

From: [Alan Scofield](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, July 25, 2024 1:00:12 PM

July 25, 2024 @ 07:50pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Alan Scofield
2107 Sea Shell Dr. Richmond CA,

Richmond, CA 94804
alan@alanscofield.com
415-518-9995

From: [Ann Klein](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024 8:00:20 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 02:50am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Ann Klein
207 Commodore Dr,
Richmond, CA 94804
annklein3@yahoo.com
510-542-1118

From: [Anne Shortall](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, August 1, 2024 11:30:14 AM

August 01, 2024 @ 06:20pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

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Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Anne Shortall
Berkeley, ca,

Berkeley, CA 94707
ilteddy@icloud.com
510-528-8379

From: [antoine abizeid](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 9:20:10 PM

July 10, 2024 @ 04:10am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

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It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

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Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
antoine abizeid
311 Commodore Dr,
Richmond, CA 94804
aabizeid@aol.com
415-412-2384

From: [antoine abizeid](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, July 18, 2024 4:00:12 PM

July 18, 2024 @ 10:50pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
antoine abizeid
311 Commodore Dr,

Richmond, CA 94804
aabizeid@aol.com
415-412-2384

From: [Arisbel Morin](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 8:03:40 PM

August 17, 2024 @ 03:03am

Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Please approve BATA's permit application on September 5!

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by BATA about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge daily to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Arisbel Morin
727 monarch ct Richmond ,

San Pablo, CA 94806
arisbelmorin@yahoo.com
415-302-9637

From: [barry gilbert](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Sunday, July 7, 2024 9:30:14 AM

July 07, 2024 @ 04:20pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
barry gilbert
snowberry ct,

San Rafael, CA 94901
baark999@yahoo.com
415-235-6573

From: [Bill Schwob](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 10:30:46 AM

June 13, 2024 @ 05:20pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Bill Schwob
213 East Richmond Ave,

Richmond, CA 94801
Bill@billschwob.com
510-237-1458

From: [Brett Hansson](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please follow through on the plan!
Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 2:40:14 PM

July 05, 2024 @ 04:50pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please follow through on the plan!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the proposal to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

The upcoming decision by the BATA committee on May 22 presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion, improve air quality, and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

There is no space for emergency vehicles to pass resulting in significant delays in help getting to those who need it.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Brett Hansson
1495 Latitudes Way,
Richmond, CA 94804
Brettahansson@gmail.com
415-385-2261

From: [Bruce Beyaert](#)
To: [BCDC PublicComment](#)
Cc: [John Gioia](#); [Cesar Zepeda](#); [Goldzband, Larry@BCDC](#); [Goldbeck, Steve@BCDC](#); [Ross, Harriet@BCDC](#); [Pan, Katharine@BCDC](#); [Peterson, Sierra@BCDC](#)
Subject: Popularity of Bay Trail Across Richmond San Rafael Bridge
Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024 2:50:07 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from baytrailtrac@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

Chair Wasserman and Commissioners,

This email answers the question you asked after the April briefing on the Richmond/San Rafael bridge pilot project about how usage of the Bay Trail across this bridge compares with other Bay Area bridges. The Bay Trail traverses five of BATA's state-owned bridges — Benicia, Carquinez Strait, Richmond-San Rafael, Bay Bridge East Span and Dumbarton. Of these, the Richmond-San Rafael bridge is most popular with bicyclists.

UC Berkeley's Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology group's May 8 "[After Study](#)" on the four-year RSR Bridge pilot project states:

- "In the most recent peak season, bicycle traffic on the bridge was the highest of all State-owned toll bridge paths, including the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge multi-use path."

On weekends during the past 45 days, bicyclists enjoyed an average of 324 trips across the RSR Bridge vs. only 206 on the Bay Bridge. Weekdays saw an average of bicycle 132 trips across the RSR Bridge vs. 128 on the Bay Bridge.

Pedestrian usage of the RSR Bridge Trail is much lower than for the Bay Bridge. The pilot project was not designed or built to be pedestrian-friendly due to the focus on transportation, rather than recreation. No restrooms are provided at trailheads, and there is virtually no convenient trailhead parking. This is in stark contrast to the inviting, convenient trailhead parking with restrooms provided at the Bridge Yard for the Bay Bridge East Span. In addition, pedestrian use is underreported due to the absence of a counter on the Marin side of the RSR Bridge.

Of course, none of BATA's state-owned bridges can compete with the iconic Golden Gate Bridge, which is an international tourist destination crawling with people on foot and wheels.

Bruce

Bruce Beyaert, TRAC Chair
baytrailtrac@gmail.com
tel. 510-235-2835
<http://www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail/>
<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/109/TRAC>

From: [bruce ultsch](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 1:10:15 PM

July 23, 2024 @ 08:00pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
bruce ultsch
628 Western Drive,
Richmond, CA 94801
ultschbr@gmail.com

510-915-7244

From: [Carol Walker](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Friday, June 28, 2024 3:40:09 PM

June 28, 2024 @ 10:30pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Carol Walker
1228 Rossmoor Pkwy #219,
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
dolly94804@aol.com
510-406-3482

From: [Carol Walker](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 2:41:21 PM

August 22, 2024 @ 09:40pm

Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

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Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Carol Walker
1228 Rossmoor Parkway ,

Walnut Creek, CA 94595
dolly94804@aol.com
510-406-3482

From: [Catherine Ryan](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 7:10:08 AM

August 15, 2024 @ 02:00pm

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,
Catherine Ryan
Berkeley ,
Albany, CA 94706
catherine@lunaproductions.com
510-508-8660

From: [Charles Shreeve](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 12:47:22 PM

August 22, 2024 @ 07:47pm

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,
Charles Shreeve
1320 Road 20 Apt. 25,
San Pablo, CA 94806
chuckshreeve319@gmail.com
510-730-4053

From: [Charmina Guerrero](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Monday, July 29, 2024 9:30:10 PM

July 30, 2024 @ 04:20am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Charmina Guerrero
760 Carlson Blvd #12,
Richmond, CA 94804
mylue@live.com
415-299-2415

From: [Chris Kekicheff](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 7:54:29 PM

August 16, 2024 @ 02:54am

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,
Chris Kekicheff
2177 halo lane, alameda,
Alameda, CA 94501
ckekicheff@gmail.com
650-242-6365

From: [Christopher Gibney](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 3:00:19 PM

July 23, 2024 @ 09:50pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Christopher Gibney
723 Western Dr,

Richmond, CA 94801
christophergibney8@gmail.com
510-932-9917

From: [Craig Yates](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 10:40:15 AM

June 11, 2024 @ 05:30pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Craig Yates
1004 los gamos rd SR CA ,

San Rafael, CA 94903
craig.yates@sbcglobal.net
415-472-4846

From: [Daniel Allen](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 2:44:02 PM

August 16, 2024 @ 09:43pm

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,
Daniel Allen
1060 Alberdan Circle ,
Pinole, CA 94564
dall1975@hotmail.com
510-703-7587

From: [David Heard](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 9:52:35 AM

August 16, 2024 @ 04:52pm

Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Please approve BATA's permit application on September 5!

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by BATA about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge daily to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
David Heard
9556 Brockton Ave San Ramon CA,

San Ramon, CA 94583
david.heard@marinmazda.com
958-980-7486

From: [Denise Scholz](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Monday, July 1, 2024 5:00:12 PM

July 01, 2024 @ 11:50pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Denise Scholz
PO Box 71215,
Richmond, CA 94807
denisescholz@gmail.com

707-360-8268

From: [Denise Serpa](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 2:00:12 AM

June 18, 2024 @ 08:50am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Denise Serpa
761 Humboldt st, A,
Richmond, CA 94805
ninaserpa40@gmail.com
415-218-4839

From: [Douglas E Williams](#)
To: Reception@BCDC
Subject: 9/5/2024 BCDC Meeting: RSR Bridge Permit Amendment
Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024 11:48:54 AM
Attachments: [Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Access Improvements Review of 142024 Update Documents.eml.msg](#)

You don't often get email from doug@weldengineers.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

The Bike Lane Experiment on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge has caused great harm to the health and well-being of those of us who live in Richmond, while serving an extremely small group of bicycle enthusiasts and benefiting traffic on the Marin side. Either the bike lane should be eliminated or it should be shared with the East Bound traffic to reduce the daily backups in Richmond.

