

From: Michael Balmaceda [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 5:24 PM
To: MTC-ABAG Info <info@bayareametro.gov>; tgrover@ccta.net
Subject: Richmond San Rafael Bridge bike lane / access

External Email

To the Bay Area Toll Authority + Contra Costa Transportation Authority -
This is in regards to the plans:

- to potentially close direct bike access to the bridge to trench a water pipeline + also
- to potentially convert the bike lane to another car lane after 2024

Please ensure that the bike path remain a priority to stay open while the pipeline is being built. It needs to be made easier / not more difficult to get on to and off of the bridge, otherwise many of the folks that want to bike on the bridge (e.g. - people with kids) won't want to do it if it's not safe, then the bike lane will be used less (and then ultimately converted to another car lane which won't help traffic.) Bikers help the small local business in Pt Richmond and in Richmond that are on the path the bridge. I will need to start commuting to Marin again (I'm a resident of Contra Costa) more often once offices open up again, and I was planning to do it by bike.

Can't we do something even this minimal to help avert climate change? Please keep the bike lane in place + if need be, please implement congestion pricing to deter more cars from taking the bridge during peak commute hours.

Thank you,
-Michael Balmaceda