a safe, integrated system of bicycle and pedestrian paths protected from traffic is broadly shared by an overwhelming majority of Santa Barbara County residents regardless of age, ethnicity, wealth, background or party affiliation.

Currently, Modoc Road has discontinuous sidewalks and unprotected bike lanes on a roadway with speeds of 35 to 45 mph, raising serious concerns for children, the elderly, those who cannot drive and other vulnerable users. Considering that most vehicles go 5 to 10 miles over posted limits... would you let your children ride their bicycles on Modoc?

The MND analyzed two feasible alignments for this multi-use path. Alignment A is completely within the right-of-way with the path adjacent to the existing roadway. Although numerous eucalyptus trees south of Alignment A would remain and "provide a park-like visual setting", this layout would result in the removal of 29 of the 47 Canary Island palms that constitute the salient visual element of the Modoc Road corridor.

As stewards of the Modoc Preserve, I ask you to consider the visual impact that vegetation removal on adjacent land will have on the Preserve itself. The loss of the Canary Island palms will impact not only users of the roadway and MUP but visitors of

the Preserve as well. On the other hand, Alignment B would require the removal of some trees, mostly Eucalyptus, but none of the Canary Island palms.

The MND outlines extensive restoration and mitigation plans for both alignments to the point that "impacts to the visual character of Modoc Road would be minor and considered less than significant". However, Alignment B will provide a much stronger visual and physical separation between the MUP and the roadway, thus enhancing the quality of the path's experience.

I offer these comments as a private citizen and not as a current member of the South County Board of Architectural Review (SBAR). In my professional career I have served on multiple bodies and ad hoc committees that evaluate the aesthetics of highway projects and right-of-way improvements, including Santa Barbara's Architectural Board of Review (ABR) and Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC), and the County's Highway 101 Design Review Team (DRT). Thank you for your consideration.



Brianda Negrete

From: Christine Bourgeois <cbarreb@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 1:59 PM
Subject: The Modoc multi-use path is necessary: THANK YOU for making it happen! 45

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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 FULL SERVICE UNIT 45
 COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
 CLERK OF SUPERVISORS
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear official,

Completing the Modoc multi-use path needs to happen for 4 critical reasons:

- **1) Equity:** It will provide equitable access to the public open space of the Modoc Preserve for users of all ages and abilities (not only for local residents who have been keeping the Modoc Preserve "secret" until now...)
- **2) Safety:** Modoc Road has discontinuous sidewalks and narrow and unprotected bike lanes adjacent to road with speeds up to 45 mph. Several people have died on Modoc over the last 10 years: those deaths could have been prevented with better infrastructure.
- **3) Restoration:** There will be no impact to native trees. New trees will be planted with a focus on sustainability and restoring habitats which are Preserve's goals.
- **4) Connectivity:** The Modoc multi-use path is a vital and missing link between two existing multi-use paths. Santa Barbara County needs a more complete network of safe, off-street facilities. To illustrate this urgent need, here is a personal story: On Tuesday morning (maybe around 8:30am), I was riding my bicycle on Modoc where the construction is happening. Several teenagers (at least 6 of them) on e-bike carrying heavy backpacks full of books passed me. It was so nice to see them commuting from downtown to SMHS and not driving a car :) But with a safer Modoc multi-use path, instead of 6 young e-bike commuters, it could become 20 or many more... Please build this multi-use path for the safety of our youth and all of us. Thank you.

Christine (Barré) Bourgeois
 Cell: (805) 284-6787
 Christine's photos: <http://cbarreb.smugmug.com/>



Brianda Negrete

From: Heather J. Rose <rosehj@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 11:09 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Please support the Modoc Bike Path

Categories: Public Comment

2022 SEP 29 AM 11:45
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Supervisors,

I have been cycling in Santa Barbara both recreationally and as a commuter since I moved here in 2009. I am also an environmentalist, and yes, a treehugger. Due diligence has been done, adjustments have been made, and it is now time to support the Modoc Bike Path, connecting two other heavily utilized trails. It's time to stop making all cyclists, but especially families and children cross Modoc road with its high speed traffic and climb uphill slowly next to cars in the narrow and bumpy bike path. As always, providing safe alternatives to the expenses of driving is an equity issue.

Let's get our wheels rolling!

Heather Rose

--
Heather J. Rose, Ph.D.
Website: www.freeyourinnermaude.com
IG: free_maude



Brianda Negrete

From: Eileen Mcmillen <mcmillen.eileen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 11:30 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Nov 1 Hearing: Support Modoc Path

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

2022 SEP 29 AM 11:45
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please support the Modoc MultiUse Path. We need it for the safety of our cyclists and runners, and walkers.

Thanks,
Eileen McMillen

Sent from my iPhone

Brianda Negrete General Public Comment-Group 1

From: Torrie Cutbirth <torriecutbirth@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:31 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: PLEASE Support the Modoc Multi-Use Path!!

2022 SEP 29 AM 11:05
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
LATE DIST

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear SB Board of Supervisors,

My name is Torrie Cutbirth, a local community member and staff member of a local family foundation that supports \$300,000.00 dollars in funding to local environmental organizations in our County each year. I am a student in SBCC's Environmental Horticulture program, and volunteer at many community gardens and other environmental organizations. I am also 29 years old, and I am terrified of the near future of our climate and state of our community.

I am reaching out to urge you to PLEASE support the Modoc Multi-Use Path!!

This project is VITAL to our community's just and equitable transitions to a more green economy and more! The 1-mile Modoc Multi-Use Path will connect the Las Positas-Modoc, Obern and Maria Ygnacio multi-use path systems, providing a continuous connection between homes, jobs, schools and open spaces. The Modoc Path gap closure will result in 14.5 miles of linked multi-use paths. A \$5.4MM use it or lose it grant will fund a safe, separated bike and pedestrian path, provide jobs, and eliminate fatalities and hospitalizations. (9 emergency response actions from car/bike collisions, victims included teen agers, elderly, and 1 death in past 11 years)
Current plan calls for replacing any trees removed with native oaks. (Preferred option B only affects 3 trees in the Modoc Preserve, and 19 outside the Preserve). Additionally, NEW trees sequester more carbon than mature trees, that slow carbon sequestration as they mature. New, NATIVE tree plantings will not only sequester more carbon, but the native trees will provide a multitude of benefits to the local environment, including the animals we so deeply rely on.

Thank you for your time and I hope you will approve this necessary bike path project!

In Community,

Torrie Cutbirth
Cornell University '16
(805) 453-6351



Brianda Negrete

From: Doug Fischer <dougfischer@cox.net>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:56 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Nov 1 hearing: Support Modoc Path

2022 SEP 29 AM 11:45
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please support option B on the Modoc bike path. I have ridden this route often and am always nervous about sharing the road with cars on that section. I've seen accidents—one with a biker hauled off in an ambulance—very scary—a separate path will keep people much safer. While losing large trees is unfortunate, replacing non-native trees with natives is actually a win for the environment—even if we weren't also getting big safety benefits!

Thanks,
Doug Fischer
2411 Selrose Ln
Santa Barbara 93109

(Sent from my phone. Please excuse any typos or curtness.)



Brianda Negrete

From: A Hilliard <larksound@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:57 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Nov 1 Hearing: Support Modoc Path

2022 SEP 29 AM 11:45
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Public Comment

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I support upgrading the MODOC bike path.

Annette L. Hilliard
Goleta 93117



Brianda Negrete

From: Kelly Bourque <kellybourque1226@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 10:02 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Support of the Modoc Multi-Use Bike Bath

Categories: Public Comment

2022 SEP 29 AM 11:45
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello County Supervisors,

I am a twice-a-day user of the current Modoc Road bike paths and have nearly been injured on several occasions. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Modoc Multi-Use Bike Bath. I am an environmentalist (went to the UCSB Bren School) but I do not support saving trees over saving lives. A bike fatality happened on Modoc Road in 2019, which could have been prevented with an off road path. Me or others could also be at risk of extreme injury without this path. This is a public health and safety issue.

