



August 8, 2023

Mike Lew, P.E. | District 5 Project Manager
2885 S. Higuera St
San Luis Obispo, Ca 93401

Subject: Project 05-1E030 – 0513000026: Guadalupe Street ADA Project/Streets

Dear Mr. Lew,

This letter is written on behalf of the membership, Board of Directors of the Guadalupe Business Association, as well as members of the general public in attendance our meeting of August 7th, 2023; we are located in the city of Guadalupe and are writing this letter to re-emphasize and reiterate concerns of a number of business owners and city residents. These concerns were initially shared this past December and January. In our meeting last night, one of our business members shared a discussion they had with one of the CalTrans survey team and it was indicated in that conversation that many of the concerns that we had previously indicated were not being addressed OR simply ignored. Additionally, previous dialog with our prior City Engineer and Public Works director indicated that there would be a public dialog possibly in the form of a zoom or a town-hall style meeting to inform residents of the Guadalupe Street ADA project. To our knowledge, that has not happened.

As stated last year, we would like to continue our support of a few different but critical components of the Guadalupe St / Highway 1 ADA project.

We continue to support the City of Guadalupe 2020 Short Range Transit Plan and the 2018 State Rail Plan, both of which advocate improving connections with multiple transit options which only serves to better support the mobility of many of our citizens. We support the installation of a bus bay/curb inset in front of the Amtrak Station, so that two bus routes can safely meet simultaneously at this location. Furthermore, we support the removal of the mid-block bulbouts along Guadalupe St. These bulbouts do not meet their intended goal of calming traffic or facilitating safe pedestrian travel. Instead, we would support alternative bulbouts at intersections with stop signs and areas of regular pedestrian crossing (such as at the road angle change between 8th and 9th Streets). Additionally, lost parking spaces for businesses along our main thoroughfare hurts the economic development and redevelopment of our downtown corridor. In a time where our largest tourism draw – the Guadalupe Dunes – is now inaccessible due to storm damage, making our downtown less appealing to visitors for a lack of parking and access will have a negative effect on the city's economy.

We do continue to support the pedestrian & student safety along Guadalupe St. The addition of a 4-way stop at Guadalupe St. and 9th St., in addition to a 3 way stop at Guadalupe & Olivera St. would greatly aid pedestrian flow/safety in these areas as it did when implemented at Guadalupe & 11th St. We also support including rapid rectangular flashing beacons (RRFB) to all stops sign areas and would appreciate the consideration of other pedestrian safety elements like in ground lighting through the cross walks. When our streets get foggy this can greatly increase the safety for those crossing, especially for our students crossing early in the morning.

Third area of support is to get our electrical utilities undergrounded on Guadalupe St. south of Olivera St, along with conduit along Guadalupe St. to support the Broadband connectivity of our town. Implementing this will aid us in our push to bring reliable, high-speed, stable internet throughout our town, improving Guadalupe's resiliency, economy, education, healthcare, and helping to reach the State's well publicized Digital Equity goals.

The Fourth area of support is for the alterations of landscaping along Guadalupe St. to bring in energy-efficient streetlights that truly capture the historic character of our Downtown that we are working hard to preserve and

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restore. Better lighting standards will encourage pedestrian use and improve safety by reducing darkened areas and illuminating business storefronts and signage. As an example, Shell Beach has beautiful light standards with fixtures that hang over both sidewalk and street giving the street a warm and inviting look; the ability to connect to power at the top of the light standards would improve efficiency towards the City's beautification work as well. In addition, we support an improved treescape. The existing trees have small canopies, limiting their effectiveness at reducing the urban heat island effect and by not providing any meaningful shade for pedestrians. This item is specifically mentioned in the City's 2020 Mobility and Revitalization Study. Trees planted with a minimum well of 6 feet on all sides and 5 feet deep encourages adequate size for a continuous, verdant shade canopy for pedestrians.

Finally, we support reducing the speed limit from 30 mph down to 25 mph along Guadalupe St. Please understand, with all due respect, while supportive of the end goals, we do have a general opposition to a plan that does not fulfill the changes to the project that have previously been proposed by the City of Guadalupe and its constituents – both business and residents – to CalTrans.

Sincerely,

Garret Matsuura, President, GBA
Belinda Popovich, Vice President, GBA
Lupe Alvarez, Vice President, Sponsorships, GBA
Melanie Backer, Secretary, GBA
Judy Wilson, Treasurer, GBA
Jeff Railsback, 3CE – Central Coast Community Energy
Juan Pablo Cal y Mayor, Corporate Development Manager, Omni Design Incorporated
Svyatoslav Popovich, Brazen Fox Fabrication
Erika Weber, Executive Director, Dunes Center
Alexander Jauregui, Principal, McKenzie Jr. High School
Tirzo Lopez, AFLAC
Stew Jenkins, General Counsel, Andres Realty
Alhan Diaz
Brooks Van Wingerden, Co-Owner Guadalupe Social Club
Ernesto Valle, Owner, Lobo Butcher Shop
Pablo Ramos, Owner, 805 Concerts

CC: Todd Bodem, Guadalupe City Council