## AGENDA DATE: 08/05/15 SUPPLEMENTAL # 4

**From:** Andrea Muro-Little <<u>andrea\_muro@charter.net</u>>

**Date:** August 5, 2015 at 6:08:57 PM PDT

**To:** Steve.tate@morganhill.ca.gov, Gordon.seibert@morganhill.ca.gov, Marilynlibrers@morganhill.ca.gov, Rich.constantine@morganhill.ca.gov, Larry.carr@morganhill.ca.gov, Steve Rymer <Steve.rymer@morganhill.ca.gov>

**Subject: Monterey Road downtown lane concerns** 

Dear Mr. Mayor, Council Members and City Manager Mr. Rymer,

I have been a resident and home owner of Morgan Hill since 1994. I am a community volunteer and tax paying citizen. I am writing regarding the current lane reduction downtown and would like to include my dissatisfaction among the other citizens against this decision to be voted on at the Board meeting this evening. I do not support the lane reduction and I urge you to discontinue the current lane conditions downtown. This is a business district not a residential zone and the decision has already had a negative impact among the downtown drivers including myself. As a mother, I spend my days driving around this city and it has been so frustrating dealing with the heavy congestion downtown as a result of this lane reduction. This was a poor decision and there are no facts to support that this lane reduction will improve traffic or hinder downtown businesses from expanding. Its an absurd conclusion.

The mentality among the leadership in our unique and special community is so primitive and non-progressive. We are limiting the potential development and infrastructure within our community. There is so much building potential downtown. As a community we should be more competitive and engage with new businesses to improve our downtown and update it so that it is current and relevant like Willow Glen, Los Gatos and Saratoga.

It is so unfortunate that our leadership is moving in the wrong direction on so many levels. There are so many opportunities to improve our lovely city and its so disappointing that we are not taking advantage of them but rather creating further obstacles for our citizens and eventually residents like myself will relocate to stronger communities that prioritize their families.

Regards,

Andrea Muro-Little

From: debca1013@aol.com [mailto:debca1013@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 6:34 PM

To: Michelle Wilson

Subject: Complete Streets Project

My husband and I have been homeowners in MH for over 10 years now. We have attended a number of meetings on the street issue downtown including those incorporating plans for construction downtown. We have NOT been in favor of reducing the lanes downtown and continue to feel that way.

From our viewpoint large amounts of money were spent on various community outreach events on the downtown with the majority of residence not wanting to see this happen. We are aware of the expert study presented by someone brought in by one of the former potential developers for the downtown that advised against reducing lanes as it would most likely drive people away from shopping and dining downtown. Yet the City agreed to do this anyway. No amount of signage telling people to stop, dine and shop downtown will make people do so. We eat out all the time and until this past January dined downtown quite a few nights each week and on weekends. We stopped doing that in January however since we felt that the only way to apparently be heard by the City and restaurants supporting this Complete Streets program was to withdrawal our support. I know many of our neighbors have expressed similar sentiments. We're still forced to bank downtown unless we change banks, but we have found many other restaurants in MH, Gilroy and off Cottle Road to dine at now. And we have found many new places we like. All are convenient enough to drive to.

If the City has plans to continue this lane reduction program, and I noticed immediately in the Complete Street proposals that there was no funding to remove the stripping and such, I don't see altering where we have come to dine anymore. As we see it we pay our automobile and gas tax for the lanes through town. I have driven through downtown during the day at various times and barely seen any bicyclists who you have given our lanes to. I seriously doubt the ones I have seen dine and do their shopping downtown. The ones I've seen drive on through just like I have done. If you want to kill the downtown, then accept the City Staff's recommendation which I just read about on the Morgan Hill Times to continue with the program. I feel for many of the restaurant owners and their workers that we use to frequent who haven't supported this program but we have felt we have no alternative after already voicing our opinion with others. I'm sure the ongoing construction downtown will put another heavy burden on those businesses and we'll probably lose some for good. It will be interesting to see how the City Council votes.

## Complete Streets Pilot Project

Why it is Wrong for Morgan Hill At this time

## It Works in Other Towns