I am a resident of the City of Santa Barbara and I work in the Noleta area. I try to reduce my carbon footprint by biking to work but it is becoming riskier along the Modoc Bike Path.

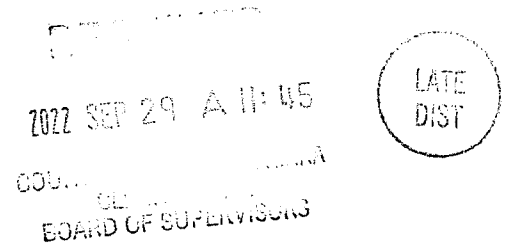
Please consider my email and my strong support of the Modoc Multi-Use Path.

Thank you, Kelly Bourque
kellybourque1226@gmail.com
858-335-2563

Brianda Negrete

From: joanna.tang@lifesci.ucsb.edu
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:17 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Modoc Multi-Use Path

Categories: Public Comment



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I hope you're doing well. I am writing in support of the Modoc Multi-Use Path. I bike to work daily and value the investment in a safe, economical, eco-friendly mode of transportation. I support the Modoc Multi-Use Path because:

- The 1-mile Modoc Multi-Use Path will connect the Las Positas-Modoc, Obern and Maria Ygnacio multi-use path systems, providing a continuous connection between homes, jobs, schools and open spaces. The Modoc Path gap closure will result in 14.5 miles of linked multi-use paths.
- A \$5.4MM use it or lose it grant will fund a safe, separated bike and pedestrian path, provide jobs, and eliminate fatalities and hospitalizations. (9 emergency response actions from car/bike collisions, victims included teen agers, elderly, and 1 death in past 11 years)
- Current plan calls for replacing any trees removed with native oaks. (Preferred option B only affects 3 trees in the Modoc Preserve, and 19 outside the Preserve)

Sincerely,
Joanna Tang

Brianda Negrete

From: Ian Hewitt <ianrhewitt@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 12:54 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: In support of the Modoc Multi-Use Path

RECEIVED
2022 SEP 29 P 1:16
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF SUPERVISORS



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello county supervisors,

This email is in regard to the proposed bike path in the Modoc area. The project provides critical biking alternatives to car use within the county. We should be trying to push forwards with alternatives to driving and this bike path is critical infrastructure that fights climate change and provides greater mobility access for our fellow citizens. Please support these safe and separated bike paths.

all the best,
Ian Hewitt



Brianda Negrete

From: Steve Francis <steverfrancis@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 1:42 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Nov 1 Hearing: Support Modoc Path

RECEIVED

2022 SEP 29 P 2:48

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF SUPERVISORS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm strongly in favor of completing the bike path network - as an older cyclist, I am not comfortable on roads, and limit myself to separated bike paths.

I will ride more (and use my car less) with the addition of these bike paths, as would several others I know.

Please approve!!!

Brianda Negrete

From: Joan Vignocchi <joan@sbhockey.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 4:24 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Nov 1 hearing: Support Modoc Path



Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I live at the corner of Hollister and Modoc so I'm inundated with neighbors who are angry about the proposed changes.

I love trees but I also love biking safely. I used to bike commute to work and hope to again soon when I go back to the office after the pandemic is "over." I also bike for fun and exercise. I love how Las Positas and upper Modoc has improved biking safety and think it would be wonderful to have the bike lane be a safe seamless transition between SB and Goleta.

Right at the Modoc crossing it is terribly unsafe. It's a sharp turn and the new turn will be so much better and easier to navigate especially with all the new FAST e-bikes. Bikers v cars is deadly to bikers.

I support the plan where you are planting new oak trees - native to our area - and taking out dangerous and dying eucalyptus trees that are thirsty and a fire hazard. I've lived here since 2006 and have never felt very safe on Modoc. Once I get on the bike path, I feel safe. I cannot wait to have the same experience biking from my house to Hendry's Beach!

My son is 25 and feels the same way. He commutes by bike on Modoc daily to Gelson's area and during the pandemic with fewer cars on the road, he got into biking for fun. He can climb Gibraltar in like 45 minutes! Since starting to bike, he has lost over 40 pounds and has found joy in exercising and being in a sport again like he used to as a kid.

We both support anything that helps promote biking, not just for our health, but also to not have to drive and buy expensive gas that causes global warming.

Please support any plans to expand the bike path at Modoc! (and let's save all the trees we can and plant more!)

Thank you for listening and for serving our community.

--
Joan Vignocchi
joan@sbhockey.com
805.455.6763



Brianda Negrete

From: Rad Schreiber <radschreiber@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 11:18 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Nov 1 Hearing: Support Modoc Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the completion of the modoc bike path. I enjoy the new path each week as I commute in on my bike. I live off of modoc across street from jr high.

Thank you!!
Rad schreiber
2303 vista madera
Santa Barbara, ca 93101

Sent from my iPhone

Brianda Negrete

General Public Comment-Group 2

From: zak <mczak@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 10:30 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Nov 1 hearing: Support Modoc Path



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hullo -

I'm a regular cyclist in town who is very excited by the extension of the Modoc Path.

I use segments of the path frequently, and am a huge fan of any new paths that make cycling more pleasant and safer.

I'm shocked that there is any doubt as to whether or not to accept money on this clear improvement in safety, jobs and access.

The only objection seems to be around trees - and any concern around trees is clearly due to a lack of understanding around what the word "renew" means in renewable resources. They will be replaced - unlike any lives lost from dangerous streets.

Thank you for your support.

Regards,
Zak Klobucher



Brianda Negrete

From: Rod Tucknott <info@rodtucknott.com>
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 8:46 AM
To: cityclerkgroup@cityofgoleta.org; sbcob
Subject: Supporting San Jose Creek and Modoc bike path projects...

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning and THANK YOU for all y'all do for our community!

I'm writing in support of both the **San Jose Creek** and **Modoc** bike path projects

I really enjoy riding a bike, but as a professional risk manager in the outdoor industry I am VERY concerned about folks riding with cars. I know a number of people who have been hit and even lost their lives. I'm thinking of Kendra who was a UCSB student on the Tri team that was hit and killed while on a training ride: <https://recreation.ucsb.edu/classes-events/special-events/kendra%27s-race>

We lived near Trader Joe's for over 15 years and I really enjoyed riding my bike to UCSB. I would specifically take the "long" way on the Maria Ygnacio path rather than Fairview because of the risk.

PLEASE SUPPORT good risk management, our biking community, and our environment. THANK YOU!!!

Best,

Rod

--

Rod Tucknott Photography
www.RodTucknott.com
info@RodTucknott.com
(805) 451-4226
[facebook.com/RTPhoto](http://www.facebook.com/RTPhoto) <<http://www.facebook.com/RTPhoto>>
[facebook.com/RodTucknott](http://www.facebook.com/RodTucknott) <<http://www.facebook.com/RodTucknott>>
[twitter.com/RodTucknott](http://www.twitter.com/RodTucknott) <<http://www.twitter.com/RodTucknott>>
[linkedin.com/in/rodtucknott](http://www.linkedin.com/in/rodtucknott) <<http://www.linkedin.com/in/rodtucknott>>

Brianda Negrete

From: Alejandro Andreatta <alejandroandreatta@cox.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 10:08 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: I Support the Modoc Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

County Supervisors,

I support the County of Santa Barbara's grant-funded project to construct the 1 mile multi-use path along Modoc Road (the Modoc Path) connecting the City of Santa Barbara's path near Calle De Los Amigos to the widely-used Obern Trail at Encore Drive.

