

From: Mari Robinson [<mailto:marirobinson@comcast.net>]

Sent: Saturday, July 7, 2018 9:55 AM

To: Golan, Ari <AGolan@marincounty.org>

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Sashi McEntee <smcentee@cityofmillvalley.org>; Jim McCann <jmccann@cityofmillvalley.org>

Subject: E-Bikes on the MUP

Dear Mr. Golan,

The Marin County Open Space Commission is proposing to allow e-bikes on Marin's multi-use paths and you have asked for public input prior to their final decision on this matter.

Below is a thread from a post dated June 12, 2018 on the social media site NextDoor in regard to speeding bicyclists on the multi-use path between Ashford and Edna Maguire Elementary School in Mill Valley.

This post related a safety concern about the danger of speeding bicyclists and potential for injury and it was included in NextDoor's Safety and Crime section. It has 112 comments.

Over the past few years, there have been several injury accidents on this stretch of the MUP. The collisions have resulted in cuts down to the bone on the hand of a middle schooler, a broken hip for an 80 year old woman and many others.

These serious injury incidents on this stretch of MUP have produced similar lengthy threads on NextDoor whereby local residents have indicated their ongoing concerns with speeding bicyclists and have testified to many other incidents of injuries from cyclists.

Public outcry around these serious injuries prompted authorities to address the issue of speeding near the MV Middle School and the Redwoods retirement home by the addition of a roundabout and speed signs.

However, as the thread below indicates these measures have not decreased the numbers of speeding bicyclists or incidents. There continues to be high speed biking (with Strava recorded speeds of 25+ mph) assaults to humans, injury collisions with dogs, etc.

These high speeds also specifically relate to e-bikes which are already illegally using the MUP at high speeds of 25-28 mph (see bolded sections below).

As is well known, there is little to no police presence on the MUP, and virtually all speeding incidents go unreported, but once in a while, as in the case below, the speeding is brought to the attention of the authorities, in this case the MVPD.

I am hoping that including the lengthy NextDoor post below will give the Commission a clearer idea of the ongoing serious public concern with speeding bicyclists, especially since the claim is made by individuals and bicycle lobbies that there are no such incidents.

It is, however, suggested on this post that such incidents have already prompted the City of Mill Valley to work toward upgrading the bike path along Camino Alto between Miller and E. Blithedale in an apparent attempt to get high speed bikers off the MUP.

In short, regardless of the methods used by authorities, bicyclists continue to speed excessively and regularly/daily on the MUP and endanger slower users. The county should not make this problem worse by extending legality on the MUPs to potentially faster e-bikes.

Rather the city and county should work toward providing the highest level paths possible on city streets for both cyclists and e-bikers that will allow them the speeds to which they aspire. Thank you for your consideration.

Best, Mari Robinson

[David Lee](#), Horse Hill  1



[Speeding bicyclists on multi-use path between Ashford and Edna Maguire Elementary School](#)

Safety related post; My grandson (7 years old) and I were walking the multi-use path (not strictly bike path) towards Edna Maguire School at around 6:00 PM and a speeding touring bicyclist came up from behind and nearly collided with my grandson. He did not stop and as he was peddling away blamed (European accent) my grandson for getting in his way. I called the police because of his blaming attitude and unwillingness to slow down when he had us directly in front of his vision, while we, did not have eyes in back of our heads. The Sargent informed me that horses have the first right of way and pedestrians have the second right of way, with bicyclists being last on the multi-use path. Let's not wait for an injury until the bicyclists get a clue. Report inconsiderate humans on the path and these incidents will decrease.

12 Jun · 41 neighborhoods in [Crime & Safety](#)



Thank



Reply



27



[112](#)





Jennifer Curley
, Horse Hill·12 Jun

Five grown men whizzed by me today on the path between Edna and Middle school. We need speed bumps



4 Thanks



Mario Barrios
, Horse Hill·12 Jun

Hi David, this is Mario. Yes, you are absolutely right. And what bugs me is that the law on speeding bikes is not enforced, plus there are a group of people, mainly from Corte Madera, who want to open up the tunnel that goes to CM. This would make our little bit of of pedestrian/bike path from East Blithedale to Edna McGuire a speeding right away for inconsiderate bikers going to the tunnel. I hope that never happens and good luck in your effort.