I am attaching an analysis of the BATA and PATH reports that I previously submitted to BATA because it outlines in detail the pervasive bias, fallacies and gross oversights in the work that supported the BATA recommendations to date. Some important conclusions are:

- Maintaining the bike path on only the West bound direction furthers the disregard for the health and well-being of Richmond residents and businesses in favor of a much smaller number of Marin county businesses.
- There is no valid environmental argument for keeping a bike lane, considering the detrimental consequences of daily traffic back ups on the health, safety and well-being of the thousands of residents and commuters that are affected. The bike lane serves an extremely small number of users and causes a far greater carbon footprint than if a third traffic lane was used to reduce backup on the Richmond side.
- No recognition was made of critically important problems that the bike lane introduces in any of the studies or reports that BATA used to justify the bike lane. On July 21, 2023, a potential jumper who accessed the bridge from the bike lane resulted in the bridge being completely closed to all traffic for nearly 20 hours. This was possible because the 4 mile long bike lane is not policed or even monitored. For an average annual daily traffic (AADT) volume of 76,000 vehicles, this meant that 63,000 vehicles were rerouted (about 50 miles more) or simply idled for that time. The substantial effort that has been put into stopping jumpers on the Golden Gate Bridge includes policing, cameras and additional structures, but this budget item is completely ignored in all BATA staff documents and presentations.
- Unlike pedestrian access on the Golden Gate Bridge, the RSRB bike path has no police and very few bike riders and walkers. With the access that is available today, a terrorist with a small amount of explosives and a rudimentary knowledge of bridge fracture critical members (FCMs) could completely destroy the bridge without any possibility of timely intervention. This very real possibility was completely missed in all of the work justifying the bike lane, and no budget has been proposed to preclude this potentially disastrous consequence of the open bike lane.

As noted in the attached report, the underlying arguments for justifying a bike lane in lieu of a

peak-hours traffic lane (such as was successfully implemented in the East bound direction) are heavily biased, incomplete and unscientific. I would be happy to present the findings in my report in person if that would be helpful.

I urge you to force a rational solution (e.g., a third, peak-hours traffic lane in the West bound direction) to the current, completely unacceptable condition.

Regards,

Doug
Douglas E. Williams
721 Ocean Ave., Richmond, CA 94801
510.235.9353
doug@weldengineers.com
Business: weldengineers.com
Personal: DouglasEWilliams.com

From: [Dwayne McQuilliams](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Friday, June 28, 2024 3:50:16 PM

June 28, 2024 @ 10:40pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Dwayne McQuilliams
5435 Clinton Avenue,

Richmond, CA 94805
mcqdreambuilder@aol.com
418-272-9465

From: [Edgar Gee](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please follow through on the plan!
Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024 6:30:24 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 01:20am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please follow through on the plan!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the proposal to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

The upcoming decision by the BATA committee on May 22 presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion, improve air quality, and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Edgar Gee
PO Box 6463,
Albany, CA 94706
edgargee@hey.com
415-810-0828

From: [Elena Ronquillo](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Thursday, July 11, 2024 12:30:48 PM

July 11, 2024 @ 07:20pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Elena Ronquillo
650 37th St, Richmond,
Richmond, CA 94805
nolaca2@gmail.com
510-388-2488

From: [Harold Maneth](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The time is now to implement a more permanent solution!
Date: Friday, June 14, 2024 6:00:14 PM

June 15, 2024 @ 12:50am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The time is now to implement a more permanent solution!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Harold Maneth
1771 Broadway Street,
Concord, CA 94520
Harold_Maneth@yahoo.com
925-765-9488

From: [Harold Maneth](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Sunday, June 30, 2024 8:50:08 AM

June 30, 2024 @ 03:40pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Harold Maneth
1771 Broadway Street,
Concord, CA 94520
Harold_Maneth@yahoo.com
925-765-9488

From: [James Morris](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 2:30:16 PM

June 13, 2024 @ 09:20pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
James Morris
268 La Salle Ave, Piedmont ,

Piedmont, CA 94610
morris@pixar.com
415-699-0692

From: [Jane Driscoll](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 4:20:09 PM

July 23, 2024 @ 11:10pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

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By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Jane Driscoll
129 Eddy St apt 4,
Richmond, CA 94801
jadisco65@gmail.com
415-793-0400

From: [Janet Blake](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024 8:00:28 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 02:50am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Janet Blake
25 Montana Street,
Richmond, CA 94801
janetblake@gmail.com

415-786-1923

From: [Janet Friedman](#)
To: [BCDC PublicComment](#)
Subject: Close the bridge bike lane
Date: Saturday, June 15, 2024 10:15:06 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from janet415@me.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

June15th 3:30 pm-5:45 pm.

We sat in a massive traffic jam for an hour and 45 minutes as crews dealt with the accident and fire caused when a big rig crashed into a disabled car on the Richmond San Rafael bridge. That car should've been able to pull safely onto the shoulder.

Instead that safety lane was closed for the benefit of an average of 200 cyclists, resulting in hundreds and hundreds of hours of motorist delays to say nothing of the vast amounts of pollution spewed into the air to benefit a few.

This bike lane should be abandoned as soon as possible, especially as summer is going to create more and more traffic that endangers the community at large for the benefit of a few.

Please let me know who is responsible for fixing this situation as I intend to pursue this.

Janet Friedman
San Rafael, CA
415 596-9266

From: [Janice Gartin](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 12:00:19 PM

July 24, 2024 @ 06:50pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Janice Gartin
381 Joan Vista St.,
El Sobrante, CA 94803
msgartin@comcast.net

510-206-0524

From: [Jean-Jacques Lasne](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 8:20:12 PM

June 14, 2024 @ 03:10am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

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Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Jean-Jacques Lasne
2501 7TH AVE, OAKLAND, CA 94606-1505,
Oakland, CA 94606
jjlasne@hotmail.com

415-577-4640

From: [Jeffrey Heller](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Friday, June 7, 2024 12:40:14 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 07:30pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Heller
255 The Uplands,
Berkeley, CA 94705
jeffreyh@hellermanus.com
415-730-5707

From: [John Ebey](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 10:30:30 PM

June 14, 2024 @ 05:20am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

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Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
John Ebey
4 Portola Avenue ,
San Rafael, CA 94903
johnebey@gmail.com
415-521-4369

August 2, 2024

Larry Goldzband, Executive Director
San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 510
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Permit 1997.001.06

Mr. Goldzband,

This letter is to inform you that, at its meeting on July 26, 2024, the West Contra Costa Transportation Commission (WCCTC), previously known as the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee, passed a resolution relating to the Richmond-San Rafael (RSR) Bridge Pilot and potential amendments to bridge permit 1997.001.06. The signed resolution was approved on a 7-0 vote and is attached. It requests that “The Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Pilot Trail should remain open 24 hours/day, seven days/week until the westbound I-580 ORT/HOV lane extension project is completed, and its impact has been evaluated.”

Sincerely,



John Nemeth
Executive Director
WCCTC

**WEST CONTRA COSTA TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DOING BUSINESS AS
THE WEST CONTRA COSTA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

RESOLUTION NO. 24-09

**RECOMMENDED CONTINUATION OF THE RICHMOND-SAN RAFAEL
BRIDGE TRAIL PILOT UNTIL AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE
WESTBOUND I-580 OPEN ROAD TOLLING AND HOV LANE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Caltrans and the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) opened the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Trail as a four year pilot program on November 16, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the pilot has provided access to the bridge for active transportation modes, in keeping with BCDC's legislative mandate of ensuring "maximum feasible access" to the San Francisco Bay.

WHEREAS, the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Trail is a useful link in the multi-use San Francisco Bay Trail system that connects the East Bay and North Bay.

WHEREAS, BATA and Caltrans have proposed that the Richmond-San Rafael (RSR) Bridge Trail be used as a breakdown lane for motor vehicles for four days/week while future options are studied; and

WHEREAS, it is not clear, from the UC Berkeley's Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology's After Study (Phase II), or other information, that reverting the pathway back to a shoulder four days/week will provide meaningful traffic relief or safety benefits in the absence of other improvements; and

WHEREAS, BATA plans to implement open road tolling (ORT) and extend the westbound I-580 HOV lane to the bridge by the end of 2025 or early 2026; and

WHEREAS, the westbound I-580 ORT/HOV project could provide meaningful traffic congestion relief and safety benefits to the upstream approach of the bridge; and

WHEREAS, BATA has recently initiated a Design Alternative Assessment (DAA) that considers future alternatives for the upper deck, including a shoulder, an HOV lane, a multi-use path, or some combination of these elements.