I have use the Modoc bike lanes to commute to work in Goleta for the past 20 years. I have often been passed by cars driving much faster than the speed limit and coming unsafely close to my bicycle. A bike path, specially the revised version B, would make the ride safer and more enjoyable.

The section completed by the city of Santa Barbara is a joy to ride.

Please complete the bike path on the county portion of Modoc road.

Thank you,

Alejandro Andreatta
1418 W Valerio St
Santa Barbara CA 93101
(805) 898 1240

Brianda Negrete

From: Terri Jo Ortega <tjortega2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 3:36 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Support letter for Modoc Multi Use Path
Attachments: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisor Modoc multi use path support.docx

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find my letter of support for the Modoc Multi Use Path. Thank you for your consideration.

Terri Jo Ortega
365 Arboleda Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
tjortega2@gmail.com

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisor
105 E Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
sbcob@countyofsb.org

I am writing in support of the Modoc Multi Use Path. I am an avid equestrian and have lived near and ridden in the Modoc Preserve for 50 years. I am currently on the Board of Hope Ranch Riding and Trails Association (HRRTA) which has been deeply involved and included in the planning process and will continue to be involved until it is completed. Once the plan is approved, we can begin to fine tune some of the issues like: making sure there is ample separation between the path and the equestrian trail so that it is safer for all; selecting the type of fence and/or plantings along the MUP that would keep those users from uncontrolled access to the preserve; making sure the entrance into the preserve coming across Modoc from around Vista Clara is safe for equestrians. I am certain that the County will continue to seek our advice to ensure that the finished path is safe for everyone.

In addition to the equestrian issues, there are many benefits the multi use path will provide.

A safer ADA compliant trail from the west end of the Obern Trail to the east end at Via Senda.

Provide funding for a speed study along this stretch of Modoc. This has been a long time request of local residents.

Funding would include a crosswalk toward the Eastern end that would allow safer access to the Preserve for all.

Funding includes native plant restoration into the area along the path.

This valley is rich in cultural and natural history. Funding includes installation of educational signage that would encourage more interest in supporting the Modoc endowment.

I hope that you will approve Alignment B as the preferred alternative. Once it is completed, it will benefit all groups and create a safe path through the Modoc corridor.

Terri Jo Ortega
365 Arboleda Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
805-455-7109
tjortega2@gmail.com

Brianda Negrete

From: Jordan Thomas <jordanthomas@ucsb.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 7:03 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Modoc Path

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am emailing you to voice my support for the construction of the Modoc Multiuse path- specifically, Alignment B. I am a UCSB researcher and a member of the Graduate Student Association. Our graduate student population is almost 3000, and many of us depend upon the bicycle path for access to Santa Barbara. We would like to see the path be completed because the current route is incredibly dangerous. I am currently mobilizing the graduate student population around this issue.

I am also a wildland firefighter. From that perspective, replacing eucalyptus trees with native trees is just common sense.

Thanks so much for working on this.

Best,
Jordan

--
Jordan Thomas
PhD Student
Department of Anthropology
University of California, Santa Barbara

Brianda Negrete

From: Beverly McCurdy <bodygold2@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2022 10:37 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: RE: Modoc Multi-Use Bikeway
Attachments: image_67515137.JPG

Categories: Public Comment

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Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.



Local Electronic Mail (LEEM) Mail - Action of Reception

The County cannot accept the above information for the personal information of the County.

Dear Directors Hartman, Williams, Hart, Nelson, and Lavagnino,

The County posted a sign on the Obern Trail asking for input on the proposed Modoc Road Multi Use Bikeway.

Here is mine. Please include it with your records.

I ask that you honor the autonomy of the complete Modoc Preserve, without paving or infringing upon the Preserve boundaries. It is home to many forms of wildlife and native vegetation and is part of A restoration project (shown above).



The Modoc Preserve is the connecting corridor to Cieneguitas Creek (shown here) which flows to the ocean and as such, is a very significant green belt which should be protected at all costs.

Please support the sanctity of this special oasis, home to a number of endangered mammals, amphibians and birds.

With respect,

Beverly McCurdy
320 Arboleda Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110
805 453 5884

Brianda Negrete

From: Don Miller <danddmiller1@cox.net>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2022 4:00 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Fwd: Revised MND Comments - Modoc Pathway
Attachments: MND Comments.pdf

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Don <danddmiller1@cox.net>
Date: October 14, 2022 at 15:57:44 PDT
To: Morgan Jones <mmjones@countyofsb.org>, Lael Wageneck <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>, Chris Sneddon <csneddo@countyofsb.org>, Supervisor Bob Nelson <bob.nelson@countyofsb.org>, Supervisor Steve Lavagnino <steve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org>, Supervisor Gregg Hart <ghart@countyofsb.org>, Supervisor Joan Hartman <jhartmann@countyofsb.org>, Supervisor Das Williams <supervisorwilliams@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Revised MND Comments - Modoc Pathway

Sent from my iPad

Dear Sirs and Madams: 10/14/2022

I want to thank you for allowing me to respond to the newly revised MRN. The proposed Modoc Multi-use Bike and Pedestrian Path.

- Morgan M. JONES replied to one of my earlier inquiries, clarifying exactly what a MRN was for. Morgan M. JONES is the Environmental Project Team Leader SB County Public Works, Transportation Division - Engineering Section.
- "The Mitigated Negative Declaration is an environmental document".

I will write additional letters regarding this project but for the life of me I need to ask how can this project even be considered by the public, by the La Cumbre Mutual Water Company, the Santa Barbara Land Trust, and even yourself without any submission, statement, assessment, review or even a NED (No Effect Determination) by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife? I find your submission of the MRN and this Revised MRN incomplete, without a submission from the Department of Fish and Wildlife, a complete waste of taxpayers and county resources. This is a blatant attempt to circumvent the environmental review process. I am completely surprised the BOS is even allowing this to proceed. Why aren't you stopping this? Where is your leadership?

This by itself suffices for an appeal, I just can't imagine anyone would continue work on this project.

Let's review:

Department of Fish & Wildlife:

The Department of Fish & Wildlife manages and protects the state's wildlife, wildflowers, trees, mushrooms, algae and native habitats. (Wikipedia). Just one aspect would do with Governor Newsom's declaration regarding "Round Up" and the Monarch Butterfly being classified as endangered and also this is a "Nature" preserve.

It just goes to show you how out of step Santa Barbara is: The city of Goleta is spending \$3.9 million dollars for the Monarch Butterfly Habitat Management Plan.

H.R. 1983 - 117 th Congress (2021 - 2022): Monarch Action: this bill provides support for the conservation of western monarch butterflies.

Our own Representative Salud Carbajal co-led introduction of the two bills in the House of Representatives. The MONARCH Act would provide urgent protections for the struggling western Monarch butterfly, an iconic and important butterfly whose population has dropped by 99% since the 1980's.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) establishes an important role for the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The Modoc Nature Preserve:

Is protected open space with native plant and animal habitat and public access trails under a conservation easement held by the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County.

How could the Santa Barbara county's MRN resubmission still not include a CDPW statement, assessment, review, a Ned (No Effect Determination).

A Nature Reserve / Preserve: (WIKIPEDIA)

A nature reserve (also known as a wildlife refuge, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve or bioreserve, natural or nature preserve, or nature conservation area) is a protected area of importance for flora, fauna, or features of geological or other special interest, which is reserved and managed for purposes of conservation and to provide special opportunities for study or

research. They may be designated by government institutions in some countries, or by private landowners, such as charities and research institutions. Nature reserves fall into different IUCN categories depending on the level of protection afforded by local laws. Normally it is more strictly protected than a nature park. Various jurisdictions may use other terminology, such as ecological protection area or private protected area in legislation and in official titles of the reserves.