5 Thanks



Davi Gainer
, Horse Hill·12 Jun

Try walking your dog on Lomita and Plaza as the bikes coming zooming down the hill. They never even stop at the Stop Sign!! I'm more afraid of my dog being hit by a bike than a car....



4 Thanks



[anne bell](#)

, Homestead Valley · Edited 12 Jun

The costly redesign has done nothing to improve safety on the multi-use path. It remains a bicycle autobahn. I know personally two people recently assaulted there by cyclists for reasons similar to what you describe. One was punched in the face in front of his young kids; the other, an elderly man, was more seriously injured. I doubt there is currently a budget for increased police presence there, but this worsening public safety issue needs addressing.



13 Thanks



[William Greig](#)

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 12 Jun

I have a potential solution that would require a lot of work. I would be willing to bet that most of the speeding cyclist use strava, an ap that tracks their speed, distance, elevation etc. One of the features of Strava is that it compares riders speeds against other riders speeds thereby encouraging people to ride as fast as they can. A few years ago a cyclist killed a pedestrian in SF by going through a red light to keep his speed up. I used to use strava when I rode and I can proudly say that I was in the 95th percentile, in other words, 95% of the riders were faster than me. My idea would be for a group of energetic people to convince Strava not to record speeds on the bike path. This would encourage riders going for speed records to go somewhere other than a multi use path. I offer this idea for those of you who are truly interested in making a change.



11 Thanks



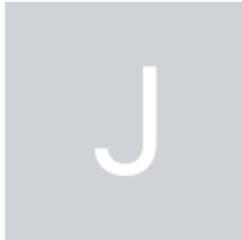
[Roel Jonkman](#)

, Panoramic · 12 Jun

Pretty sure you have a pretty good case to subpoena records from Strava if that is used and a user was involved in an accident.



2 Thanks



[Jess Grant](#)

, Panoramic · 12 Jun

A cyclist who was speeding as he entered traffic circle yesterday crashed into my dog, sending her flying into the bushes. He had the audacity to yell at me for the dog being in his path (even though he came from behind us after we had already been in traffic circle!) I told him that hec wss not riding in the Tour de France and to slow down since he could easily hit a child or elderly person. People like him and others who do not observe traffic laws are why cyclists have a bad reputation for acting like they own the road



13 Thanks



[Dave Rintelman](#)

, Horse Hill · 12 Jun

Jess: I hope your dog is ok! Like I said, they are IDIOTS!!!



5 Thanks



Bob Freitas

, Tamalpais Valley · 12 Jun

I find the cut off to Miller to be much better for riding instead of going by the soccer field and the middle school. I see no real point in riding on the path up to Edna McGuire unless the tunnel opens.



3 Thanks



Megan Landeck

, Panoramic · 12 Jun

I've had my dog almost hit on the cypress trail by a bicyclist. I wish they would have a little more respect and not go so fast on the trails. Slow down and enjoy. You're out in nature and it's beautiful.



2 Thanks



Mari Robinson

, Scott Valley · Edited 12 Jun

Every person involved in the kinds of bike incidents described above **MUST** report them to Marin County Parks. (I wish I could bold this!) The reporting form is here:

<https://forms2.marincounty.org/lc/content/forms/af/citizenobservationreport.html> This is absolutely necessary to increase the safety on our MUPs and open space trails. One reason is that patrolling is based on incident reports. Regular ongoing patrolling will only be considered based on need. If the public provides enough evidence that the MUP needs stepped up patrols, the city and county will, by law, need to respond appropriately. That is also true for any and all local open space trails, including the fire roads. Such reports can also be used to identify the best days and times for patrolling for repeat offenders. It is up to us, those who are affected by these safety issues, to make our concerns known to those whose responsibility it is to assure public safety. Please take a few minutes now to report your incidents. Thank you. p.s. And thank you to David Lee for reporting his incident to MVPD.