WHEREAS, this Board supports the DAA work and continued evaluation of future alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the westbound I-580 ORT/HOV project will very likely be completed sooner than a third vehicular lane (HOV) could be implemented; and

WHEREAS, continuation of the Pilot, without modification until after the opening of the I- 580 ORT/HOV project, would consequently not interfere with the potential implementation of future third vehicular (HOV) lane in the future; and

WHEREAS, continuation of the Pilot, without modification, will save the region about \$1M per year in the cost of movable barrier operations, bike shuttle operations, and signage installation; and

WHEREAS, a proposed bike shuttle would not provide an equivalent level of access for non-automobile users and may have limited frequencies, hours of operation, and ability to transport various types of bicycles;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Pilot Trail should remain open 24 hours/day, seven days/week until the westbound I-580 ORT/HOV lane extension project is completed, and its impact has been evaluated.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the WCCTAC Board at its regular meeting on July 26, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: R. XAVIER, C. SASAI, P. FADELLI, S. BANA, D. ROBINSON, R. SALTZMAN,
C. PEEPLES

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: J. GIOIA, T. HANSEN
E. MARTINEZ, C. KELLEY

By: Rita C. Xavier
Rita Xavier, Chair

Attest:

John Nemeth
John Nemeth, Executive Director

Approved as to Form:

K. Kokotaylo
Kristopher Kokotaylo, General Counsel

From: [John Richards](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 11:30:15 AM

July 23, 2024 @ 06:20pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
John Richards
124 Cottage Ave,
Richmond, CA 94801
futura99@comcast.net
510-778-6748

From: [John Rogers](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 12:50:11 PM

August 13, 2024 @ 07:40pm

Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Please approve BATA's permit application on September 5!

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by BATA about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge daily to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
John Rogers
PO Box 474,

Ross, CA 94957
jkrogers58@gmail.com
415-407-5358

From: [Jonathan Gibbs](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 1:30:16 PM

August 15, 2024 @ 08:20pm

This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

The lack of a third lane or emergency shoulder on the bridge is a problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority at your September 5 meeting to approve the permit that will enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's time to close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities. The review process for implementing these changes to the bridge has gone on too long. We must have government agencies and a transportation plan that is responsive to the needs of our community. This is your chance to make an impact.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Jonathan Gibbs
4844 Allendale Ave,
Oakland, CA 94619
jonjgibbs3856@yahoo.com
510-517-4051

From: [Jose Castaneda](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 10:00:22 PM

June 14, 2024 @ 04:50am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

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You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Jose Castaneda
531 A Street,

Richmond, CA 94801
jacconstructioncompany@gmail.com
510-255-9620

From: [Katho Szwanek](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 3:10:30 PM

June 13, 2024 @ 10:00pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Katho Szwanek
1334 Esmond,
Richmond, CA 94801
katho59@gmail.com

510-934-9609

From: [Ken Torres](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The time is now to implement a more permanent solution!
Date: Thursday, August 1, 2024 8:40:09 PM

August 02, 2024 @ 03:30am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The time is now to implement a more permanent solution!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Ken Torres
2444 Candolero Way ,
Antioch, CA 94509
kennyt51@hotmail.com
925-408-6290

From: [Kendra Messer](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Friday, June 7, 2024 2:10:10 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 09:00pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Kendra Messer
728 KERN ST,

Richmond, CA 94805
messer.k24@gmail.com
510-418-3716

From: [Kevin Kingma](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, August 23, 2024 7:49:22 AM

August 23, 2024 @ 02:48pm

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,
Kevin Kingma
2367 Alva Ave,
El Cerrito, CA 94530
kkman2020@gmail.com
262-612-3123

From: [Kim Christie](#)
To: [BCDC PublicComment](#)
Subject: RICHMOND BRIDGE BIKE LANE
Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 8:31:07 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kchristie@baycitiesrefuse.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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We are a small company in Richmond. Our drivers travel over the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge daily. Two of our trucks make MULTIPLE trips throughout the morning/early afternoon. The Bridge has an issue EVERY morning whether it be a stall, a fender bender and causes delays for HOURS. The poor Cal Trans tow truck is stuck in traffic also. God forbid if an ambulance had to get by, HOW would it work?

We are using more fuel, time and causing pollution by standing still DAILY. The Richmond Parkway is bad enough with drivers speeding and running red lights.

I don't believe the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge was built for the additional traffic, let alone the weight of cars/trucks sitting on the Bridge. I have been stuck on the bridge countless times when it is swaying. If I hear there is a problem, I detour to Highway 37.

I myself live in Novato and travel the bridge, 6 days a week. Almost every Monday through Friday there is a back-up that I see once I come across the bridge from Marin. The side street in Point Richmond is affected and the Richmond Parkway. Richmond police used to sit at the Chevron light to "catch" drivers making illegal turns. Just this morning, 3 cars at the stop light at the Chevron Refinery made illegal u turns and cut into traffic.

Also, the reconfiguration of the toll plaza needs to be thought out carefully. When I approach the toll plaza, I slow down to 20 miles per hour. Other drivers speed up to go thru the toll-plaza. Not sure how removing the toll booths are going to reduce the speed of drivers. This will only cause accidents where the lanes break down.

Common sense suggests for another quick study. The previous study was a waste because it was done during COVID. Of course the traffic wasn't affected. We are an essential service and LOVED the traffic during this time and of course it didn't have a big impact.

PLEASE have someone attempt on a Monday morning to "commute" from Richmond to Marin and let me know how that goes.

Kim Christie

From: [Kim Christie](#)
To: [BCDC PublicComment](#)
Subject: URGENT RICHMOND BRIDGE//IMMEDIATE removal of the bike lane
Date: Friday, September 20, 2024 8:27:22 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kchristie@baycitiesrefuse.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

I am hereby making a citizens complaint against the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge bike lane. I sent a previous email a couple days ago. I left work in Richmond last night at 5:15 pm to head home to Novato. Mid span of the bridge there was a stalled car in the right hand lane, causing a back-up. While inching by the stalled car I noticed a woman inside and it appeared she was on her phone.

Being a 36 year daily commuter over the Richmond Bridge, I know (my heart) the number to the toll plaza. I would routinely call if I saw a stall and they would notify the tow truck. NOW, there is no answer at the number.

SO IT dawned on me when I passed this poor woman sitting in her stalled car that

1. She could NOT get out and STAND in a SAFE place
2. THERE is NO access to ANY CALL BOXES unless you CLIMB over the bike railing
3. THERE are NO PHONE numbers listed anywhere on the bridge to call for assistance
4. THIS is causing IMMEDIATE danger to ALL drivers crossing the bridge and the bike lane SHOULD be removed

I called 911 to report the stall

Kim Christie

From: [Kim Christie](#)
To: [BCDC PublicComment](#)
Subject: Richmond Bridge
Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 8:09:54 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kchristie@baycitiesrefuse.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

There is another (as the KCBS reporter stated) and EPIC back-up on the Richmond Bridge this morning.

From: [Kim Sandholdt](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 2:40:34 PM

June 29, 2024 @ 05:10pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute! Marin residents also support it. It is not in the interest of the GREATER GOOD to be impacting the majority for a bike lane.

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Kim Sandholdt
118 Ross St #8,
San Rafael, CA 94901
sandholdt@att.net
800-480-3000

From: [Lauren Goode](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Cc: [John Grubb](#)
Subject: Richmond-San Rafael Bridge - Briefing Request
Date: Thursday, July 11, 2024 10:36:37 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-Logo_Icon.png](#)
[Outlook-Icon_Desc.png](#)
[Outlook-Icon_Desc.png](#)

Dear Commissioner Gilmore,

I am reaching out to request an opportunity to brief you and answer questions on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge which will be coming to BCDC for a vote in the near future. We represent the residents of Richmond and other East Bay commuters that will be profoundly affected by your BCDC vote, and wish to share our thinking with you as you consider your position.

In 2019, the Marin eastbound side of the bridge was granted traffic relief (and resulting improvements in safety and benefits for the affected Marin communities). The Westbound Richmond upper deck got stuck with worsening traffic and worsening impacts. That in our opinion is patently unfair, and continues an ugly history.

