

**From:** George Johnston [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2011 12:42 AM  
**To:** List-Mayor-Council; Fran David  
**Subject:** Widening of West Winton Avenue

The owners of the Valero station at Winton and Hesperian alerted me to the city's plan to widen the westbound Winton Avenue intersection at Hesperian. Having lived near this intersection for 18 years, I am well aware of the traffic issues on Winton Avenue. I agree with the Valero owners position that widening this intersection is of little value unless westbound Winton Avenue, which is only two lanes wide, is widened all the way back to I-880. This intersection already has four lanes.

The Valero owners have suggested an alternate approach which looks very reasonable, less costly, and less disruptive than tearing up the intersection to widen it. I would urge the city council to give their proposal serious consideration.

I also note that Industrial Boulevard appears to be underutilized. Redirecting heavy truck traffic to Industrial Blvd would relieve the traffic congestion on Winton Avenue, and reduce the rate of pavement damage between I-880 and Hesperian.

Thank you for your consideration.

George Johnston  
[redacted]

**From:** Mary Trinko [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 19, 2011 2:30 PM  
**To:** Michael Sweeney  
**Subject:** taring down the gas station

Hello,

I am Mary Trinko, and I think that taring down a gas station, that a familys business depends on is just plain wrong. That family has 3 kids they need to put through college, to give them a bright future. And you could be ruining that for there family. So your not only hurting the direct owner but also there children, why hurt local business, to barely help fix traffic? Your taking away a familys ability to earn money, and in this economay it's going to be hard to build new jobs for themsleves. So please don't take away a family's future.

Mary Trinko

**From:** Carissa Quiambao [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 19, 2011 12:05 PM  
**To:** Michael Sweeney  
**Subject:** (urgent) 'People Power' vs. Winton Mouth Widening

Dear Mayor Sweeney,

My name is Carissa Quiambao, I am 17-years-old and I attend Moreau Catholic High School on Mission Boulevard. My parents have owned the Valero gas station on the corner of West Winton Avenue and Hesperian Boulevard for almost ten years, and before they owned it, my grandparents owned it for many years. My entire family invests our lives around the well-being of the gas station-- since middle school my sister and I have done inventory, shred our mother's accountant papers, and have spent many days helping to re-stock drinks and snacks. I still remember dusting candies and snacks as a small child while waiting for my parents to get off work. My older sister and I are in high school now, and we cashier at the station side by side employees, some of which have been working at our station for over 10 years. When my younger sister gets a bit older, she will probably partake in helping too.

The Valero gas station is the means by which my parents pay for our bills, for me and my sister's school tuition, for our house, for our clothes, and basically for putting food on the table. The gas station is practically my family's second home. Despite economic hardships, my parents work harder than ever to make sure the business is doing well so that my sisters and I can get the education and opportunities that my parents never had when they were our age.

Appropriating a portion of our land to relieve traffic congestion is, admittedly, an understandable venture. However, based on careful analysis of the roads and of traffic flow, it is evident that **taking away part of our land will NOT solve the traffic congestion problem**. Instead, it will only be a futile attempt to fix a problem that begins long before West Winton in front of our station (being a frequent commuter to that street myself, I can vouch for the fact that **traffic begins on Wright Drive and goes up to Stonewall Avenue**, so making another lane on West Winton would be useless).

If our land is appropriated for this project, we would have to remove one gas pump, and by doing so would ultimately lose a great amount of business and would have to abandon the station. Without that station, I'm not sure if my parents will be able to pay for my college tuition, or my sister's college tuition, or my younger sister's tuition at St. Clement School. I don't know if we would be able to pay for our bills, or our home, or for our well-being. My entire family has invested so much time, energy, and tears, sweat and blood to maintain the gas station, and taking that away would be doing a colossal disservice to us all. I am currently Editor-In-Chief of my school newspaper, I am on the Principal's Honor Roll, and I hope to go to a University of California to eventually pursue law and perhaps even become a civil servant myself. Taking away the gas station is not only potentially taking away these opportunities from me, but more importantly taking away the ability of my family to live and thrive.

Please realize that the project to widen West Winton will do much more harm than it will good, as it will not only do nothing for the traffic problem it's trying to solve for, but it will also disable

an entire family (and generations after) from making a living.  
*(Attached is a more in depth explanation of why the construction project is not a viable plan)*

Thank you so much for your time,

Carissa Quiambao



-----Original Message-----

From: Ryan Louie [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, March 20, 2011 12:27 AM  
To: Michael Sweeney  
Subject: Construction project to add another lane on W Winton Ave.

