

Program

Bikes and Buses

Menace or Meal Ticket for Sausalito?

No single issue commands more attention of Sausalito's residents than the explosive growth in visitor and thoroughfare traffic arriving via bike and bus. It is estimated that bike traffic (rental, recreational and commuter) now totals 500,000 annually, with 5000 at daily peak. Weekend congestion has made the Bridgeway corridor a no-man's land avoided by locals who have ceded their dominion to the tourist and resigned themselves to the inevitability that Sausalito may be fast becoming a replicate of Fisherman's Wharf.

While it is difficult and probably moot to cast definitive judgment on who's right and who's wrong, the reality exists that committed constituencies and individuals are attempting to sort out the mess and bring law, order and sound strategy to addressing the challenge. This public forum has been convened for the express purpose of defining the issues, articulating the problems, airing the grievances, but most importantly providing a platform to share vital information on what is currently being done to address residents' concerns and what is being planned to manage the future.

Comment [e1]: This statement seems rather judgmental and somewhat out of place to be included in what I assumed to be a balanced forum. Some may have this opinion but to lay it out as a fact in the opening paragraph seems rather pejorative.

Comment [e2]: "who's right and who's wrong"... about what?

Panel

The following are confirmed for the panel:

- **Dr. Ed Fotsch**, Chairman, Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee (created by Sausalito City Council)
- **Wayne Kaleck**, Managing Director, Gene Hiller (representing the Bridgeway merchant community)
- **Andy Peri**, Advocacy Director, Marin County Bicycle Coalition
- **Alf Nucifora**, Moderator

Date & Time

Tuesday November 11th, 6.00-8.00 PM

Location:

The Spinnaker

Audience details:

We anticipate an audience of 100+ . The event has been aggressively promoted via:

- An email list of 1600 Sausalito residents (multiple mailings)
- Posting to NextDoor.com (900 members)
- Outreach to clubs, civic associations and neighborhood groups

Panel dynamics:

The panel discussion starts promptly at 6.00 and ends at 8.00 (or earlier). Panelists are asked to arrive by 5.45 for microphone check. The panel discussion will not require any presentation or preparation.

The meeting will proceed as follows:

- Summary results of a “Bikes & Buses” survey (600 responses to date) will be presented
- Each panelist will then be introduced briefly and asked for opening remarks (up to 5 minutes) to acquaint the audience with the panelist (and his organization) together with a current opinion and/or update with respect to the Bikes & Buses issue
- Questions will then be posed to the panel by the facilitator. At varying times throughout the discussion, questions will be taken from the audience

Panelists can expect great interest from the audience, many questions and vigorous but friendly interaction. The tone of the discussion is one of informality. Panelists are made to feel very comfortable with the proceedings and courtesy and civility will apply at all times. While audience members will be permitted to voice opinion, the primary purpose of the meeting is to gather resident feedback which can be reported to the PBAC and City Council and share information on current and planned remedies to the problem.

Sample questions:

- Please articulate your organization’s current attitude/policy/posture with respect to Sausalito’s Bikes & Buses issue
- Should residents be concerned about the issue and will it continue to grow in import and/or severity? Are there solutions to the problem?
- What future remedies are currently being discussed and what is the expected timeline for their implementation?
- Do you advocate restricting rental bike traffic altogether or continuing to encourage the traffic but at the same time managing the growth more effectively?
- What do you see as the primary problems attached to the issue and are they capable of being resolved?
 - Safety concerns (biker and pedestrian)
 - Litter
 - Bike parking
 - Riding on sidewalks

Comment [e3]: Absent one or more intelligent and legal means to accomplish this end I would suggest that proposing this goal as achievable provides a false choice and adds to the confusion and misinformation.

- Downtown congestion
 - Inhibiting merchant commerce
 - Other
- Should there be more effective police enforcement of the rules of the road as they apply to commuter, recreational and rental cyclists?
- How can we better educate cyclists (all types) on road rules, road etiquette and resident sensibilities?
- To what extent can the city of Sausalito assist in resolution of the problem?
 - More ordinances
 - Provision for more bike parking
 - More aggressive police enforcement of the rules
 - Better flow control at the ferry landing
- To what extent are other influential communities contributing their time and effort to alleviating the problem?
 - GG Ferry
 - Marin County Bicycle Coalition
 - GGNRA
 - Police Department
 - Other
- Has consideration been given to non-traditional remedial strategies?
 - Charging for bike parking
 - Assessing a collectible “tax” or fee on rental bikes (similar to the current proposal to charge an access fee for the Golden Gate Bridge)
 - Restricting arriving rental bike traffic to an off-site location such as Fort Baker and shuttling cyclists into the city
 - Demanding stronger cyclist education and financial contribution from the bike rental companies
- Is there/should there be a well-designed plan and strategy for dealing with the inevitable growth in bike and bus traffic? How should community input and sentiment be considered in the plan and who should take responsibility for its development and execution?

Comment [e4]: Absent one or more intelligent and legal means to accomplish this end I would suggest that proposing this goal as achievable provides a false choice and adds to the confusion and misinformation. Among the challenges is the fact that the bike companies have no legal nexus in Sausalito

Comment [e5]: Absent one or more intelligent and legal means to accomplish this end I would suggest that proposing this goal as achievable provides a false choice and adds to the confusion and misinformation.

Other planning items:

- Phone numbers for Alf Nucifora... 415-302-3988 (cell), 415-332-1085 (office)