From: <u>Janne Debets</u>

To: <u>County Administrative Office</u>

**Subject:** Request and support for traffic light at F & Oak street!

**Date:** Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:41:41 PM

Hello,

Hope you are doing well today.

Please accept this email in support of Measure Z Funding towards the causes of the Slow F Street Group. This group supports the Rosewood and Henderson Center neighborhoods efforts to improve the safety along F Street in Eureka. It has schools, churches and many stores on it as it passes through Henderson Center and Old Town. F Street is a bypass to Broadway as GPS systems reroute drivers due to congestion on Broadway and locals know it to be a way around 101. F Street serves almost like an expressway and has become a hot spot of accidents — with pedestrians, bicycles, homes, and other cars.

According to the Slow F Street Group, there are over 4,000 cars a day that use F Street in each direction and from Henderson Center to the 101 entrance there are minimal crosswalks. There are also issues with traffic speed, visibility, and road conditions.10 years ago RCAA did a "walkability" study and it was determined that a safety light was needed at Oak and F Street. This and other recommenda;ons were not followed and recommendations for a school crosswalk were only partially implemented. At a recent Eureka City Council meeting it was disclosed there were other more recent "traffic studies" but they only observed traffic for 1 hour outside of rush hour and during the lockdown for Covid-19. Since the last RCAA study the traffic situation on F Street has gotten worse. The Slow F Street Group has written grants in an attempt to gather funding for a third-party, evidence-based group (RCAA) to conduct a comprehensive updated study. This would provide the City and County with direct recommendations to be implemented for improved traffic safety for all modes of transportation.

As a proud F Street homeowner, we value our neighborhood, the craftsmen charm, historic, and family friendly elements of living in the Rosewood neighborhood. We've also experienced numerous accidents and near misses directly outside our home as a result of the high speeds and dangerous conditions of the road and drivers. As a mother of small children, we love the close proximity to Henderson Center — the opportunity to exercise by walking to the Toy Box, Old Town Coffee and Chocolates, Fin and Feather, etc., are such a benefit to young families like ours, but the safety during this the short walk is a huge concern. The kids have a blast unaware of the danger, but it requires me to be on high alert and is not a leisurely journey. The impact of COVID-19 and less commuter traffic has given us a tiny glimpse at improved traffic although drivers continue to speed at high rates (especially in the late hours) which is extremely loud, often even shaking the windows when we're inside and make it impossible to have a conversation while we're walking.

Something must be done. This stop light would be an improvement and a step in the

right direction, but by no means is a solution to what is a very dangerous situation. The tip of the iceberg at best.

We believe Eureka is a wonderful place to live and improving the conditions in neighborhoods like ours could increase the quality of life for us who already live here and attract other families.

We'd be happy to continue the conversation and provide more specific examples if needed.

Thank you,

Janne Rasmussen