

From: [Robert Park](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Comments on 2/23 agenda item 8 (Hammersley Rd project)
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 11:35:06 AM

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I write in opposition to the project as currently proposed for the block of Hammersley Rd between Whitney Way and Gilbert Rd, where I live, and in opposition to the proposed treatment of the nearby Hammersley Rd/Whitney Way intersection as shown [here](#).

My wife and I were grateful for the city's redesign of the Hammersley Rd/Whitney Way intersection which put an end to cross traffic on Hammersley Rd. We no longer have frequent accidents at that intersection. My wife was involved in providing assistance to one of the victims of the Christmas day accident several years ago that resulted in two deaths. My chief safety concern now with that intersection is the blind pocket in the northbound lanes of Whitney Way where Hammersley Rd connects. I believe the **full width** of Hammersley Rd where it connects to the downhill northbound lanes of Whitney Way should be maintained.

I am a homeowner who gets around chiefly by bicycle most of the year and I make frequent use of the bike lanes that have been marked on both sides of Hammersley Rd. Bicycle safety has not been a major concern as I use these bike lanes, and it has not been a concern at all in our block since traffic crossing Whitney Way has been eliminated by the intersection redesign. I do get a bit nervous when I make the right turn on to Whitney Way as downhill northbound traffic rushes past. Here is my key point. The currently proposed changes to this intersection would make biking around that corner (or across) **less safe** because it would shift us further into the blind pocket that northbound Whitney Way traffic passes through, sometimes at high speed. In addition, the proposal to eliminate the left turn lane for east bound Hammersley Rd traffic at this intersection would force this traffic to turn right and go up the hill were most of it would then make a U turn, adding to the northbound downhill traffic going through the blind pocket. For safety reasons, I oppose both the elimination of that left turn lane and the narrowing of Hammersley Rd as it connects to the east side of Whitney Way.

Another reason for maintaining the full width of Hammersley Rd east of Whitney Way is mail delivery. The U.S. mail truck delivers mail on our side of Hammersley and then makes a U turn for delivery along the south side.

Parking is also a concern for our block of Hammersley Rd. For more than 20 years we have held an annual winter music event at our house which can attract more than 30 people. Ours is the last house on the north side of Hammersley Rd to the east of Whitney Way. Our visitors cannot park on Whitney Way for either the block south or the block north because the curb lane is a traffic lane, and people are understandably reluctant to park further away on Whitney Way because while parking is allowed the curb lane is, in practice, used as a traffic lane.

In summary, I feel the Hammersley Rd project as currently proposed should end at Gilbert Rd and take up again from Whitney Way to the west, if that is what residents in those blocks want. Before any changes are made to our block between Gilbert Rd and Whitney Way I believe the project should be revised to allow parking to be retained along the north side of our block and plans to make Hammersley Rd narrower where it connects to the east side of Whitney Way should be dropped. The currently proposed intersection changes would make

conditions less safe, not more safe, for bikers and pedestrians in this area.