

TA

CORRESPONDENCE

as of 08-03-2023

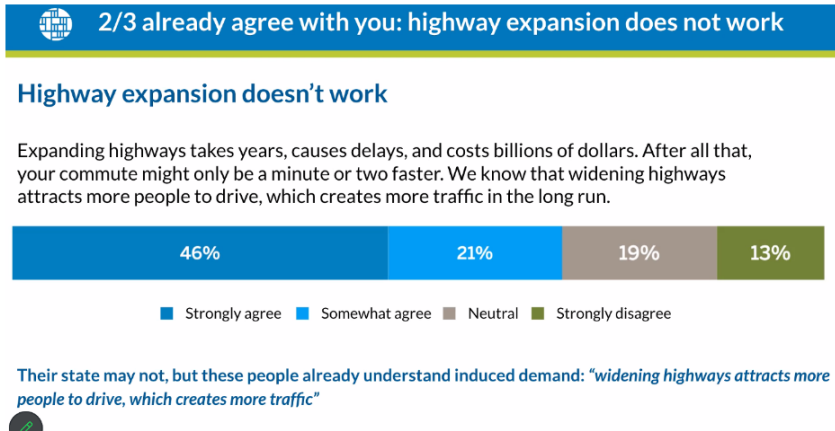
From: [Jean Brook](#)
To: [Board \(@smcta.com\)](#)
Subject: FW: Comment for SMCTA Board and CAC
Date: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 11:58:45 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

From: Mike Swire <mswire91@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 10:25 AM
To: Jean Brook <BrookJ@samtrans.com>
Subject: Comment for SMCTA Board and CAC

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Dear SMCTA and CAC,

Recently, [Smart Growth America](#), a pro-neighborhood and smart transportation nonprofit, did a study of American attitudes on highway widening. The findings indicate that the American public knows that highway expansion projects increase traffic in the long-term:



I was wondering whether San Mateo County residents agree, based on the recently completed widening of 101. I posted [the following survey on NextDoor](#) in San Mateo, Burlingame, and Hillsborough (plus other areas). While the survey is far from scientific, the results from 600+ respondents suggest that residents overwhelmingly believe that the recently completed widening of 101 in SMC has not improved "traffic" and was not a good use of taxpayer money.



Michael Swire

Hillsborough • 3 days ago • 🌐



Traffic on 101

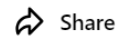
Taxpayers recently paid \$600 million to reduce traffic congestion on Highway 101 by widening the highway and adding Express Lanes between Redwood City and San Bruno.

Do you believe that this money was well spent?

No, I don't think the \$600 million was well spent. Traffic on the 101 is just as bad or even worse than before. 84%

Yes, I think the \$600 million was well spent. Traffic on the 101 has improved as a result of this project. 16%

641 votes



This aligns with the statement that [HNTB, a consultant to the widening project, recently made at a meeting of the SMCTA CAC](#). Given that the public and SMCTA's consultants agree that widening highways induces more traffic, I hope that we will have thoughtful discussions on the merits of additional proposals to widen 101 and other roads in SM County.

Thanks,

Mike Swire
SMCTA CAC Member