As aligned with the Commission's pledge outlined in the Bay Plan Environmental Justice and Social Equity Policy (BPEJSEP), environmental justice and social equity should shape all of the commission's actions and activities. As a lifelong resident of the Richmond community, I am well aware of the social and economic inequality on the contrasting sides of the bridge. Additionally, the Richmond community immediately to the bridge falls under what is defined in Finding H of the BPEJSEP as a disadvantaged community.

Richmond has and will continue to face this problem if nothing is done. The bike lane pilot program that replaced the third lane has been underused (despite massive promotion and investment) and has negatively impacted the commute of the Richmond community and regular bridge users. The Golden Gate Bridge gets 5,000-6,000 bike trips a day. On average, the Richmond Bridge gets 146 bike trips, or 73 people going back and forth. For comparison, the Richmond Bridge gets an average of 80,000 car and pickup truck trips.

Given your extensive background in prioritizing social equity in project decision-making and the Commission's pledge to such under the BPEJSEP Amendment, may I please have 15-30 minutes to discuss the issue with you so you can have a well-informed understanding of the issue?

Sincerely,

Lauren Goode

Lauren Goode
Policy Associate
Mobile : 510-883-4859
Email: lgoode@bayareacouncil.org
The Klamath Pier 9, The Embarcadero, San Francisco
www.bayareacouncil.org

From: [Leticia Chavez](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.
Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:00:10 PM

August 14, 2024 @ 10:50pm

Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Please approve BATA's permit application on September 5!

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by BATA about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge daily to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Leticia Chavez
1734 4th st Richmond ca,

Richmond, CA 94801
135cr77@gmail.com
415-246-4833

Name: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Subject: [redacted]
Date: [redacted]

[You don't often get email from hcaacmiller@richmond.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/learnaboutcategorynotifications>]

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi,

I wanted to share this photo. I am stuck on the highway trying to get to work in Meritt. I am currently in Richmond and I am 1 hour and 20 minutes away from my work. Although the UC report says that the bike lane is not a problem, please remember that the UC report did not study accidents such as this. I am going to be extremely late for work, 10 of thousands of people late for work right now. If we had an incident lane, the cause of the traffic could be moved to the side and we could all get to work on time. Instead, we have a bike lane that 10k people are going to use. Please see the picture that shows it will take me over an hour to get across the bridge. This is typical.



From: [Lucas Miller](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:00:23 PM

June 25, 2024 @ 05:10pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

On May 30, a major accident blocked both lanes of the Richmond Bridge, causing a serious public safety issue. Here's why:

1. No Emergency Shoulder:

- Disabled cars couldn't move aside.
- Emergency services couldn't reach the scene.
- Traffic was completely stuck.

2. No Opposing Access:

- The other side of the bridge is 100 feet below.
- Emergency services couldn't access from the opposite side as they would on a typical highway.

The bridge was only cleared when civilian commuters PHYSICALLY LIFTED AND MOVED ASIDE THE DISABLED CAR. This delay caused tens of thousands of commuters an extra 2 hours to reach their destinations.

This is unacceptable.

Sincerely,
Lucas Miller
2107 Grant St,
Berkeley, CA 94703
lucasmiller@icloud.com
707-498-2699

From: [Lynn Husbands](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Saturday, June 29, 2024 11:00:33 AM

June 29, 2024 @ 05:50pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Lynn Husbands
5396 Heavenly Ridge Lane,
El Sobrante, CA 94803
lynnh6608@comcast.net
510-439-6129

From: [Manuel Trujillo](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024 8:24:56 PM

August 16, 2024 @ 03:24am

Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the BATA permit application to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

Please take decisive action to approve this permit application at the BCDC meeting on September 5!

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Manuel Trujillo
425 S27th st Richmond ca,
Richmond, CA 94804
manueltrujillo23@aol.com
510-621-8285

From: [Maria Alvarado](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 4:47:58 PM

August 22, 2024 @ 11:47pm

This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

The lack of a third lane or emergency shoulder on the bridge is a problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority at your September 5 meeting to approve the permit that will enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's time to close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities. The review process for implementing these changes to the bridge has gone on too long. We must have government agencies and a transportation plan that is responsive to the needs of our community. This is your chance to make an impact.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Maria Alvarado
1723 Pine Ave,
San Pablo, CA 94806
flores.mary60@yahoo.com
415-721-2472

From: [Marjorie Weingrow](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 1:49:19 PM

August 22, 2024 @ 08:48pm

Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the BATA permit application to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

Please take decisive action to approve this permit application at the BCDC meeting on September 5!

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Marjorie Weingrow
1301 Quarry Court ,
Richmond, CA 94801
w.marjorie@gmail.com
510-390-2866

From: [Marty Wolf](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, July 25, 2024 8:20:09 AM

July 25, 2024 @ 03:10pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Marty Wolf
20 Glenside Way,
San Rafael, CA 94903
martywolfsf@mac.com

414-298-9098

From: [MaryDell Lucas](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Saturday, June 29, 2024 11:00:18 AM

June 29, 2024 @ 05:50pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
MaryDell Lucas
175 Reservoir Rd, ,

San Rafael, CA 94901
marydellucas@outlook.com
415-299-9965

From: [Maureen Hurley](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Sunday, June 23, 2024 11:40:09 AM

June 23, 2024 @ 06:30pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Maureen Hurley
295A MacArthur Blvd ,

Oakland, CA 94610
mohurley@gmail.com
510-836-4747

From: [Mayra Rodriguez](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 6:20:09 PM

July 24, 2024 @ 01:10am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Mayra Rodriguez
557 Tewksbury Ave Richmond ,
Richmond, CA 94801
mayra.rodriguez3643@gmail.com

415-505-7918

From: [Michael FitzGerald](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 2:02:37 PM

August 22, 2024 @ 09:02pm

This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

The lack of a third lane or emergency shoulder on the bridge is a problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority at your September 5 meeting to approve the permit that will enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's time to close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities. The review process for implementing these changes to the bridge has gone on too long. We must have government agencies and a transportation plan that is responsive to the needs of our community. This is your chance to make an impact.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Michael FitzGerald
471 Western Dr,
Richmond, CA 94801
fitzms@gmail.com
510-928-3559

From: [Miguel Bernal](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 6:46:57 PM

August 23, 2024 @ 01:46am

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,
Miguel Bernal
1971 18th st San Pablo ,
San Pablo, CA 94806
miguelbepo29@gmail.com
510-837-1749

From: [Miguel Bernal](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, July 18, 2024 10:10:10 AM

July 18, 2024 @ 05:00pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Miguel Bernal
1971 18th st San Pablo California ,
San Pablo, CA 94806
miguelbepo29@gmail.com

510-837-1749

From: [Miguel Bernal](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please follow through on the plan!
Date: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 8:20:13 PM

June 06, 2024 @ 03:10am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please follow through on the plan!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the proposal to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

The upcoming decision by the BATA committee on May 22 presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion, improve air quality, and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Miguel Bernal
1971 18th st San Pablo California ,
San Pablo, CA 94806
miguelbepo29@gmail.com
510-837-1749

From: [David Ferguson](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 8:00:47 PM

August 17, 2024 @ 03:00am

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,
Mr. David Ferguson
908 Vernal Way,
Mill Valley, CA 94941
ddferg@sbcglobal.net
415-326-5345

From: [N Kilgour](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 4:30:12 PM

July 23, 2024 @ 11:20pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
N Kilgour
2316 dolphin drive richmond CA ,
Richmond, CA 94804
bookofsavings@gmail.com
510-233-9949

From: [N Kilgour](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.
Date: Saturday, August 10, 2024 1:30:09 PM

August 10, 2024 @ 08:20pm

Please hear the community and approve the permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge on September 5.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Please approve BATA's permit application on September 5!