All you have to do is review Phase 1 and then it all starts to come into focus. "Categorical Exemption" which means "I don't have to do it".

Some of you have come by the nature preserve to see it yourself. Thank you. I hope it helped you. We want to preserve this nature preserve for forever just as the sign states.

"This Land is Protected Forever"

"La Cumbre Mutual Water Company and The Land Trust for Santa Barbara County created a conservation easement to ensure that this land's scenic, recreational, open space and wildlife values will always be retained."

Why is the county attacking the integrity of the SANTA BARBARA Land Trust? The SB Land Trust is responsible for safe keeping this land. Thank God. I am so glad because it's so apparent what the county would do. But look at the damage you doing to their reputation? They survive on the generosity of the citizens of Santa Barbara county. Why is the county attacking them? Making them spend valuable resources to protect this nature preserve from the county government. Who ever thought they could push and shove their way and take this land? Never once contacting the La Cumbre Mutual Water Company or the SB Land Trust . How embarrassing.

I believe now, with what we know a "Full and complete EIR" needs to be done. I cannot imagine any judge not agreeing with us. On 12/9/2020 a department representative Morgan Jones signed off on a "Categorical Exemption for Phase 1. That's close to 3 years ago and instead of engineering a solution that would be beneficial to both the Santa Barbara Land Trust and the Bicycle Coalition, creating a pathway that other cities and citizens would admire, they spent the time planting the seeds of hate and distrust. Never once approaching the neighborhood citizenship, the SB Land Trust, the water company. It's not hard to imagine why there is so much distrust and hate today.

Thank you
Donald E. Miller
821 Chelham Way
Santa Barbara, Ca.
93108
805-637-0557

Brianda Negrete

From: Mary Bucholtz <mbucholtz@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 4:37 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Please support Alignment B of the Modoc Multi-Use Path proposal

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Supervisors:

As a risk-averse bike commuter who rides on Modoc almost daily, I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible terms to support the Modoc Multi-Use Path proposal, and specifically Alignment B. I am a middle-aged, non-athletic transportation cyclist, and I regularly experience dangerous conditions due to the lack of safe separation between bikes and fast-moving motor vehicles on much of Modoc. The Alignment B proposal is an extremely well-thought-out and reasonable plan that addresses the major concerns of all stakeholders. Approving this project will make it possible for large numbers of vulnerable road users like me to travel safely between our workplaces and homes.

Sincerely,

Mary Bucholtz

Mary Bucholtz
mbucholtz@me.com

Brianda Negrete

From: Beverly McCurdy <bodygold2@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 21, 2022 5:25 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Preserve the Modoc Preserve

Categories: Public Comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Supervisor Williams,
Supervisor Nelson,
Supervisor Hartmann, and
Supervisor Lavagnino

I ask you

Please do not cut down the iconic trees along the edge of the Modoc Preserve. They are of immeasurable importance to the Preserve, to wildlife and to the existing habitat.



Magical moment: Walking in the Preserve while winter rains drain into Cieneguitas Creek at the horse bridge.

Thank you,

Respectfully

Beverly McCurdy
320 Arboleda Road
(805) 453 5884

Sent from my iPad

Brianda Negrete

From: Phil WillisConger <philwillisconger@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 22, 2022 6:02 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Modoc Path project with preferred Alignment B

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Supervisors,

I want to add my voice in **support** of the **Modoc Path project with preferred Alignment B.**

My wife and I frequently ride our tandem along that route and would greatly appreciate having a bike/pedestrian path separating us from the high speed traffic.

I understand there is some resistance to this plan from neighbors, but many of the trees are non-native and should be replaced with native trees anyway. In addition, this plan is an effort to meet the neighbors' concerns halfway.

I urge you to vote yes for the Modoc Path with Alignment B. The more bike **paths** we have (separated from cars) the safer our streets, the more likely people will ride their bikes reducing traffic, pollution and wear on our streets, and the more likely visitors will come to our community to enjoy scenic and safe riding--thereby supporting our businesses.

Sincerely,
Phil

--
Phil Willis-Conger
1561 W. Valerio St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101-4956
(503) 863-7968
PhilWillisConger@gmail.com

Brianda Negrete

From: Jaime Turgeon <jaime.turgeon@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 23, 2022 3:39 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Alignments A & B

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please VOTE NO on Alignments A & B to stop this environmentally destructive project.
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Brianda Negrete

From: Sharon Metsch <mplsyrp451@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 23, 2022 5:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Bike path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please vote NO on Alignment A & B.

Sláinte,
Sharon Metsch

No one has ever successfully painted or photographed a redwood tree. The feeling they produce is not transferable."

— *John Steinbeck*

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Wageneck, Lael
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:13 PM
To: Alexander, Jacquelyne; Lenzi, Chelsea
Cc: Sneddon, Chris; Jones, Morgan
Subject: Modoc MUP - Non-MND comments
Attachments: ModocMUP_other_nonMNDcomments.pdf

Hi Jacquelyne and Chelsea,

I've attached a pdf of Modoc MUP comments that were received either outside of the MND period or are not MND related. There are 21 comments - 17 in support and 4 in opposition. Support comments are first followed by opposition.

Thank you,
Lael

-----Original Message-----

From: David Gaultiere <dgaultiere@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2022 7:44 PM

To: Villalobos, David <dvillalo@countyofsb.org>

Subject: In favor of Modoc path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

I'd like to voice my support in favor of the bike path on Modoc. As a resident of Santa Barbara for more than 10 years and a recreational cyclist, i have long wished we had better infrastructure for biking and in particular protected bike paths. I live near the recent Las Positas bike path and love it.

Frankly, the coalition formed against it is a joke and those trees are not even native. This is not a preservation effort, simply a bunch of people who don't want to put up with construction in their neighborhood for a few months. Infrastructure betters our community and the temporary inconvenience of construction is a small price to pay for the long term benefits.

Thanks for listening.

David

From: Sullivan Israel <sullivanisrael1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 11:09 AM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Public Comment for La Cumbre Water Company

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, Mr. Wagneck. I sent in a public comment regarding the Modoc bike path to the La Cumbre Water Board, and Mike Alvarado got back to me and said to forward my comment to you as well. Here it is:

Hello, Boardmembers.

I am writing to express my support for the Class I bike path proposed for Modoc Road. As a local biker who does not feel comfortable riding Class II paths on streets where cars zoom by at 45 mph, I was supportive of this project from the moment I saw the proposal earlier this month. However, I think it's especially important to write to you now because I have become aware of a coordinated attack by a group of people who are either misinformed or disingenuous to stop the path from being built. On July 20th, an article urging readers to sign a petition to stop the path was published on Edhat ([here](#)), but it contained false information stating: "the proposal includes REMOVAL of 63 Canary Island palms and Eucalyptus, as well as 12 California live oaks, along Modoc Road." As I'm sure you know, the proposal actually says: "The proposed project would require the removal of approximately 63 trees which may alter the visual character of the Modoc Road corridor. However, **the project has been designed to avoid mature trees** to the extent feasible by locating the bike path adjacent to the roadway shoulder or to the south of many larger trees along the existing trail. **Only 10 of the 47 mature Canary Island palms lining the subject segment of Modoc Road would be removed**, and trees south of the bike path alignment would remain and continue to provide a park-like visual setting. Therefore, project-related changes to the visual character of Modoc Road would be minor and considered a less than significant impact." (Emphasis mine). Therefore, you should be aware that many people who have signed the petition or who might make public comments at your next meeting have been misinformed by the article/petition authors, and are angry about a problem that doesn't actually exist.