8 Thanks



Jenn Jeffers

, Panoramic·Edited 12 Jun

All I have to say is, if one of these blowhards with a mid-life crisis and too much spandex sausage casing hits my dog and sends him flying, he's gonna need more than one police officer to put his absurdly expensive bike back together and help him find his front teeth. I hope your pup is ok.



10 Thanks



Dave Sams

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge·Edited 12 Jun

All of the comments above are anti-cyclist. But none are from the views of a cyclist. I'm a cyclist. And a pedestrian. I also drive cars thru Mill Valley. So I see the issues from all three perspectives. To David Hill: I'm sorry for your incident and the danger to your grandson. I've been on that section of path many times and have slowed and steered clear as I've approached pedestrians. As I go by, I give room and hope (pray) the youngsters don't cross back into my path. To Marrio Barrios: You say that opening the tunnel will make the pedestrian/bike path "a speeding right away (sic) for inconsiderate bikers going to the tunnel". Really? A speeding right of way? What about bike commuters? Moms or Dads getting groceries? To Dave Rintelmen: "They are idiots!!!" All or just some? You drive a car? I saw an idiotic move today on Blithedale but I won't paint you with that brush. To William Greig: I'm a Strava user and I like it a lot to track my fitness and compare my times to my buddies. But I've never, and I mean never, used it competitively on a bike path. I don't think that Strava would have any issue removing times from the bike path per your suggestion. But trust me, no one goes for speed records on a multi use path. To Jess Grant: I have a dog that I dearly love and I'm sorry that your's was hit in the traffic circle. Whenever I approach a dog on the path I'm on full alert because they could be on a long leash and/or move erratically. When I walk my dog on the path, I keep him on a short leash or off to the side. Wish all dog walkers did the same. To Megan Landeck: I'm sorry to hear about your encounter on the Cypress trail. You wrote 'I wish they would have a little more respect and not go so fast on the trails. Slow down and enjoy. You're out in nature and it's beautiful.' Yes it is beautiful! And sometimes I do go slow. But if I'm out there exercising and

don't challenge myself, I won't improve my fitness nor will I enjoy it as much as I'd like. So the key to sharing a trail is to go hard when it's safe and back off when it's not. To Jen Jeffers: Lots of anger in your post, ie, "blowhards with a mid-life crisis and too much spandex sausage casing"... help him find his front teeth". Really? If I can borrow an extra bike in your size, will you join me for a ride on the bike path? But I have to warn you that I'll be wearing spandex :) Cheers everyone!



30 Thanks



Jenn Jeffers

, Panoramic · 12 Jun

Ah, lighten up Dave. I know you're one of the good guys. :)



2 Thanks



Scott Greenstone

, Homestead Valley · 12 Jun

I went to the dog park with our dog and one of my kids. m this weekend. On the way back I was amazed at how many cyclists blew past the 10mph sign and radar read out showing them at well over the limit. By my estimation at least 50% did this. I'm not talking 11 or 12 mph but 14-20 mph. I see this regularly and it is demonstrative of a culture that thinks nothing of the law or the people they put in danger. Yes, Dave is sympathetic and apologetic for the other views but he's only one guy and very often bad reputations for a group are earned by many in that group. The police really should be ticketing these people. That should alter attitudes significantly. And if not, perhaps bikes should be excluded from our path.



5 Thanks

E



Eric Harger
, Tamalpais Valley·12 Jun

Dave, thanks for the intelligent responses. Sadly the prevailing attitude in Marin is that bikes are too fast on the trails and too slow on the roads.



5 Thanks



Mari Robinson
, Scott Valley·12 Jun

@Dave Sams The rule on open space trails is passing at 5 mph or less. There is no way you can "go hard" downhill and then pass at the allowable speed.