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by BATA about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge daily to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
N Kilgour
2316 dolphin drive richmond CA ,

Richmond, CA 94804
bookofsavings@gmail.com
510-233-9949

From: [n.kilgour](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024 8:00:36 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 02:50am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
n.kilgour
2316 Dolphin drive richmond CA,

Richmond, CA 94804
bookosavings@gmail.com
510-233-9949

From: [Nancy Morgan](#)
To: [BCDC PublicComment](#)
Subject: Richmond San Rafael Bridge
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 7:40:47 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from morgann434@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

I'm writing to request the upper deck bike lane be changed to an emergency lane.
I use the bridge often and the delays getting on due to accidents, stalls, etc is far too frequent.
The bike lane was a terrific idea but has resulted in constant delays for autos trying to get across.
The lower deck keeps traffic running smoothly (most of the time) with an extra lane that can be used for any trouble that might come along.
Side note.....I've never understood why that lane is closed daily....why?
Thank you for taking this issue under consideration.
Nancy Morgan
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Nathalio Gray](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 3:56:16 PM

August 16, 2024 @ 10:56pm

This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

The lack of a third lane or emergency shoulder on the bridge is a problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority at your September 5 meeting to approve the permit that will enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's time to close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities. The review process for implementing these changes to the bridge has gone on too long. We must have government agencies and a transportation plan that is responsive to the needs of our community. This is your chance to make an impact.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Nathalio Gray
2188 Bluejay Circle,
Pinole, CA 94564
nathaliog@yahoo.com
415-871-5999

From: [Nerice Coleen Andrada](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 3:50:11 PM

July 23, 2024 @ 10:40pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Nerice Coleen Andrada
3051 Stephen drive ,
El Sobrante, CA 94803
coleenandrada@gmail.com

408-348-8693

From: [Nina Duhl](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The time is now to implement a more permanent solution!
Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 10:40:17 AM

June 10, 2024 @ 06:00pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The time is now to implement a more permanent solution!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a concerned community member, I want to support the permit by the BATA to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays and restore the much-needed emergency shoulder. The current lane eliminates any emergency pullovers (I am one that needed it!) - and the lane underutilizes and causes daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

Apparently only 80 (weekdays) -250 (weekend) cyclists use the westbound bike lane during the day while an over 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves the majority of bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal will drive significant positive change to drivers, the local community and pollution/climate change. A commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity is required for all residents.

Sincerely,
Nina Duhl
1715 ELM AVE,
Richmond, CA 94805
nduhl55@gmail.com
510-913-6409

From: [Noel Marcos](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 10:21:20 PM

August 17, 2024 @ 05:21am

This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

The lack of a third lane or emergency shoulder on the bridge is a problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority at your September 5 meeting to approve the permit that will enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's time to close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities. The review process for implementing these changes to the bridge has gone on too long. We must have government agencies and a transportation plan that is responsive to the needs of our community. This is your chance to make an impact.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Noel Marcos
1908 Garvin Ave Richmond,
Richmond, CA 94801
noelmrs@yahoo.com
415-573-8506

From: [Patrice Chung](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, June 28, 2024 3:50:22 PM

June 28, 2024 @ 10:40pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Patrice Chung
479 Key Boulevard,
Richmond, CA 94805
chung.pk1@gmail.com

510-233-0734

From: [Patrick Cullinane](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 2:40:20 PM

June 29, 2024 @ 03:50am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

We must act now!. As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Patrick Cullinane
5364 Miles Ave,
Oakland, CA 94618
pbc117@sbcglobal.net

510-420-0415

From: [Patrick Cullinane](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 10:40:11 AM

July 23, 2024 @ 06:10pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

The time to act on the Richmond bridge change is now! I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Patrick Cullinane
5364 Miles Ave,
Oakland, CA 94618
pbc117@sbcglobal.net
510-420-0415

From: [Peggy Rock](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Saturday, June 8, 2024 11:20:09 AM

June 08, 2024 @ 06:10pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Peggy Rock
1400 Pinnacle Court, 108,
Richmond, CA 94801
peggyrock@aol.com
510-520-6752

From: [Peggy Rock](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 12:40:19 PM

July 24, 2024 @ 07:30pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Peggy Rock
1400 Pinnacle Court 108,

Richmond, CA 94801
peggyrock@aol.com
510-520-6752

From: [Phillip Mariner](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Saturday, June 29, 2024 11:20:09 PM

June 30, 2024 @ 06:10am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Phillip Mariner
86 Highland Ave,
San Rafael, CA 94901
phillip.mariner@gmail.com

650-704-5822

From: [Rahman Natouf](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, June 14, 2024 10:00:11 PM

June 15, 2024 @ 04:50am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Rahman Natouf
1021 Lantern Bay,
Hercules, CA 94547
rnatouf64@gmail.com

510-417-5049

From: [Randahl Hagen](#)
To: Reception@BCDC
Subject: Richmond San Rafael Bridge Bike Path Pilot Program
Date: Thursday, August 8, 2024 1:21:15 AM

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I have reached out to MTA staff regarding the plans for the RSR Bridge bike path and they have indicated that next steps include submitting a proposal to BCDC to modify the current pilot program. They indicated that it would be on the agenda in the next general meeting or two but I have not seen it yet. I hope the points below will be read and recorded and addressed as BCDC considers the future of the pilot program for the bike path.

My comments are as follows:

The bike path pilot program on the Richmond San Rafael Bridge has proven to be no more than a recreational amenity for a small number of privileged members of the leisure class with access to lobby and litigation resources. These resources have been used to commandeer a major portion of a vital public infrastructure, the Richmond San Rafael Bridge, which is owned by the state and funded by vehicular tolls.

The pilot program was launched under the guise that the bike lane would be a vital link for the bay trail but would also allow commuting over the bridge without using a car, and would reduce traffic and people's reliance on cars. Unfortunately, geography and demographics dictate a different reality. The bridge is 5.5 miles long, with two high spans to summit along the way. It crosses one of the windiest parts of the bay. The major features at either end are the Chevron refinery complex and the San Quentin State prison. Major centers of employment, housing, and public transit lie many miles beyond either end of the bridge. There is no pent up demand on either end for bicycle use of the bridge for any non-recreational use. The reality is that most bridge crossings are only part of a much longer journey that originates and ends well beyond the bridge, whether for travel, commuting, or delivery of goods. These trips simply are not done without a motor vehicle.

Recent use studies have solidified the empirical observation that the bike lane is lightly used and mainly by recreational riders. The necessity-based crossings on bike or foot are minuscule. For this traffic we have dedicated 1/6 of a bridge that would cost many \$Billions to build today. Is the current and future use of 1/6 of the bridge for a bike lane the best use for all stakeholders or just a privileged few? Is this use worth the virtual value of \$Billions? If we were to build a bridge dedicated to non-vehicular crossing and tried to sell the bond measure to the public for \$Billions, would that ever stand a chance?

The bike lane has not only gone underutilized by the cycling community, it has also been a primary driver of negative impacts to disadvantaged communities. The implementation of the lane with the barrier has removed the bridge's capacity to handle blockages or breakdowns in the remaining two lanes. Even without incidents, there is a daily backup on westbound 580 and surface arteries in Richmond resulting from the requirement to merge traffic from several toll lanes down to two bridge lanes. If there is a lane blockage this backup will stretch miles involving thousands of vehicles. The impact of thousands of trucks and cars idling or crawling

in traffic is twofold. First. Thousands of tons of carbon are emitted from idling engines into the local community. Second. Thousands of hours of human productivity are lost to waiting in traffic. To my knowledge, no studies or reports have accounted for these impacts and their real costs to the community. These costs must be justified. While the bike lane may bring joy to some, it has brought many hours of misery and loss to far more people.

Further, a blockage means that emergency response vehicles cannot respond to the scene without traveling contra-flow on the bridge from the landing in San Quentin.

It is my opinion that the barrier should be removed and the bike lane restored as a vehicular travel lane. The toll plaza should be reconfigured for three lanes to match the bridge lanes and eliminate merging there. This would dramatically improve traffic flow and reduce the two major impacts noted above. A case study can be found with the conversion of the eastbound bridge to 3 lanes. Upon its implementation, traffic jams on eastbound 580 and feeder arteries were virtually eliminated.

The bridge is a vital artery for Marin and Sonoma Counties and the 101 corridor through the north coast. The bulk of goods, groceries, fuel, and services are delivered over this bridge. Many members of disadvantaged communities rely on the bridge to get to work in Marin and Sonoma. Many commuters to San Francisco have taken to using the bridge as an alternate to the Bay Bridge. These are not trips that can be done by bike. The bridge must do a far heavier lift than carry recreational cyclists. The bridge needs all available capacity.

What are the cyclists and pedestrians to do? Unfortunately we cannot accommodate recreational endeavors to cross the bridge outside a vehicle. The cost-benefit equation will never balance. For cyclists who truly use the bridge as part of a necessary trip such as commuting, we have resources available to allow them to cross with their bike. Primarily it is the existing Golden Gate Transit system with bike racks on the busses which allow a much quicker and safer crossing. Secondly, a shuttle service could be implemented full time which could take riders across at will. This shuttle service has been implemented during construction on the bridge with success and has capacity to meet the demand. This could be funded for decades at a fraction of what the pilot program has cost and would achieve more benefits to all.

