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Dear Transportation Commission,

I am a long time resident of Whitney Way and I am writing to ask that (with regard to your considerations of changes on Whitney Way) you keep the street parking option for residents. Bikes are currently able to share the parking lane and, having grown up here, the lane is used far more by vehicles than it is by bikes. Though I appreciate bikers wanting to utilize this stretch of Whitney way for biking, I believe that there are other reasons that Whitney way is not a preferred bike route and parking is not what is hampering that.

The church in our neighborhood utilizes street parking for their services and there is an in home group nursing facility that also uses street parking for staff, visitors, etc. I urge you to leave the street parking and bike lane as a combined use, as that seems to be what would serve the most individuals and the residents of the street.

I support the idea of changing the speed limit to 25mph, however I think that the enforcement will pose a problem. Whitney way has been a major throughway for a long time and people are very used to going at higher speeds than already posted currently. Further reducing these speeds will require additional and constant enforcement.

The patterns and uses that have existed on Whitney way should be considered in making sustainable changes to the traffic pattern. Street parking is not only used by residents and businesses on Whitney way but also heavily utilized by individuals using the bus services (those who Live further out and drive in to park and ride to work). However, this has been much less prevalent since the covid 19 pandemic. Without the addition of speed bumps or constant speed control, Whitney way traffic will continue to move too quickly to be ideal for bikers, giving them their own bike lane and removing street parking will not change the safety issue, nor will it give them more room than they currently have. I have witnessed the bikers that use Whitney way utilize the shared lane with occasional parked cars with enough room to remain safe.

I support you lowering the speed limit, if you can enforce it, and maintaining the current shared parking and bike curbside lane to meet the many needs of various taxpayers that use it.

Thank you, Margaret Porco

Sent from my iPhone