This piece of cycle infrastructure is one more step toward completing our bike network, which will allow people to cycle from the Andree Clark Bird Refuge all the way to Goleta without ever having

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Mail - Wageneck, Lael - Outlook

to bike alongside cars in the same roadway. This will be an impressive route that any county should be proud of. This route won't just be for pleasure riding, but can become a significant means for people to get to work and children to get to school. This path will connect major population centers like the Mesa and Goleta to important destinations like San Marcos High School and Downtown Santa Barbara. Electric bikes have made it possible to bike to work quickly without even breaking into a sweat; now we must build infrastructure to support this mode of transportation. With climate change looming large on the horizon, it is up to cities and counties like ours to complete projects like this one to help people transition to cycling and walking.

Just as Induced Demand works negatively when a new driving lane is built and more cars are attracted causing traffic to actually get worse (like on the 405), it can also work positively. When new, safe bike routes are created, people who were afraid to bike in the road will transition to the new mode, attracted by the safety and convenience of the new infrastructure. (If you want to learn more about this phenomenon as it relates to alternative modes, I highly suggest the Youtube channel Not Just Bikes). Let's make Santa Barbara the most bikeable city in America!

Thank you,

--Sullivan Israel

From: Scott Norton <scott@leftcoastcreative.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2022 8:44 PM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Proposed Modoc Road Bike Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lael,

I got your email from a comment you posted on Instagram under a post from the SB Independent. Firstly, thanks for making yourself available for me to rant.

My cycling experience in Santa Barabara goes back to the 1980s. That stretch of Modoc along Hope Ranch was a daily route when I went yo SMHS and I still routinely use that road.

Killing those trees would be a massive waste of both the trees and the money required to kill them in my opinion.

The current landscape is part of the draw for riding that route. Drastically changing the environment and will greatly diminish the enjoyment of being there without any significant benefit that I can see.

I challenge claim that the road is particularly dangerous.

APS and Las Alturas to the Mission along the Riviera is dangerous. That stretch of Modoc not so much.

There's not much that gets me annoyed enough to reach out to a county rep — usually I figure voting

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should be enough.

But I really think the project is a horrible idea and I agree with people who say that they worked hard to get that preserve and it should stay as it is.

Thanks again for the opportunity to rant.

Best regards,

-Scott

Sent from Scott's famous able
iPhone 6.

Practice Safe Design
Use A Concept.

From: Ethan Stone <ethansb1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:01 PM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Cc: cdally@lacumbrewater.com <cdally@lacumbrewater.com>; Glasheen, Henry <Henry.Glasheen@schwab.com>; Hilary Stone <hilarystone57@gmail.com>; Hart, Gregg <gHart@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Modoc Bike Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lael. My wife and I own two properties in Hope Ranch and have lived in the community for over 25 years. I have served on the Hope School District Board and have been active in the community since we moved here. We walk in the Modoc preserve several times a week and really appreciate the trees and wildlife. There are definitely hawks and endangered Monarch butterflies using those trees along Modoc. The current County plan to remove a large number of trees along the roadway will I believe have a significant negative impact on the wildlife and the general feeling of the preserve. I encourage the County to consider alternatives to the current plan including working with the Land Trust of Santa Barbara County to move the path inside of the trees along Modoc. Thank you.

Ethan Stone
4620 Via Roblada
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

805-451-8495

From: David Moxness <david.moxness@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 8, 2022 1:34 PM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Modoc Road and Modoc Preserver

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello City Planner Wageneck,

I am writing as a concerned citizen on the proposed tree removal along Modoc Road. Trees are super crucial to our environment, more now than ever before. Especially these beautiful old specimens. Please please please reconsider. And vote for "Alignment C."

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards

David Moxness
1729 Clearview Road
SB 93101

From: whalumnus@aol.com <whalumnus@aol.com>

Sent: Saturday, September 10, 2022 9:13 AM

To: Hart, Gregg <gHart@countyofsb.org>

Subject: Saving The Modoc Nature Preserve

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Supervisor Hart and Staff,

My name is Wendel Hans. I write a monthly history column for TheMesaPaper.

In researching the original 1887 SouthernPacificRailroad I discovered the historic roadbed which exists today on the west flank of Santa Barbara Hope Ranch.

County staff refuses to accept that this historic trail exists and would be an excellent solution to the Modoc Road bike path you will all be concerned with. Rails to Trails.

The 1887 Railroad Trail, once known as Option "C", would satisfy the C.A.M.P group which has gathered over 3500 signatures of persons not wishing for the county to either cut down the classic Pearl Chase palms on Modoc road. C.A.M.P. does not want the county to pave the horsetrails and wetlands in the protected Modoc Nature Preserve., Options A and B.

The Bicycle Coalition has 1300 signatures of people wishing to save 420 pounds of CO2 emissions and separate bikers from traffic. The 1887 Railroad Trail would satisfy this group as well, but they are not aware the Railroad Trail could be a choice. The 1887 Railroad Trail would satisfy both the Bicycle Coalition and C.A.M.P.

Attached is a story I have written detailing some of my research. Could you consider taking another look at the 1887 Railroad Trail as a win-win for otherwise competing coalitions, for yourselves, and for the county.

Best, Wendel Hans
805 680 6609
Historian, *The Mesa Paper*
1541 Cliff Drive, SB, 93109

From: betty winholtz <winholtz@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Sunday, August 7, 2022 12:31 PM

To: Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org>; Jones, Morgan <mmjones@countyofsb.org>;
Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>; Hart, Gregg <gHart@countyofsb.org>

Subject: Modoc Road tree cutting within the Modoc Preserve

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planners:

Please recommend option C. Save the trees.

Sincerely,
Betty Winholtz

Modoc Multi-use Path Project

Michael Beers <mikelbeers@gmail.com>

Mon 7/25/2022 7:35 PM

To: PW Web <PWWEB@countyofsb.org>

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Santa Barbara County Public Works,

I'd like you to know that I *very enthusiastically* support the Modoc Multi-use Path project.

First – THANK YOU for working this project! This new section of path is a key step in improving the quality of life and safety for our community. The more people we get outdoors and moving, the better we will all be. Exposure to automobile traffic isn't safe, and it scares people, so they don't get out there.

From my experience as an avid walker and cyclist, Alignment B is the logical choice. It's safer and it will be a more pleasant experience for users. The fact that it minimizes tree loss is a bonus. I appreciate that change is unsettling for some people. I'm confident that people will appreciate this change once they experience it. A nicer – and safer - user experience makes Alignment B the rational choice. Please add my name to those supporting this project, and Alignment B.

If there is anything I can do to help, let me know.

Thanks again,

Michael Beers
3709 Coral Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

From: Linda Stewart-Oaten <ellesso@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 12:04 PM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: We're in favor of the proposed changes for the La Cumbre Water Co. Preserve

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Wageneck,

My husband, Allan Stewart-Oaten and I have resided at 167 Lyric Ln. SB 93110 for well over 40 years.

Like most of our neighbors, we love the La Cumbre Water Co. Preserve property and we're in favor of the proposed improvements, which include removing a few non-native trees --like the Eucalypts and the Canary Island Palms-- and replacing them with native California Oak trees, which are not only better suited to our drought-stricken area, but much less likely to burst into flames, if we were to experience another event like the 1990 Painted Cave fire, which burned down at least two houses in our neighborhood.

We've been impressed with the new bike path constructed along Las Positas all the way to Arroyo Burro Beach. This beautiful (and SAFE) bike path is a real asset to our entire community. Our understanding is that the proposal is not meant to clear cut all the trees on the Water Company property along upper Modoc Rd, but to replace selected existing trees (which are too close to the road and in danger of keeling over) and to replace some with native California Oaks.