The proposed modification would double down on this currently failed pilot program. An additional eastbound barrier would only create the same traffic backup problem in the eastbound direction because the barrier will eliminate the right lane as a travel lane, even when pushed over, returning eastbound to a two-lane crossing. The barriers, when pushed over, do not leave enough space for a travel lane, and even as an emergency shoulder, are not wide enough for a vehicle to move clear of the travel lanes, causing vehicles to have to squeeze around a disabled vehicle. This would also remain a problem westbound.

The proposed modification would cost far more than a simple doubling of the pilot program cost. A new movable barrier and barrier machine would need to be purchased. But beyond that, the barriers would need to be moved twice per day, on separate shifts, requiring at least four operators. This is a significant cost with no end and yearly increases. All this cost will result in only making the problem worse.

It is BCDC's and MTA's duty to consider the true costs and impacts of this program and not be blinded by the single goal of expanding the Bay Trail at any cost. This is a case where an expanded Bay Trail is harming many for the benefit of a few. It is BCDC's duty to justify those harms.

I call on BCDC and MTA to study and account for all impacts of the RSR Bridge bike path pilot program. I call on them to do the sensible and good thing which is to curtail the program, remove the barrier, and allow all traffic flow modifications to alleviate congestion on the bridge for vehicular traffic as soon as possible. This is the greatest good for the most people.

Respectfully

Randahl Hagen
Citizen of the San Francisco Bay Area

From: [Rene Jimenez](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024 1:12:48 AM

August 17, 2024 @ 08:12am

Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the BATA permit application to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

Please take decisive action to approve this permit application at the BCDC meeting on September 5!

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Rene Jimenez
1943 Alfreda Blvd, San Pablo CA ,
San Pablo, CA 94806
rene16jimenez@gmail.com
510-685-4178

From: [Reza Shakoori](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2024 9:10:13 PM

July 03, 2024 @ 04:00am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Reza Shakoori
Northshore Dr, Richmond, California,
Richmond, CA 94804
reza.shakoori@gmail.com
415-508-6010

From: [Rick Lewia](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 12:50:19 PM

July 23, 2024 @ 07:40pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Rick Lewia
831 4th st,

San Rafael, CA 94901
Rick.goldrush@gmail.com
415-265-4500

From: [Robert Goff](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 10:40:12 AM

June 07, 2024 @ 02:20am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

The Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has unanimously approved the proposed changes to the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Robert Goff
Oakland,
Oakland, CA 94618
bob@yesbob.net
415-910-8082

From: [Roberta Nogueira](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Saturday, June 29, 2024 11:00:25 AM

June 29, 2024 @ 05:50pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Roberta Nogueira
5836 Alameda Ave,
Richmond, CA 94804
betamesma@gmail.com

415-816-6735

From: [Rosemarie Petitpas](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Thursday, July 11, 2024 12:40:29 PM

July 11, 2024 @ 07:30pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Rosemarie Petitpas
1201 Brickyard Way, 108,

Richmond, CA 94801
rkpetipas@sbcglobal.net
510-215-5505

From: [Ross Campbell](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Friday, August 16, 2024 4:19:26 PM

August 16, 2024 @ 11:18pm

Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the BATA permit application to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

Please take decisive action to approve this permit application at the BCDC meeting on September 5!

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Ross Campbell
1301 Thomas Dr ,
Martinez, CA 94553
rossgcampbell@yahoo.com
707-333-4657

From: [Roxana Lopez](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Monday, July 8, 2024 10:10:10 PM

July 09, 2024 @ 05:00am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Roxana Lopez
1525 Truman ST Apt A Richmond Ca,

Richmond, CA 94801
lroxana059@gmail.com
415-760-5203

From: [Ruth A Craig](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, June 7, 2024 4:00:12 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 10:50pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Ruth A Craig
818 Yuba St.,
Richmond, CA 94805
ruthacraig@comcast.net

510-685-0913

From: [Severiano Cardenas](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Sunday, July 28, 2024 1:10:10 PM

July 28, 2024 @ 08:00pm

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

This is a pressing problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Severiano Cardenas
1723 pine ave,

San Pablo, CA 94806
seve.benavides70@yahoo.com
415-532-6805

From: [Steven Martinucci](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, July 5, 2024 3:10:12 PM

July 05, 2024 @ 10:00pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Steven Martinucci
643 Lexington Avenue,
El Cerrito, CA 94530
sgmartinucci@hotmail.com

510-691-8141

From: [Susan Gill](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Friday, June 14, 2024 9:30:13 PM

June 15, 2024 @ 04:20am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Susan Gill
15006 Skaith Bend,
Nevada City, CA 95959
sulac9@yahoo.com
415-306-2867

From: [Susana Montelongo](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Friday, July 26, 2024 3:50:13 PM

July 26, 2024 @ 10:40pm

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. With the Bay Area Toll Authority set to submit a permit application for more permanent changes to the Bridge in the coming month, I urge you to support this plan and advocate for comprehensive solutions to our traffic issues.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked on the bridge, severely affecting quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Susana Montelongo
2710 Humphrey Ave ,
Richmond, CA 94804
Susy84jalisco@hotmail.com
510-417-5364

From: [Teresa Hurley](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 11:20:19 AM

August 14, 2024 @ 06:10pm

Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the BATA permit application to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

Please take decisive action to approve this permit application at the BCDC meeting on September 5!

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Teresa Hurley
626 Humboldt St,
Richmond, CA 94805
teresa_hurley@yahoo.com
510-215-5909

From: [Terri Lahey](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Monday, August 12, 2024 3:50:08 PM

August 11, 2024 @ 08:40pm

Dear Commissioner: Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen regarding the urgent need to reopen the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

The persistent traffic congestion approaching and on this bridge, a vital artery for daily commuters, has significantly impacted our community. I urge you to support the plan to close the bike lane during the week and restore the emergency shoulder on the Bridge at the BCDC meeting on September 5. We are counting on you, as one of the public officials who will make this decision, to take decisive action and help bring about a comprehensive solution to our transit woes.

Daily, tens of thousands of vehicles are bottlenecked both approaching the bridge and on the bridge, severely affecting the quality of life for people in nearby communities. Our local communities - largely Black and Brown people of color - are bearing the brunt of the traffic impact.

It is important to note that the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge is underused, serving only a small number of cyclists compared to the overwhelming majority who commute by car. Around 80,000 car trips are made across the bridge daily, and these individuals desperately need a more efficient route.

I have personally waited over 45 minutes westbound between the Canal Blvd. entrance ramp to the toll plaza on a weekday morning. More commonly, I travel eastbound and typically see the 580 westbound traffic backed up from 23rd street and sometimes further.

I would prefer to remove the bikeway entirely or at least close it Monday all day through Friday noon.

By moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane to car traffic during the work week, and allow for the emergency shoulder to serve its purpose for accidents, we can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and demonstrate a commitment to solving one of our community's most pressing issues. This action would resonate well beyond our local area, setting a positive example for other regions struggling with similar challenges.

Please remember that an overwhelming 80% of Richmond voters support this initiative, clearly showing public support for practical, effective transportation solutions.

Your leadership can significantly improve our daily lives and restore confidence in our local government's ability to provide sensible and responsive solutions.

Thank you for your attention and dedication to resolving this critical issue on September 5!

Sincerely,

Terri Lahey
1327 Sanderling Is., Richmond, CA,
Richmond, CA 94801
terril@sonic.net
650-863-6491

From: [Tianna Meriage-Reiter](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!
Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024 3:30:51 PM

June 07, 2024 @ 12:40am

Please approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for listening!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As an East Bay resident who is deeply concerned about the impact of the closure of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, I am writing to urge for its reopening for Westbound traffic. The disproportionate impact of the closure on marginalized and frontline communities has resulted in substantial traffic congestion and increased air pollution, further deteriorating the already poor air quality in our community. This has serious consequences for the health and well-being of workers and their families, especially those living in the vicinity of the bridge.

The bike lane has choked westbound traffic because there are few to none transportation options to cross that region. I work at San Quentin, there is no other option other than to drive. The Ferry would take me 2 hours to get to work.

And the primary care I see crossing in the AM are service workers: gardeners, plumbers, electricians. And big trucks. None of these vehicles have alternate options to cross that direction...they need their vehicles.