Mayor Sweeney,

I do not believe the construction project to add another lane on W Winton Ave. will solve any congestion problems. If anything, a new lane would continue current congestion trends by giving people more incentive to drive. And, correct me if I am wrong, but the construction will make each lane more narrow? Cars will drive more cautiously and therefore more slowly, continuing congestion. If anything, I would start centering your planning for the city of Hayward around New Urbanism and Smart Growth. Overall, the world needs to rely less on cars. It needs more mixed land use, more high density cities, and more incentive to use public transportation/walk/bike. New Urbanism city planning techniques reduce our reliance on cars. Less dependency on cars and more efficient public transportation and urban planning is what the world needs. It will decrease air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. I know California is a leader in the "trendy" green movement and Hayward's air can probably handle more cars on the road, but we need to continue to be an example for others in the green movement with every single policy. This new lane would be a step backwards.

Thanks for your time,  
Ryan Louie

**From:** sampreeta bathini [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 20, 2011 10:02 AM  
**To:** Michael Sweeney  
**Subject:** Problem At West Winton Avenue and Hesperian Boulevard

Dear Mr. Sweeney,

This email is regarding the project to add an extra lane to West Winton Avenue. I am strongly against this decision.

1. This will not solve the traffic problem, so the whole project is redundant.
2. This will deprive a family of 5 of their business, which is their main stream income.

The traffic, I admit, is a bit drastic at that particular intersection. Adding a lane, however, is not a permanent solution. It is like fixing a crack in the wall with ice, just another temporary solution. Also, this is a solution creating another problem. If a lane is added to the avenue, then one side will have 3 lanes and the other side only 2. This will cause congestion at the intersection of the two roads. The traffic cameras would also make plenty of mistakes due to this unsymmetrical intersection, which would just create more problems for the drivers. I do not think unhappy citizens is this city's goal.

A family of 5 is living off their business, a Valero gas station. This gas station lies at the intersection of West Winton Avenue and Herperian Boulevard. Building this lane will deprive them of a gas pump. This is of great inconvenience to the costumers, the employees, and the ownswers of this station. Buisness will be greatly demolished, and they will not be able to make ends meet. They are, after all, citizens of Hayward as well.

In conclusion, this project will just exacerbate the traffic problem and ruin a citizen's business.

Hoping for a better tomorrow,  
Sampreeta Bathini

Citizen of Hayward City

**From:** Jenie Balsicas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2011 2:06 AM  
**To:** Michael Sweeney  
**Subject:**

We are the owners, employees and customers of the Valero gas station, and residents living around the corner of West Winton Avenue and Hesperian Boulevard collectively organizing ourselves as the 'People Power' vs. Winton Mouth Widening. The City intends to appropriate a portion of the Valero lot to accommodate an additional lane to widen the mouth of West Winton Avenue by 400 ft. on the north side.

We oppose the widening for the following reasons:

**I.** It is a band-aid to a cancer. The cost does not justify the minimal impact of the additional lane to the over-all traffic congestion on Winton Ave. The existing two lanes, one exclusive for southbound left turn and another for northbound right turn, are hardly used because they are usually blocked, and therefore cannot be accessed by vehicles. The choke point begins on the corner of Wright Dr. that stretches up to the corner of Stonewall Avenue. Once vehicles, a lot of them are those 53-footer container vans, pile up on the corner of Wright Dr., this additional lane would be hard to access, just like the existing two left-and-right-turning ones. **Instead of two lanes, we will have three lanes we can barely use.** Unless westbound Winton Ave. is widened from the I-880 South ramp, the 400 ft. widening to a one-mile stretch of traffic congestion is by no means a solution.

In this time of economic and budgetary crises, when schools are being closed down and other public and social services are curtailed severely, why waste the taxpayers' money on an additional lane that may or may not alleviate the traffic congestion?

**II.** It is an abandonment of the City of Hayward's General Plan for a direct access to the Southland Mall to relieve traffic congestion on Winton Ave. since oncoming shoppers are pushed forward up to Hesperian Blvd. to get to the mall, especially during the holiday shopping season. The Plan states: *Access to Southland Mall is important to maintain its attractiveness and continued viability as a regional shopping center. In particular, full access from I-880 must be ensured as part of any proposed transportation improvements.*

**III.** The widening will destroy our livelihood, and the way of life of thousands of commuters and residents relying on our reasonable gas and C-store prices and reliable auto repair services; of generations of lives that have made this corner a part of their neighborhood.

On Mar 19, 2011, at 2:36 PM, "Dave Baptist" <[REDACTED]> wrote:

> Mr. Fran, Mr. Mayor and City Council members,

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> Can you explain some issues regarding the Winton Ave project at Hesperian near Stonewall Rd and Wright Dr?

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> Is land being claimed by eminent domain or other means to complete the widening of Winton Ave? To what extent have you evaluated the potential impact to local residents and businesses? How many property owners and local businesses will be affected by the project? How has the city addressed the concerns of affected parties? What compensation is the city making to cover losses resulting from this project? What steps have been taken to insure that the project is adequately presented to property and business owners affected by the work?

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> Thank you for your time and diligence,

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> --

> Dave Baptist '85

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> Moreau Catholic High School

> Dept. of Social Studies

> Dept. of Athletics

> [REDACTED]

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> "Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forward"--Soren Kierkegaard

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