



April 20, 2018

Scott Ellsmore  
Traffic Project Manager  
City of Eureka  
*via email:* [sellsmore@ci.eureka.ca.gov](mailto:sellsmore@ci.eureka.ca.gov)

**RE: H & I Streets Initial Design Concepts**

Mr. Ellsmore:

The Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities (CRTP) greatly appreciates the City of Eureka's efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in the city's primary north-south corridor. These efforts are critical to promoting a transportation mode shift which will help tackle the climate crisis while improving the health and safety of our residents and the vibrancy and livability of our communities.

While we support all efforts to improve bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure in this corridor, we particularly support proposed Concepts 1 & 2, which emphasize buffered bike lanes and separated bike trails respectively. Concept 3, which would provide for shared-use "bicycle boulevard" status on F & G Streets, is potentially problematic in that recent research suggests that shared-use rules can sometimes decrease rather than increase the safety of people riding bicycles. Concept 3 also fails to address the current high vehicular speeds and pedestrian safety concerns on H & I Streets.

We appreciate and strongly support the emphasis on intersection bulb-outs, high-visibility crosswalks, bike boxes, and protected intersections in Concepts 1 & 2. In fact, our only major concern with Concepts 1 & 2 is the fact that bike boxes and protected intersections, respectively, are not provided for every intersection at which a left-turning movement is possible. Without these improvements, a person riding a bicycle would have to either pull into traffic (Concept 1) or onto a sidewalk/crosswalk (Option 2) in order to make a left-turn, both of which would lead to conflicts with other road users.

We also offer the observation that while bicycle travel *along* H & I Streets has been carefully considered in Options 1 & 2, bicycle *crossings* of H & I Streets still present some concerns. To improve the safety of bicycle crossings of H & I Streets at intersections where cross-traffic does not stop, we encourage you to consider systems which allow people riding bicycles to safely and conveniently trigger the flashing beacons or in-road lighting already proposed as crosswalk amenities.

Thank you for your efforts to improve bicycle & pedestrian facilities in the City of Eureka.

Sincerely,

Colin Fiske  
Executive Director  
Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities  
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