This chokes the traffic up to surrounding areas. And even in the weekends. One has to cross that bridge before 930am on the weekend to miss the traffic choke.

And it's unsafe. There's no leeway if there's an accident or a downed car. One lane on that bridge due to those stalls means an hour+ added to the commute.

I'm sure you can see the numbers from cameras and 511 to see how many cars to bike cross that bridge. More people are served by driving unfortunately. But that's the facts and nothing is going to change that due to the kinds of work drawing people to that side of the Bay.

Reopening the third lane with a movable barrier, similar to the upper deck, would better manage traffic and reduce congestion, benefiting low-income workers who have no alternative means of transportation. There is currently an underutilized lane that can be used during peak commute hours for cars and can remain a bike lane at other times, benefiting both commuters and cyclists alike.

I urgently request your support in advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me and fellow supporters of the Common Sense Transportation Coalition, as we prioritize the well-being of our communities and address the adverse impacts of traffic on our health and quality of life.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Tianna Meriage-Reiter
304 Shell Gate Road,
Alameda, CA 94501
tjmeriage@gmail.com
415-971-8169

From: [Tianna Reiter](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!
Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:00:31 PM

June 14, 2024 @ 04:40am

Thank you for listening about the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Please approve the BATA permit ASAP!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned commuter advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

I see the two lanes as a big safety issue. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority to approve the permit that will be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority to enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's past time we close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Tianna Reiter
304 Shell Gate Road, ,
Alameda, CA 94501

tjmeriage@gmail.com
415-971-8169

From: valdeci.carvalho
To: [Marie Gilmore](mailto:Marie.Gilmore)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Saturday, June 15, 2024 5:20:09 PM

June 16, 2024 @ 12:10am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
valdeci carvalho
615 1 st street ,
Richmond, CA 94801
valsanrafael@hotmail.com

415-302-4628

From: [Victoria Ford](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 7:30:10 PM

August 15, 2024 @ 02:20am

This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

The lack of a third lane or emergency shoulder on the bridge is a problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority at your September 5 meeting to approve the permit that will enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's time to close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

The closure of the third lane has disproportionately impacted the East Bay's marginalized and frontline communities, and it's why I'm one of thousands calling for change. As you know, on average, only 80-250 bikers use the bike lane daily on the westbound portion of the bridge, whereas 80,000 trips are made daily by car. These car commuters have no other alternative to get to and from work each day, and due to the traffic on the bridge, they're forced to navigate increasingly long commute times that cause further strain on their lives. These workers and their families are already struggling with the rising costs of living and increasingly fewer residential options. They shouldn't also have to navigate onerous travel times and additional neighborhood traffic, all in the name of a few daily cyclists.

We urgently need to address this issue. Approving the permit would not only offer a strong start to permanently resolving the inequities of the traffic issue on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, but also offer an example to the rest of the Bay Area and the state that our government agencies have the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges facing our communities. The review process for implementing these changes to the bridge has gone on too long. We must have government agencies and a transportation plan that is responsive to the needs of our community. This is your chance to make an impact.

Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Victoria Ford
1033 Stanford Avenue,
Emeryville, CA 94608
toryford@hotmail.com
415-752-0679

From: [Vilma Renderos](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Friday, August 23, 2024 5:05:37 PM

August 24, 2024 @ 12:05am

Commissioner, the time is now to implement a more permanent solution for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am reaching out as a concerned member of our community to show my support for the BATA permit application to close the bike lane on the westbound portion of the bridge from Mondays to Thursdays, and restore the emergency shoulder. The current bike lane setup is underutilized and causing significant daily disruptions for thousands of commuters.

Please take decisive action to approve this permit application at the BCDC meeting on September 5!

This potential change presents a critical opportunity. Traffic congestion has become more than a nuisance; it has a major negative impact on quality of life for the workers - primarily people of color - who are forced to navigate the increasingly lengthy bridge commute. These workers are already facing the stress of increased costs of living and fewer residential options, with the Bridge serving as their only option for their daily commute.

While only 80-250 cyclists use the westbound bike lane each day, an overwhelming 80,000 vehicle trips are made. This imbalance highlights the urgent need for a solution that better serves most bridge users.

Reopening the third lane would alleviate congestion and reduce the daily stress on thousands of commuters. This change is supported by 80% of Richmond voters, who favor practical solutions that enhance commute efficiency and public health.

Your support for this proposal can drive significant positive change, demonstrating effective leadership and responsiveness to community needs. We count on your commitment to making decisions that prioritize well-being and equity in our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for considering this urgent appeal. Your action is crucial for our community's future.

Sincerely,
Vilma Renderos
126 S 13th sd,
Richmond, CA 94804
vilma0206@gmail.com
415-652-5077

From: [Vilma Renderos](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!
Date: Friday, August 23, 2024 5:04:21 PM

August 24, 2024 @ 12:04am

This process has gone on long enough, Commissioner. Please act now to fix the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge!

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

I am a concerned resident advocating for the reopening of the third lane on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. Thank you for hearing our voices on this issue.

The lack of a third lane or emergency shoulder on the bridge is a problem that has directly harmed our community for years. I hope that you, as a BCDC commissioner, are making it an urgent priority at your September 5 meeting to approve the permit that will enact the very necessary changes to the Bridge that commuters have been waiting for for years. It's time to close the bike lane during commuting hours and restore the emergency shoulder to prevent further delays caused by accidents.

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Thank you again for your attention to this urgent matter. While it is clear that there are loud voices in opposition to this proposal, please remember that the vast majority of Richmond residents support it: Eighty percent (80%) of Richmond voters support opening a third lane for carpools and transit on the upper deck of the bridge during the morning commute!

You have the power to make an essential common sense decision that will go a long way towards addressing inequity in the community and restoring faith in our local leadership. Your leadership and action on this issue will be greatly appreciated by me, my fellow supporters, and all of the residents and commuters affected by the current status of the bridge.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Vilma Renderos
126 S 13th sd,
Richmond, CA 94804
vilma0206@gmail.com
415-652-5077

From: [Warren Linney](#)
To: [BCDC PublicComment](#)
Subject: Richmond bridge
Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 3:12:29 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from wlinney@broadlink.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

WARNING: This message is from an external source. Verify the sender and exercise caution when clicking links or opening attachments.

Please accept this public comment on item 8 "Briefing on Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Public Pathway Pilot Project" from the May 2, 2024, BCDC meeting agenda.

I urge you to reject the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Caltrans staff's BCDC permit amendment request to close the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Trail all day every Monday through Thursday, for conversion to a car breakdown shoulder. Please join me in supporting permanent, 24/7 access for all between the East Bay and the North Bay by keeping this pathway open.

As indicated in the coalition letter shared with you by Bike East Bay, the Marin County Bicycle Coalition, and several dozen more regional and state organizations, data on the four year pathway pilot project reported by the Bay Area Toll Authority has not shown an adverse negative impact on westbound car congestion, safety, or pollution.

Keeping the pathway open is in alignment with numerous adopted plans and policies on the regional and state level. Closing the pathway for a breakdown shoulder as currently proposed, or for a third westbound car lane, will not contribute toward progress on the underlying causes of car congestion on the bridge.

Thank you for accepting this comment, and for your commitment to oppose the pathway closure.

Warren Linney
Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: [Warren Wells](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Multiuse Trail
Date: Friday, July 19, 2024 1:06:22 PM
Attachments: [Fact Sheet_RSR Path June 2024.pdf](#)

Commissioner Gilmore,

My name is Warren Wells, Policy & Planning Director for the Marin County Bicycle Coalition. I'm reaching out to you in your capacity as a BCDC Commissioner. As you know, the board will be considering a permit amendment request from MTC regarding the operation of the upper (westbound) deck the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

I would love it if we could find a time to connect via phone or Zoom in the coming weeks to talk briefly about MTC's proposal to convert the existing Bay Trail multiuse trail to a roadway shoulder every Monday-Thursday. As a frequent user of the trail myself (I live in the East Bay and access Marin by bicycle), and representative of many regular users, I want to make myself available to answer any questions you might have about the proposal.

Though MTC's May 2nd presentation to the BCDC was largely accurate, there has been a great deal of misinformation shared about the project that I would hope to dispel.

Please let me know if this is something you'll have time for. I'd be happy to work around your schedule. I'm also attaching a fact sheet we developed, which highlights findings from the recently-released study report on the Bay Trail pilot project.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you.

