

FW: Traffic Safety - City Council Priorities Feb 28th Meeting Public Comment

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 2/27/2023 8:05 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

From: Robert Gonzalez <[REDACTED]>**Sent:** Sunday, February 26, 2023 6:50 PM**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; Webmaster Manager <webmaster.manager@sanjoseca.gov>; Foley, Pam <Pam.Foley@sanjoseca.gov>; Davis, Dev <dev.davis@sanjoseca.gov>; Cohen, David <David.Cohen@sanjoseca.gov>; Ortiz, Peter <Peter.Ortiz@sanjoseca.gov>; Batra, Arjun <arjun.batra@sanjoseca.gov>; Kamei, Rosemary <Rosemary.Kamei@sanjoseca.gov>; Candelas, Domingo <Domingo.Candelas@sanjoseca.gov>; Doan, Bien <Bien.Doan@sanjoseca.gov>; City.manager@sanjoseca.gov; Mahan, Matt <Matt.Mahan@sanjoseca.gov>; Jimenez, Sergio <sergio.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov>; Torres, Omar <Omar.Torres@sanjoseca.gov>**Subject:** Traffic Safety - City Council Priorities Feb 28th Meeting Public Comment

[External Email]

Hello,

My name is Bobby and I have lived in San José for 3 decades. I enjoy riding my bike, walking, using VTA, and driving to get around San José. Regardless of the method I choose, I strongly believe San José needs safer streets.

Public safety has traditionally revolved around law enforcement, but it should include traffic safety. In 2022 in San José, there were almost twice as many traffic-related deaths as homicides. The City of San José declared Vision Zero in 2015, and has gone backwards on that goal, setting a grim modern day record of 65 traffic-related deaths in 2022.

More funding for police officers, at a minimum of \$200,000 an officer, has dominated the headlines for years. Unfortunately, the City relies too much on grants when it comes to traffic safety, and it's imperative that some traffic safety initiatives shift to the General Fund to reduce the time to implement critical infrastructure improvements. I support the recommendations from the Mayor's Transition Committee on Community Safety, as they relate to traffic safety, to fund the City's Vision Zero Action Plan, the Bike Plan, a pedestrian program, and an increase in staff in the Department of Transportation to expedite the many projects that appear in City plans.

Thank you