2 Thanks

D



Dave Sams
, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge·12 Jun

Hi Mari: Agreed as you are absolutely right that the you cannot 'go hard' downhill. Downhill is coasting and braking so no cardio effort required. Hope all are observing the speed limits. Up hill is 'going hard' and if on a trail, you are hard pressed to exceed 5 mph. Thank you for your response.



1 Thank



[Mari Robinson](#)
, Scott Valley · 12 Jun

Dave--Jen was right. You really are a good guy. Thank you for your response.

1 Thank



[anne bell](#)
, Homestead Valley · 12 Jun

Dave, my comment was as a cyclist (and pedestrian and motorist like most people) not anti-cyclist. It was anti-speeding cyclist. Oh, and as someone concerned that neighbors have been viciously assaulted for objecting to the danger some cyclist insist is their right to impose.



1 Thank



[William Greig](#)
, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 12 Jun

To Dave Sims, I am not anti cyclist. I am, (or was, I am a little long in the tooth now) a cyclist. I have ridden around Lake Tahoe more times than I can remember, my favorite ride was from my home in Mill Valley up the RR grade to Ridgecrest, down into Fairfax and back home on Magnolia. For 2 years I bike commuted to the financial district twice a week. I have been using the Sausalito bike path for 29 years, as a spandex clad rider, a grandpa and a dog walker. Personally, I have never witnessed an altercation between a cyclist and a pedestrian, and I estimate that I have used the bike path at least 600 times.. Having said that it is clear that other people have had issues. The problem (on the cyclists part) is not your everyday rider but the very few riders who simply go to fast. You say

that no one rides on the bike path for Strava time but I beg to differ. It simply took 3 minutes to go my Strava dashboard and some guy named Jason L. averaged 28.6 miles per hour from Mike's Bikes to Blithedale. Nine other guys have made the same ride above 25.8 mph. You know that that path passes an assisted living complex, a middle school, a senior center, a soccer field and a dog park. I believe that these guys were going for Strava times. Even if you don't think so, 28.6 mph on a multi use bike path is too darn fast. I too, really like Strava. I don't use it any more because I have evolved from a cyclist to a bike rider and having a personal best from my house to the Library does,nt do any thing for my ego. I don't know how to control riders who go to fast on the bike path. I thought that if someone really wants to make the effort Strava might be a good place to start.



9 Thanks



anne bell

, Homestead Valley·Edited 12 Jun

Something that might help is for us to try to remember not to call it The Bike Path. It is a community path. How bout the PedHoBi, in reference to the right-of-way order of pedestrians, horses, and then bikes?



1 Thank



Roni Crews

, Panoramic·12 Jun

Anne it would be Horpedbi ;-)



2 Thanks



[anne bell](#)

, Homestead Valley · 12 Jun

Right!



[Dave Sams](#)

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 12 Jun

Hi William: Dave here and it's Sams, not Sims :) I don't have fast internet access and can't see the date of Jason's ride ("Jason L. averaged 28.6 miles per hour from Mike's Bikes to Blithedale. Nine other guys have made the same ride above 25.8 mph"). Was it recent or before the path was upgraded?



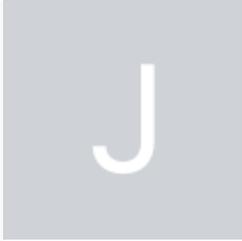
[Lisa Edson](#)

, Shelter Ridge · 12 Jun

Just license bikes! Cyclists enjoy anonymity now, with all rights of road and no responsibility (unless enforcement happens to be watching.) All vehicles using roads are licensed for a reason: they're identifiable.