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Mail - Wageneck, Lael - Outlook

To us, it makes a lot of sense to optimize safety and use of that land. The proposed plan would clearly enhance our property values, while maintaining a wildlife haven.

Sincerely,

Linda and Allan Stewart-Oaten

-

From: Aurora Meadows <a4meadows@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 7:43 AM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: In Support of the Modoc Bike Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I support safe ways for cyclists, pedestrians, and our kids and seniors to get around the county.

I also support trees, and hope that if some are cut down that they will be more than replaced with new trees with equal carbon sequestering power.

These projects beautiful our community, making it more enjoyable, easier and cleaner for all of us to get around.

Best,
Aurora

From: Chris Montigny <chris.sb805@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 11:44 AM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Support of bike path through modoc preserve

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,
I support the plan B for the bike path through the Modoc Preserve.
thank you for your consideration!

My Best,
Chris

--
Christopher Montigny
President
AJAX Refrigeration
www.ajaxrefrig.com
Ca. Lic.# 718494 C38, C20

--
Christopher Montigny
President
AJAX Refrigeration
www.ajaxrefrig.com
Ca. Lic.# 718494 C38, C20

From: Don Lubach <dlubach@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 9:15 AM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Fwd: I support the Modoc Trail Project

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Lael,

Gosh I'd hate to see this great project delayed. It removes a huge psychological barrier for families. Folks really don't like riding with car traffic. The project will lead to more bikes and ebikes and the more bikes out there, the safer it all gets. Let's just roll up our sleeves and plant native trees.

Don Lubach

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cheyenne Dally <cdally@lacumbrewater.com>
Subject: RE: I support the Modoc Trail Project
Date: August 8, 2022 at 1:04:48 PM PDT
To: Don Lubach <dlubach@mac.com>

Thank you for your comments they will be passed along to the La Cumbre Water Company Board Members. Please email your comments to the County of Santa Barbara PIO
Lael Wageneck (805) 568-3425. He is the Departments Public Information Officer (PIO).

lwageneck@countyofsb.org

Mike Alvarado
General Manager
La Cumbre Water Company
695 Via Tranquila
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
805-967-2376 Ext 115

Original Message

8/9/22, 11:44 AM

Mail - Wageneck, Lael - Outlook

From: Don Lubach <dlubach@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, August 8, 2022 12:28 PM
To: Office <office@lacumbrewater.com>
Subject: I support the Modoc Trail Project

Dear La Cumbre Water leadership,

I love the trail project. I loath most Eucalyptus trees. I want to help.

Please help bring the community this great trail. It is a vital link in our transportation infrastructure.

When folks are freaking out about the trees that need to be removed, let them know that Don Lubach has offered to help plant replacement trees that are native to our area. I'd love to help with that.

Don Lubach, Ph.D.

Former board member (a long time ago!) of the Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition Daily bicycle commuter Parent Tree Lover Safety fanatic Bicycling from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean with my daughter in 2023

8/9/22, 11:45 AM

Mail - Wageneck, Lael - Outlook

In favor of Modoc multi use path

Robert Stephenson <robertleestephenon@gmail.com>

Mon 8/8/2022 9:05 AM

To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>; Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org>; Jones, Morgan <mmjones@countyofsb.org>

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi there,

I want to message you all and let you know that I am in strong favor of the multiuse bike path I see what is brewing online from the division against it, all for the sake of these trees. I fear a lot of these individuals, although well-intentioned, are really resisting the progress this path could have on the community as a whole.

I understand trees might have to come down, but in terms of minimizing car usage and also helping connect the more Mesa to the rest of Santa Barbara, this bike path will mostly have a positive impact on Santa Barbara. We are lucky enough to live in a place where we can ride a bike 350 days out of the year, and fearing for my safety on that stretch of Modoc is really unpleasant. Especially when I think of all the children and teenagers and families that could be using it.

Are there going to be any city council meetings or ways that we can vote or stay up-to-date on this? Other than what I see on Nextdoor, which to be honest is overwhelming at this point. Most people I talk to, and maybe this is obvious, are in strong favor of this path. I hope it gets done. And to be honest, I hope new trees *are* planted that can grow there over the rest of my lifetime.

Anyway- thank you for all you are doing and enduring. I'm sure this is not easy on all of you as people have really strong emotional ties to these trees along Modoc. To me and a lot of others we are seeing this as progress, a step forward for our city.

Rob Stephenson

Please excuse any spelling errors as I have sent you this from my iPhone

Fwd: Save the planet: reduce carbon emissions through increasing bike use

Mike Alvarado <MAlvarado@lacumbrewater.com>

Fri 9/2/2022 12:54 PM

To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

This email was sent to the Water Company email, I wanted to pass it along.

Subject: Save the planet: reduce carbon emissions through increasing bike use**From:** Luca D'Agruma <lucadagrumawork@gmail.com>**Sent:** Friday, September 2, 2022 11:28 AM**To:** Office <office@lacumbrewater.com>**Subject:** Save the planet: reduce carbon emissions through increasing bike use

Hello, Boardmembers.

I am writing to express my support for the Class I bike path proposed for Modoc Road. As a local biker who does not feel comfortable riding Class II paths on streets where cars zoom by at 45 mph, I was supportive of this project from the moment I saw the proposal earlier this month. However, I think it's especially important to write to you now because I have become aware of a coordinated attack by a group of people who are either misinformed or disingenuous to stop the path from being built. On July 20th, an article urging readers to sign a petition to stop the path was published on Edhat ([here](#)), but it contained false information stating: "the proposal includes REMOVAL of 63 Canary Island palms and Eucalyptus, as well as 12 California live oaks, along Modoc Road." As I'm sure you know, the proposal actually says: "The proposed project would require the removal of approximately 63 trees which may alter the visual character of the Modoc Road corridor. However, **the project has been designed to avoid mature trees** to the extent feasible by locating the bike path adjacent to the roadway shoulder or to the south of many larger trees along the existing trail. **Only 10 of the 47 mature Canary Island palms lining the subject segment of Modoc Road would be removed**, and trees south of the bike path alignment would remain and continue to provide a park-like visual setting. Therefore, project-related changes to the visual character of Modoc Road would be minor and considered a less than significant impact." (Emphasis mine). Therefore, you should be aware that many people who have signed the petition or who might make public comments at your next meeting have been misinformed by the article/petition authors, and are angry about a problem that doesn't actually exist.

This piece of cycle infrastructure is one more step toward completing our bike network, which will allow people to cycle from the Andree Clark Bird Refuge all the way to Goleta without ever having to bike alongside cars in the same roadway. This will be an impressive route that any county should be proud of. This route won't just be for pleasure riding, but can become a significant means for people to get to work and children to get to school. This path will connect major population centers like the Mesa and Goleta to important destinations like San Marcos High School and Downtown Santa Barbara. Electric bikes have made it possible to bike to work quickly without even breaking into a sweat; now

9/6/22, 10:12 AM

Mail - Wageneck, Lael - Outlook

we must build infrastructure to support this mode of transportation. With climate change looming large on the horizon, it is up to cities and counties like ours to complete projects like this one to help people transition to cycling and walking.

Just as Induced Demand works negatively when a new driving lane is built and more cars are attracted causing traffic to actually get worse ([like on the 405](#)), it can also work positively. When new, safe bike routes are created, people who were afraid to bike in the road will transition to the new mode, attracted by the safety and convenience of the new infrastructure. (If you want to learn more about this phenomenon as it relates to alternative modes, I highly suggest the Youtube channel [Not Just Bikes](#)). Let's make Santa Barbara the most bikeable city in America!
Thank you,

--

Sincerely,

Luca D'Agruma (*he/him/his*)

[LinkedIn](#)

Re: Modoc Multi Use Path - New MND and More

Papalima <papalima@sysdyn.com>

Sat 9/3/2022 5:25 PM

To: Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org>

Cc: Gordon Feingold <gordonf@sysdyn.com>; Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chris,

We would like to express our support for the recently released (8/27/22) versions of the Modoc multi use path Alignments A & B., and the fact that a new and updated Mitigated Negative Declaration ("MND") will be published this month. We want to acknowledge that the county Department of Public Works has made significant efforts towards minimizing the number of trees slated to be removed and also minimizing as much as possible the impact of the project on the edges of the Modoc Preserve.