--

Warren J. Wells, AICP

Policy and Planning Director
Marin County Bicycle Coalition
cell: (410) 703.9898 | marinbike.org
pronouns: he, him, his



We're creating a healthy, connected, and sustainable Marin by promoting bicycling for everyday transportation and recreation. Love to ride? [Join us today.](#)



Fact Sheet: Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Path

Access For All

- **Inclusive Mobility:** The multi-use pathway provides a safe and accessible route for pedestrians, cyclists, and people with disabilities, enhancing mobility for all community members whether they are commuting or traveling for other purposes.
- **Public Access:** The pathway is an excellent example of maximum public access to the San Francisco Bay. As a route for recreational activities, it promotes health, well-being, and engagement with the natural beauty of the Bay Area.
- **Connectivity:** It connects the region, facilitating non-vehicular travel between Marin and Contra Costa counties, closing a five-mile gap in the Bay Trail. At present, six of the other seven MTC-owned Bay Area toll bridges allow bicycle/pedestrian access 24/7. There has *never been an instance* of 24/7 bicycle/pedestrian access being provided and later revoked.

Limited Transit Alternatives

- The Richmond-San Rafael Bridge is served by one bus route (Golden Gate Transit 580) that stops at the east and west ends of the bridge once an hour in the peak period, with room for three bicycles per trip. Golden Gate Transit buses will not permit most e-bikes due to weight limits.
- MTC and BCDC staff have stated that a shuttle that served the bridge in the past was discontinued due to low ridership. A single shuttle running fixed service would likely require a wait of more than 30 minutes, longer than it takes to bike across the bridge.

A Disconnected Pathway

- **Last Half-Mile Access:** Despite excellent trail connections on the Richmond side of the bridge, there is no all-ages-and-abilities route to walk or ride to the San Rafael landing of the bridge. In fact, one half-mile gap that MTC was responsible for closing only *broke ground* in January of 2024, after the official pilot had finished.
- **Additional Connections:** Even after the MTC project is completed, significant trail gaps in Larkspur and San Rafael will continue to limit access to the bridge to veteran riders or those with no other choice. The lack of focus on connectivity to the bridge from MTC and Marin is partly to blame for low use of the bridge path.
- **Close the gaps:** Investing in connected networks of bike infrastructure will increase the number of people who choose to bike instead of driving, as these connected networks create a sense of safety and ease of use for people of all ages and abilities.

The Pathway Has Not Increased Congestion

- **Traffic Studies:** The After Study for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Phase II, conducted by California PATH at UC Berkeley (hereafter “the PATH study”) showed that the pathway has not led to increased congestion on the bridge during the 4-year pilot program. Congestion is similar to what was observed in 2019, and westbound travel times are below those observed in 2018.

Vehicle Incidents and Response Times

- **Incident Rates:** The presence of the pathway has not resulted in an increase in vehicle incidents. In fact, rates of severe injury crashes on the upper deck decreased. Additionally, ‘complaint of pain’ injury crashes decreased by a statistically significant amount.
- **Clearance times:** According to the PATH study, “There is no statistical evidence that the bridge modifications are producing longer crash-related incidents.” Additionally, “[t]here is no statistical evidence that the modifications are increasing the time needed to clear crashes.”
- **Variability:** The PATH study states that, while incidents may produce more significant impacts due to the lack of shoulder, these “occasional impacts do not translate into significant impacts on average traffic conditions.”

Air Quality

- **No Local Impact:** Despite misleading claims from the Bay Area Council and others, there has been no finding that the multi-use pathway has increased air pollution in the City of Richmond.
- **No Net Impact:** According to the PATH study, emissions per traveler mile in the westbound direction are down on weekdays, and slightly up on weekends, but the latter may be due to more weekend travel post-COVID.

Cost of Living and Induced Travel

- Lack of Affordable Housing: The root cause of traffic on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge is a lack of affordable housing in Marin, which forces workers into long commutes from Contra Costa and Solano Counties.
- Between 2001 and 2021, the number of people commuting more than 50 miles to jobs in Marin doubled from roughly 8,000 to over 16,000, a fact which has nothing to do with the multiuse path.
- Employers in Marin have stated that jobseekers turn down offers in Marin because they cannot afford to live there and do not want to suffer the commute. While this is no doubt true, it means that adding vehicle capacity on the bridge will result in more people using it, quickly negating any benefits to congestion.

Alignment with State and Regional Policy

- RSR Bridge Trail & San Francisco Bay Trail: The RSR Bridge Trail is a crucial part of the San Francisco Bay Trail, linking the East Bay and North Bay. The Bay Trail is backed by state law and regional resolutions.
- Plan Bay Area: The Bay Trail is identified as a key Priority Conservation Area in the Plan Bay Area, which aims for a sustainable, equitable, and economically vibrant future. The Plan Bay Area 2050 Transportation strategy emphasizes investments in regional multi-use trails, like the San Francisco Bay Trail, for commuting and recreation.
- BCDC's Bay Plan: Policy No. 4 of BCDC's Bay Plan calls for pedestrian and bicycle paths on transportation projects along the Bay shoreline and bridges to be part of or connected to the Bay Trail.
- Caltrans Complete Streets Policy: Caltrans' policy (DP-37) mandates that projects align with pedestrian, bicycle, and transit needs, ensuring streets serve as community spaces. It emphasizes complete streets projects, especially in underserved communities, and removing barriers to enhance connectivity and accessibility.
- Executive Order N-19-19: Governor Newsom's order directs state transportation spending to reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, support housing near jobs, reduce vehicle miles traveled, and promote health through active transportation options.

From: [WENDIE SILVERMAN-MARTIN](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Friday, June 28, 2024 6:30:15 PM

June 29, 2024 @ 01:20am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

Traffic congestion disrupts daily lives, disproportionately affecting the working class people who must commute across the bridge on a daily basis to combat rising costs of living and an increasingly strained housing market.

While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

Given these conditions, your support in moving forward with the proposal to reopen the third lane would alleviate the immediate transportation inequities and set a precedent for addressing significant community challenges across the Bay Area and beyond.

Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
WENDIE SILVERMAN-MARTIN
1300 QUARRY CT, APT # 313,
Richmond, CA 94801
Wendiesm2@yahoo.com

510-847-1387

From: [Will Wenham](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:00:14 PM

June 14, 2024 @ 12:40am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

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Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue. The test has been conducted, and failed, and we need a solution

Sincerely,
Will Wenham
339 Western Dr,
Richmond, CA 94801

wwenham@yahoo.com
415-822-2031

From: [William Warren](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Thursday, August 1, 2024 11:20:08 PM

August 02, 2024 @ 06:10am

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

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Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
William Warren
48 Bayview Terrace,
Mill Valley, CA 94941
bw80rock@gmail.com

415-297-9868

From: [Zaya Erdenebaatar](#)
To: [Marie Gilmore](#)
Subject: I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 11:30:18 AM

June 10, 2024 @ 06:20pm

I urge you to approve BATA's permit application for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Dear Mayor Marie Gilmore,

As a resident deeply concerned with our community's well-being, I appreciate your attention to finding solutions for the grave traffic issues on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. As a BCDC commissioner, you not only have the opportunity to address one of the Bay Area's worst transportation inequities, but you can set a much-needed example that our local government authorities can take the tangible steps needed to make daily life easier for residents.

Our community has long suffered from the inaccessibility of the third lane, which significantly affects daily life. The upcoming opportunity to approve the permit to be submitted by the Bay Area Toll Authority about enacting changes to the bridge presents a critical opportunity to revisit this plan and comprehensively address the extensive traffic issues affecting bridge commuters.

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While only 80-250 cyclists utilize the westbound bike lane daily, car trips exceed 80,000. Most of these commuters have no alternative routes, enduring long travel times that exacerbate their daily stress and reduce their overall quality of life.

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Thank you for considering the voices of the vast majority of Richmond residents who support this change. Nearly 80% of voters favor dedicating the third lane to carpools and transit during peak morning hours, which highlights the community's strong preference for practical transportation solutions that reflect our needs.

Your decisive action can significantly enhance community trust and well-being, showing that practical, equitable solutions to our problems are possible. We trust in your leadership to make the right decision to restore efficiency and equity to our transportation system.

Thank you for your dedicated service and attention to this pressing issue.

Sincerely,
Zaya Erdenebaatar
3771 stoneglenn ,
San Pablo, CA 94806
terdenebaatar@gmail.com

510-499-0598