4 Thanks



Jess Grant
, Panoramic · 12 Jun

Thanks for the good wishes about my dog. She is okay - sprained ankle and bruised ribs. I did take suggestion to fill out an Incident Report since I agree it is important for police to know that there are still safety issues with speeding cyclists in the vicinity of the traffic circle. I heard that the reason the traffic circle was built was to slow down cyclists after one collided with and seriously injured a child. As with most things in life, the vast majority of cyclists I've seen around that area slow down and ride responsibly. It's the few bad apples who se carelessness put fellow citizens in danger. Hopefully, the police will start handing out tickets as something needs to change before someone is seriously injured or worse



William Greig
, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 12 Jun

Hello Dave. My apologies for getting your name wrong. Jason's ride was Sept 25, 2013. A guy named Reed A rode it on May 11, 2018 at 25.2 mph.



Jenn Jeffers
, Panoramic · Edited 12 Jun

William Greig (not Grieg) that was a rockstar post—evolve away! Wise diplomacy at its best, people. Take note. Too fast, too careless will end badly.



Dan Frost

, Horse Hill · 12 Jun

A quick comment. I ride the MUPS / bike path 3-4x per week. The vast majority of hordes blasting down the path - especially true on the weekends - are from San Francisco. Most of the rest of the cyclists are not from Mill Valley. I would LOVE to see more enforcement but note it is NOT MV police that is required to enforce since it's a different agency. Can't remember which.

I would also love to see owners with unleashed dogs on the path be ticketed. It is illegal on the path. MV does not have that requirement. I've been bitten once by an unleashed dog and knocked off my bike twice in the almost 20 years I've been here. I know longer ride on the portion from Vasco to E. Blithedale because it's pervasive there.



2 Thanks



Jimmy Hurley

, Strawberry · 12 Jun

Maybe he though he had the priority because he sounds like a real horses ass!



2 Thanks



Xander Wessells

, Edgewood-Cypress · 12 Jun

Jennifer's suggestion of speed bumps seems like such a simple answer to keep bicyclists, pedestrians, kids and dogs all safe.



4 Thanks



Dave Sams

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 12 Jun

Hi William: Thanks for pulling the data. Riding that fast in 2013 is not surprising. But doing it on May 11, 2018 at 25.2 mph is not ok.



2 Thanks



anne bell

, Homestead Valley · 12 Jun

Speed bumps would be on the paved surface only, correct? In which case, I wonder if cyclists, especially those on hybrid tires, would opt to go around them, into the unpaved stretches where walkers and slower riders typically travel.



2 Thanks





Mari Robinson
, Scott Valley·12 Jun

It seems almost every time I walk the MUP I see at least a couple of riders who appear to be trying for a speed record. They are body down, head down and pumping it. And they are flying by kids, dogs, moms with strollers, walkers, and others who are, for the most part, meandering at a tenth their speed. These bikers likely feel that they have everything under control and don't endanger anyone. However, what they don't realize is that they leave in their wake a significant number of startled people who feel threatened. That's because while a biker sees ahead to pass a walker, the walker first feels the whoosh and then only after sees the biker passing. And so often the passing is so close that the feeling for the walker is "had I just moved a foot to the left or right, I would have been creamed." And that happens so often to so many that every time a MUP biking incident is reported on ND, there is an outcry against speeding bikers. There is merit in the idea of getting Strava to drop the MUP for speed records. That would definitely help. What would also help is adequate enforcement on the MUP by the county. As previously mentioned, it will take reporting of speeding on the MUP to make that happen. So start reporting! This is the form to use:

<https://forms2.marincounty.org/lc/content/forms/af/citizenobservationreport.html>

7 Thanks



anne bell
, Homestead Valley·13 Jun

Yes, Mari, well-described, and thanks for the link. Good to know there is recourse. Can anyone explain why the visibility-obscuring traffic circle mound by Bay Front doesn't (at least the last time I braved it) include a pedestrian zone, an inferior configuration to what was previously there?