As you are already aware, we were troubled by the inclusion of the (ultimately discarded) Alignment C on the original draft MND, particularly due to it being not accessible to many, not ADA compliant, and the fact that a number of trees would also have to be eliminated along that alignment. In addition, the location of a multi use path on Alignment C would have a number of negative and direct impacts on the neighborhood directly adjacent to Alignment C. The county's specific objections or "cons" to Alignment C - which most likely led to its exclusion from consideration as a viable path are as follow:

- Slopes over 5% are not ADA compliant
- No vehicle separation
- No direct connection to the Obern Trail, Hollister Ave., or the neighborhoods north of Modoc Rd.
- Users may not feel as comfortable due to the remoteness of Vieja Dr.
- Conflicts with existing driveways
- Requires new lighting
- Requires oak tree removal
- Requires easement from Hope Ranch HOA

We would respectfully ask that you consider these additional **cons** to the above list:

- Vieja Dr. provides emergency ingress and egress for emergency vehicles and neighborhood residents. There does not appear to be enough space for an additional 10' wide path to coexist with this necessary corridor.
- A major gas line runs both adjacent to and under the Vieja Dr right of way, which the gas company would be unable to access were a paved path be located over it.
- Conflicts with existing bridal path easement
- Possible incursion into Modoc Preserve on its eastern side
- Possible interference with Vieja Valley School property
- Requires additional tree removal along Nogal
- Requires moving existing power poles

In addition, we are wondering if you are planning on **eliminating Alignment C completely** from the new draft MND, given its numerous limitations and prohibitions. Is this something that you are able to do, given that you have already stated that Alignment C is "no longer under consideration as it does not meet the project goals and needs."? If there is any way that this can be done, it would be a huge relief to many worried community members. (Worried, because there continue to be parties who are strongly advocating for the path to follow Alignment C)

Thank you so much for your time and attention to these matters, and for all of the hard work you are continuing to do - under some challenging circumstances - on this project. If there is any way we can assist you/the county in making the Modoc Multi-Use path a success which benefits the greatest number of people in the community, please let us know!

Sincerely yours,

Patricia and Gordon Feingold
(805) 448-5657

On Aug 18, 2022, at 8:43 PM, Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org> wrote:

Thanks for the info. I will get you added to the contacts list.
Chris

Chris Sneddon
Santa Barbara County Public Works
Transportation Division

From: Papalima <papalima@sysdyn.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 4:52:00 PM
To: Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Re: Modoc Bike Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Chris,

Thank you so much for all of the information.

Actually, I do not think that I am on the official contacts list - I got the revision to the alignments from the NextDoor posting by your colleague, so it would be great to be on the list.

I don't know if you have been following any of the recent goings-on of the CAMP group, but as of right now, they are still aggressively promoting Alignment C for the path, and just as aggressively rejecting Alignments A and B. In addition, they are organizing a rally/demonstration to take place on August 27th @ 11:00 am. Just wanted to keep you informed. I am still trying to do what I can from my end. My husband and I will be speaking at the Hope Ranch HOA board meeting this coming Tuesday, and we are also attending (via Zoom) the La Cumbre Water Co. board meeting this coming Monday. In the meantime, I am also trying to get as much information as possible out to my neighbors, plus get even more people informed. Everyone I've spoken to seems to think that it is impossible that Alignment C will ever get any traction, and I hope they are correct. But I am worried that this very active and very vocal group will sway the Board of Supervisors to force Public Works to make "C" happen. I'm really trying to make sure it does not.

Thank you again for your time and attention to this matter.

Patricia Feingold (& Gordon)

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 15, 2022, at 5:15 AM, Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org> wrote:

Good Morning,

Thanks for your email. I was just about to check that you were on the contacts list, so I am glad to hear you got it. If you know of others who would like to be on our contacts list, let us know. We use it to send out updates, etc.

Gas lines wouldn't necessarily make it infeasible, but would need to be considered. We coordinate with utility companies during the design process. It depends somewhat on who has prior rights and if facilities would need to be moved or avoided. And it is not ideal to have them directly under a path, as that would make it challenging (and more expensive) if they need to dig up the lines for maintenance, etc. That is good information to have, we would need to look into it more if Alt C was considered further.

Chris

From: Papalima <papalima@sysdyn.com>

Sent: Sunday, August 14, 2022 4:39 PM

To: Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org>

Subject: Re: Modoc Bike Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Chris,

I believe that one of your colleagues put links to the new revision to the alignments up on the NextDoor site this past week. I am not sure how many of the participants have seen it, but I am trying to make people aware of it. Your document entitled "Modoc Multi-Use Path Information Sheet Update - August 11, 2022" is great - in particular I would like to thank you for the chart on Page 2 that describes the Pros and Cons of the alignment options and makes the statement (in bold!) that "**Alignment C is no longer under consideration as it does not meet the project goals and needs.**"

My hope is that the county board of supervisors will appreciate this document for its reasonableness and clarity and vote to support it. I will certainly be requesting of them that they do just that. I am still planning on discussing this matter with our Hope Ranch board of directors at its upcoming meeting on 8/23, and I have also been in the process of speaking with members of the Hope Ranch Trails Association - in addition to keeping all of my neighbors up to date.

I do have one question: I am sure you are aware that there is a major natural gas line that runs under portions of Vieja Dr. - some of my neighbors believe that the presence of the gas line would act as a prohibition to any sort of construction along Vieja. I am not sure that this is correct. What would you say about this?

Thank you so much for keeping me in the loop on all things regarding the bike path alignments, I really appreciate it. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to support the transportation division's mission in this matter.

Best regards,

Patricia Feingold (with Gordon Feingold, who shares my views on all of this)

On Aug 8, 2022, at 10:32 PM, Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org> wrote:

Hi,

Thank you for the email and discussion.

We have a new revision to the alignments that we are checking and then will get some info to you on the status this week.

Chris

Chris Sneddon

Santa Barbara County Public Works

Transportation Division

From: Papalima <papalima@sysdyn.com>

Sent: Saturday, August 6, 2022 11:03:53 AM

To: Sneddon, Chris <csneddo@countyofsb.org>

Cc: Jill Van Zeebroeck <jill@hoperanch.org>; Gordon Feingold <gaf@sysdyn.com>

Subject: Fwd: Modoc Bike Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I am resending my recent email with a better image of the attachment. I apologize for the inconvenience.

Patricia Feingold

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Papalima <papalima@sysdyn.com>
Date: August 6, 2022 at 10:44:41 AM PDT
To: csneddo@countyofsb.org
Cc: Jill Van Zeebroeck <Jill@hoperanch.org>, Gordon Feingold <gaf@sysdyn.com>
Subject: Modoc Bike Path

Hi Chris,

Thank you so much for your call yesterday, it was really enjoyable and enlightening to speak with you. As promised, I will be sending you an email detailing my and my neighbors' position regarding the proposed (and not-so-proposed) continuation of the Modoc corridor bike path. In the meantime, I wanted to quickly forward an image to you from the NextDoor website public discussion area. It illustrates the position the "tree extremists" are putting forth to the community - - with particular emphasis on their agenda of promoting the unviable Option "C". This is really disturbing, especially because there is so much misleading information being circulated.

