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San Mateo County's homepage

City of San Mateo should be commended for pedestrian plan

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Editor,

I would like to congratulate the city of San Mateo for completing its draft Pedestrian Master Plan. With the over-65 population reaching 35 percent of San Mateo by 2017, the plan could not have come at a better time. I believe the city has developed a great plan that will ease San Mateo pedestrian concerns of mobility and safety. Through walking tours, workshops and surveys from San Mateo residents, the city worked to incorporate needs of the residents and visitors, particularly in areas of mobility, accessibility, safety, equity and implementation:

- Including programs such as Safe Routes to Schools, Safe Routes for Seniors and Safe Routes to Transit to incorporate walking as a viable and safe option for all;
- Vertical curbs to prevent on-sidewalk automobile parking;
- Ensuring that all sidewalks, crosswalks, and other access to senior centers and community centers are ADA accessible;
- Mid-block crosswalks, islands, crossing beacons, and high-visibility crosswalks to reduce pedestrian-related collisions;
- Pedestrian-scale lighting and landscape to improve safety and to encourage walking over driving for trips less than a mile;
- Turning three specific parking spots into parklets;
- Prioritizing projects into three tiers (within five years, within 10 years and within 20 years) to ensure more important and pressing projects are addressed first

Through these and several other recommendations, the plan aims to make San Mateo a more liveable and walkable environment for all residents and visitors. Congrats to the city again for taking a leadership role on this matter.

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