Jade Leong
, Horse Hill·13 Jun

I got down and landed on my back. Fortunately was not serious happened several years ago. Ever since then I am walking mostly along the path and constantly looking behind me. Sometimes when I see a bicyclist coming I actually stop and wait for he or she to whiz by. Not all bicyclist are so oblivious. The few that feel elite and entitled are the ones to watch out for



3 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill·Edited 13 Jun

The solution is simple. Require cyclists to register their bikes just as car owners register their cars. Assign plates to attach to their bikes. That way when cyclists break the law, as some often do, there will be a way to identify them and report. I'm sure if cyclists know they can be easily identified when incidences like we've read about happen, perhaps they'll be more apt to respect the rights of others as they demand others to respect their rights.



6 Thanks



Nico van Praag

, Tamalpais Valley·13 Jun

If we require bikes to be registered with license plates it makes sense to require dog walkers and owners to do the same. I'm sure they too would be less likely to break the rules if they knew they could be easily reported. 90-95% of all dogs I encounter on the trails are off leash and/or are not allowed on the specific trail.

Or... we could all band together and do our part to reverse the wave a negativity that you all say has changed the Bay Area. Let's share the trails, our MUP's and our space in general. I personally don't care at all that there are off leash dogs. Let's not spend our time calling each other out and recognize things are pretty good. Bikers include all walks of like, just like drivers. It's the individual who behaves in a certain way... not the bike or group at large. Some people are nice, some are not. But for those who hate on all cyclists I ask you... why is this any different than hating on a particular ethnic group? It's prejudice plain and simple. Let's take a deep breath and appreciate our lives are pretty damn great if the occasional arrogant person (bicyclist, dog walker, driver, hiker, or otherwise) is our biggest worry. And let's add to a positive vibe overall rather than add to the wave of negativity. And to fix the MUP problem? Separate bike and foot traffic like they do in the rest of the civilized world. Simple.



11 Thanks



Scott Greenstone

, Homestead Valley · 13 Jun

Perhaps Nico, but if we were to pareto the problem, dogs would be a very minor part of it and not really worth the effort. It is a good attempt at distracting from the issue, tho. Likewise, conflating cyclists, who very regularly break the law and endanger people's well being with ethnic groups who do nothing but exist, is also not a way of solving a problem. Perhaps what would go a long way towards a solution would be if cyclist groups, such as the MBC, would communicate with their community of the problems they are causing and likewise reach out to their SF counterparts and implore them to follow the law as well.



5 Thanks



Nico van Praag

, Tamalpais Valley · 13 Jun

(Sigh) Thank you Scott for entirely missing my point. Carry on, Nextdoor.



1 Thank



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · Edited 13 Jun

Nico, you do realize dogs ARE registered and wear a license. They are also required annual vaccines. But....you don't don't see dogs barreling through a stoplight or four way stop intersection or failing to give pedestrians the right of way at a crosswalk. Nor do you see dogs assaulting 60 year old women on a multi purpose path and then disappearing with no way to identify. (Maybe some of you remember that story from a couple of years ago.) I could go on... Being that i drive for a living, i have travelled all over Marin, had have seen alot that your fellow cyclists do. Sure, it's not all of them, but the actions of the few are usual ignored by the majority and perhaps condoned. Same Road, Same Rules..



5 Thanks



[Nico van Praag](#)

, Tamalpais Valley · 13 Jun

Yes, Scott Sasser. I realize that. Just like bikes (mine are registered with the Mill Valley Police) dogs are registered but there is no displayed license for people to see. But again, point missed. The issue around bikes and the related tormenting of our otherwise peaceful community is so overstated it's not even constructive. I have been riding the Marin MUP's for over 40 years straight. I have seen not ONE bicycle/pedestrian accident. Not one. I'm not saying they never happen but , really... this is your biggest worry? And do you really think cars SHARE the road with bikes? You have little or no experience on a bike if that's the case. And by the way... I was assaulted by an older man at China Camp earlier this year while riding a legal trail at no more than 6 miles per hour, approaching ringing a friendly bell and minding all the rules. Should we implement a huge crack down on hikers as a result? The point of my post was simple. It's this type of forum-based ranting that is adding to the bitter attitude you all say is taking over Marin. Lead by example. Or don't. But then you have nothing to complain about if you come across people in your community who are also spewing negativity.