If there is anything the county can do in the short term to counteract this rhetoric, i.e., put forth some clear, rational and factual information about the proposed project, it would be extremely helpful, and greatly appreciated. The stakeholders deserve accurate information, not hand-wringing and hyperbole. I appreciate your time and attention regarding this matter, and I will be back in touch shortly with more detail and information from my end.
 Best regards,

Patricia Feingold
 805 448-5657

Mail 10:18 AM Sat Aug 6

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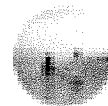


Notifications



Messages

+ Post



Shelly Cobb

Encore - 1 day ago

Calling all Friends of Trees

We are giving it ALL we've trees along Modoc Road I want to cut down tall histc use bike path! These two "A(wful)" and "B(ad)". Doc

The GOOD news is, there will save the trees, protect route for the Class 1 multi YOUR HELP!

The County Board of Supri Hart's attention before the

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Sent from my iPad

- LEARN THE AS, B'S & C's
choose -bad- or-awful- for-
- Sign the SMRT petition
- Donate to our legal fund
- Take a guided walk on
to RSVP, 7am or 7pm daily
- Email County Planners
recommend C!
- Email Supervisor Hart :
- Invite all your friends to
Sat Aug 27, at 11am. (Mee
Walk, ride your bike 🚲, o
- Become a CAMP volun

We speak for the Trees! 🌳



Don't Choose

From: Chris Proctor <chris@proctor.net>

Sent: Friday, September 9, 2022 11:40 AM

To: Office <office@lacumbrewater.com>; arodriguez@lacumbrewater.com; mrusso@lacumbrewater.com; jlodas@lacumbrewater.com

Subject: Modoc bike path

Dear La Cumbre Mutual Water District,

As a shareholder at 465 Las Palmas Dr., I support the County's plan to build a multi-use path connecting the Obern Trail to Santa Barbara's Modoc and Las Positas separated paths, and I urge the Water District to do everything in its power to facilitate its completion. Providing a protected path is vital for public safety along this dangerous stretch of road that is used by children riding their bikes to and from school, families, commuters, and the elderly. As an

orthopedic surgeon, I see first-hand the dangers of bicycling on unprotected paths. Study after study demonstrates that having protected multi-use paths significantly increases the number of people bicycling and walking as they feel safe when doing so. Safe bicycling improves health, protects the environment, and combats global warming. Additionally, the path will have the added benefit of improving fire safety by replacing the non-native trees, including eucalyptus trees that act as fire accelerants, with native oaks. Finally, the multi-use path is consistent with the conservation easement as this allows public access to designated trails and the removal of non-native trees; e-bikes are not considered motorized vehicles according to the California vehicle code and the Federal Government.

The completion of the multi-use path will benefit the community by enhancing safety, improving health, providing fire protection, protecting the environment, battling global warming, and allowing ADA-compliant access to the Modoc Preserve, and I hope that you will support it.

Sincerely,
Christopher Proctor, MD

--

Christopher S. Proctor, MD
Alta Orthopaedics



From: [Christine Bourgeois](#)
Subject: The Modoc multi-use path is necessary: THANK YOU for making it happen!
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 1:59:46 PM

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear official,

Completing the Modoc multi-use path needs to happen for 4 critical reasons:

- **1) Equity:** It will provide equitable access to the public open space of the Modoc Preserve for users of all ages and abilities (not only for local residents who have been keeping the Modoc Preserve "secret" until now...)
- **2) Safety:** Modoc Road has discontinuous sidewalks and narrow and unprotected bike lanes adjacent to road with speeds up to 45 mph. Several people have died on Modoc over the last 10 years: those deaths could have been prevented with better infrastructure.
- **3) Restoration:** There will be no impact to native trees. New trees will be planted with a focus on sustainability and restoring habitats which are Preserve's goals.
- **4) Connectivity:** The Modoc multi-use path is a vital and missing link between two existing multi-use paths. Santa Barbara County needs a more complete network of safe, off-street facilities. To illustrate this urgent need, here is a personal story: On Tuesday morning (maybe around 8:30am), I was riding my bicycle on Modoc where the construction is happening. Several teenagers (at least 6 of them) on e-bike carrying heavy backpacks full of books passed me. It was so nice to see them commuting from downtown to SMHS and not driving a car :) But with a safer Modoc multi-use path, instead of 6 young e-bike commuters, it could become 20 or many more... Please build this multi-use path for the safety of our youth and all of us. Thank you.

Christine (Barré) Bourgeois
Cell: (805) 284-6787
Christine's photos: <http://cbarreb.smugmug.com/>

From: Susan Beers <sfbeers@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 7:08 PM
To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>
Subject: Fwd: Support the multiuse path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I was advised by the La Cumbre water company to forward you my comments regarding the proposed multiuse path along Modoc. Please see the message I sent to them, as follows.

> I would like to encourage you to allow a multiuse path to be built on the property that runs along Modoc. The current bike path is dangerous to cyclists and pedestrians. If you look at records you will see that more than one cyclist has been seriously injured and has even lost their life because of being hit by a car on that very stretch of road. It will happen again if the path is not physically separated from the road. When the next accident occurs, it easily could be a child or an elderly person who is hurt because all ages use that path. I know because I have ridden that path since 1983 and I have experienced close calls. It is not a "perfectly good" bike path, as some citizens have recently called it. It is, in fact, the most dangerous stretch of path from Goleta to SB

>

> I am sympathetic to neighbors who do not want trees removed, but we need a new path to reduce the probability of serious accidents. The best compromise is to allow an easement through the property. A path that disturbs as few trees as possible will ensure that the current quality of the property will be maintained. In contrast, a new path along the edge of the road will greatly diminish the beauty of the property because that solution requires the removal of many trees. A path through the property would also allow people other than cyclists, like those in wheelchairs or those who cannot walk on a rocky dirt path, to enjoy the preserve. Not allowing an easement will have a strong negative effect on everyone's experience due to tree removal, as well as on wildlife habitat.

>

> The problem of how best to create a very needed class 1 bike path is distressing our community. Please help us resolve the issue by permitting a path that destroys as few trees as is possible.

>

> Thankyou for reading my message and considering my position.

>

> Susan Beers

> 3709 Coral St.

> Santa Barbara

>

> 805-689-4096

From: Nancy Black <nancy.black@mercurypress.com>

Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 11:09 AM

To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>

Subject: Regarding a connector bike path on Modoc

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm writing to let you know that I love the idea of a bike trail along Modoc. It would increase the safety factor dramatically. It would allow my family to access the bike path to Goleta from our house. It's a big expansion in safe bike riding, and would help to get my car off the road. I would ride a lot more with safer paths like this one.

I support the project, and thank you for your willingness to consider it.

On behalf of my family and community, thank you,
Nancy

Nancy Black
Cofounder, Producer, Storyteller

From: Corey D Evans <corey@drjsbikeshop.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 2, 2022 3:06 PM

To: Wageneck, Lael <lwageneck@countyofsb.org>

Subject: In Support of the Modoc Bike Path

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the proposed alignment for the Class II Modoc Bike Path. I support safer routes for cyclists, pedestrians and children, including those traveling to Vieja Valley School and elsewhere.

This bike path will be an important component to the connectivity of the bike path corridor from Goleta to Carpinteria and will allow bicyclists of all ages to traverse across our communities without encountering motorists.

I am also an advocate for environmentally-conscious infrastructure and am confident that the City of Santa Barbara and SB Bike will protect native trees etc and only mostly replace invasive trees, such as Eucalyptus when studying the proposed alignment.

Thank you for your continued work on this bike path.

Sincerely,

—

Corey Evans,

Owner

Dr. J's Bicycle Shop

drjsbikeshop.com | 805.688.6263 | Solvang, CA