

10/16/2017

**VIA EMAIL** 

Councilmember Angelique Ashby, District 1 City of Sacramento 915 I Street New City Hall 5th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Vacation of the Public Road and Highway Easement at Strawberry Field Subdivision and Amendment of the 2016 Bicycle Master Plan

Dear Councilmember Ashby:

Retaining the Airport Road highway easement and preserving the Class I off-street bikeway along the eastern edge of Strawberry Field in the 2016 Bicycle Master Plan will create additional transportation options for residents and visitors. Pedestrians have fewer conflicts with motor vehicles when using off-street bikeways compared to sidewalks with driveways. A quieter, greener and more direct walkway provided by off-street bikeways can provide a better experience for pedestrians. Off-street bikeways can also reduce the incidence of bikes on sidewalks where there is often not enough room for both pedestrians and bicyclists.

The Class I bikeway envisioned between Arena Boulevard and Tanzanite Park could be a wonderful walking route for residents in the Natomas Crossing neighborhood on their way to local destinations, such as the existing Tanzanite Park and future Airfield Park, the existing Natomas Crossing shopping center and planned centers on East Commerce Way and Arena Boulevard, the STAR Academy elementary school, and homes of neighbors. It would be unfortunate should we lose the opportunity for off-street multi-use bikeways along the Airport Road easement.

WALKSacramento is working to create community environments that support walking and bicycling. Benefits include improved physical fitness, less motor vehicle traffic congestion, better air quality, and a stronger sense of community and safety.

Sincerely,

Kirin Kumar

**Executive Director**