6 Thanks



[Scott Sasser](#)

, Christmas Tree Hill · 13 Jun

Actually Nico you missed mine...👍



1 Thank



[Scott Greenstone](#)

, Homestead Valley · 13 Jun

And mine too Nico. We all see yours: bikes aren't really a problem, let's try and get along and not vilify bikers. Except... bikes are a problem.



4 Thanks



Nola Susan

, Almonte · Edited 13 Jun

So very sorry this happened to your grandson! It happened to me and I got injured up at Inspiration Point. The worst thing is that the guy got away and didn't stop.



2 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · Edited 13 Jun

Yes Nico, I'm sure in 40 years you've never seen one cyclist vs pedestrian incident...but if you have read the other messages in this thread you'll find two or three testimonials of people in our community. Since we have no background on your personal incident with the hiker i have no basis in which to comment except that assault is assault no matter from whom it comes from. Your comparison of dog owners and bike owners has no point to make. Cyclists that blame their victims for getting in their way as you will read in some of the other posts is just a small part that fans the flames of negativity towards cyclists. If you have read my posts in their entirety, you will find i never lumped all the cyclists into one category. I said some, or few. However, another cause of negativity towards cyclists in general is that some of those "good" cyclists rarely speakout against the "bad" cyclists...and in some cases defend adverse actions. My point was simple...registering and licensing of cyclists would aid in catching those who break the law...as it does with car owners. Also, the fees acquired by such registrations could go towards funding projects the cyclists activists groups demand such as adding a bike lane on the San Rafael-Richmond bridge or perhaps the opening of the Alto Tunnel. Don't you agree that cyclists should bear the extra responsibility of funding these specific projects?



5 Thanks



Pamela Damsen

, Tamalpais Valley·Edited 13 Jun

Of course not all bikers ride irresponsibly, but enough of them do on the MUP for it to be a major problem and safety risk to pedestrians. I have witnessed several close calls on the MUP with pedestrians and bikers going way too fast and I know about the incident Ann mentioned above with the person who was assaulted in front of his young kids by a biker who almost ran them over. After telling the biker and his friend to slow down, the bikers stopped, turned around and confronted the pedestrian, saying that he was only going 20 mph, and eventually assaulting the pedestrian.



3 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill·13 Jun

Oh, and Nico, as for forum based rants, were you taking about mine or yours?....



1 Thank



Phil Mickelson

, Tamalpais Valley·13 Jun

the majority of these posts are pointless. first I'll introduce an incident at the circle a week ago Tuesday. I had my 4-year old son with me to pick up my 10-year old daughter from her soccer practice at Bell Ropers field - adjacent to the bike path. Two roadies came screaming by us on the path. FULL DISCLOSURE - I ROAD BIKE AND I RIDE FAST. I yelled at them to slow down. The one dude did a 180 and rode up to me (hand in hand with my 4-year old) and asked if I had a problem. I

said I did, "you are riding way too fast with kids in the path". His reply "I was only doing 20 MPH asshole". I told him he was a jackass and pointed to the 10 MPH speed limit sign. he got off his bike and took a swing at me. What an entitled Marin loser. The point is road bikes are to be ridden FAST, not 10 MPH. You rent a bike with fat tires to ride that speed on the beach. Weekend road bikers overall will NEVER slow down on that stretch of path. NEVER. Other recreational bikers and kids on bikes are cool. The city and county should force Roadies take the new exit to across from the Tam High football field to Almonte, route them on the very nice, new shoulder bike path to Camino Alto and circumvent that whole stretch. Sorry guys. I no longer road bike the bike path because I hate going 10 MPH on my road bike. As much as it would suck, road bikes don't belong anymore. If they don't modify the rules this debate is like talking about assault rifles. "Guns don't kill, people do"



11 Thanks



[Nico van Praag](#)

, Tamalpais Valley · Edited 13 Jun

Scott, out of courtesy I'll respond to the one question I can identify in your post, "Don't you agree that cyclists should bear the extra responsibility of funding these specific projects?" Yes. I already do. I pay taxes and registration on 4 motor vehicles and property taxes on two Marin homes. And every time I commute by bicycle instead of taking my car I reduce wear and tear on our roadways, reduce pollution, and do my part to decrease traffic issues that plague the Bay Area. So, do I think we should further discourage bicycling as an alternative form of transportation by requiring registration and charging licensing fees? No. It would not be in our communities' best interest.



