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CORRESPONDENCE

as of 1-19-2024

From: [Arley Lewis](#)
To: [Arley Lewis](#); [Board \(@smcta.com\)](#)
Subject: Let's focus on people not cars
Date: Friday, January 19, 2024 2:30:58 PM

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Ms. Beach, Ms. Corzo, Ms. Mates, Mr. Medina, Mr. Mueller, Mr. Nagales, Mr. Romero,

Hello Board Members of the SMCTA! Thanks for all your work to keep us moving in San Mateo County.

Please devote more of our transportation funds and more of the county's focus to building transportation for people, not cars. Like most of you, I grew up behind the wheel. I often fall into the trap of thinking the only way to get around is by car. But it's not true. With mild temperatures and less than 8 days of rain most months, people in San Mateo County are embracing walking, biking, e-biking, and e-scooters to get around. More of us would commute this way if we made it safe for them. Our car-focused approach still emphasizes high car speeds over everything else, and that makes no sense. It also wastes our tax dollars, since maintaining roads to accommodate lots of high-speed cars is expensive.

Cars take up a massive amount of space and consume a massive amount of energy. Our towns pay too high a cost to accommodate cars, and we pay with our health and our lives when we're hit by them.

People younger than 16 and older than 80 are not well served by a car-dependent transportation network. These people deserve access to transportation infrastructure they can use!

I urge you to shift your focus to making it safe and easy for people to get around by more economical means: walking, biking, e-bikes, e-scooters, electric wheelchairs, and taking the bus or train.

Sincerely,
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