[Scott Sasser](#)

, Christmas Tree Hill · 13 Jun

But Nico we all pay taxes and car registrations. You missed the part of the question that stated should cyclists bear EXTRA responsibility in funding said projects. Not in the interest of OUR communities, i assume you are referring to the bike community? Because there seems a few people here from the general community that may disagree with you.



2 Thanks



Nico van Praag

, Tamalpais Valley · Edited 13 Jun

Scott, if I'm paying more than my fair share of vehicle taxes, but instead of driving I'm riding a bike therefore not wearing the infrastructure, am I not paying MORE taxes than you relative to my use? You don't think that people using bikes as transportation instead of cars is in the best interest of a community? Pollution? Traffic? Seriously Scott, you make no sense. Have you ever heard of a place called Holland? Good luck, man.



1 Thank



Eric Harger

, Tamalpais Valley · 13 Jun

Scott, a lot of cyclists are so fed up with ignorant hatred on these threads that we have checked out of the discussion. I learned long ago you can't change the mind of some folks regarding cyclists in Marin. We just ride, try to be good citizens, and live to ride another day.



5 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 13 Jun

Well Nico, since it would be registration fees and not taxes your point is mute. Of course you need to take into consideration other issues where cyclists are concerned. But, why bother....i think it safe to say we will continue to be on opposite sides of the fence on this issue.



Scott Greenstone

, Homestead Valley · 13 Jun

Rather than disengaging from the conversation, perhaps you might want to consider encouraging bikers to disengage from reckless biking. Just a thought.



4 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 13 Jun

I'm sure nothing I've said has made sense because you don't agree...but I'm there there are people in the community that it all makes perfect sense..



1 Thank



Jenn Jeffers

, Panoramic · Edited 13 Jun

Hey Nico and whoever else does not like all the pointless negativity. Expressing some form of thought other than one steeped in rainbows is really ok—cathartic even. I feel better already! And all my vilification of bikers is targeted at one specific group—entitled (usually men) whose egos and poor decisions threaten to hurt the people or animals I love. It's that simple. If a biker is riding so

carelessly as to knock a poor unsuspecting dog into a bush, leashed or not, they deserve to lose their biking privileges and their teeth. Just my opinion.



4 Thanks



[Scott Sasser](#)

, Christmas Tree Hill · 13 Jun

Eric, that is admirable to be sure, sadly, from what I've seen and experienced, not all cyclists feel or act that way. As for the ignorant hatred, be sure that the Trumplike entitlement mentality of a few cyclists has aided in festering such dislike.



[Rob Kamai](#)

, East Corte Madera Hillside · 13 Jun

Cyclists should adjust their speeds to traffic conditions and never pass others at more than 5mph. Pedestrians should be aware of traffic, stay to the right side of the path and not completely block the path by walking two or three abreast. Dog walkers should practice "heeling" their dogs on a short leash to their right. City planners should stop installing multi-use paths and start building separate bike lanes and pedestrian walkways. We should all be mindful of the needs and frustrations of others, and not judge any group by a minority of its members.



11 Thanks

D



Dave Sams

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 13 Jun
^^ Common sense that's rarely practiced. :)



1 Thank



Barbara Case

, Chapman Park · Edited 13 Jun

Rob Kamai... Well stated, then everyone wins ! Another suggestion... Whenever cyclists are approaching walkers from behind, they could Ring a "bicycle bell", in a friendly manner. That might also help !!! #Safety & #Peace



3 Thanks

W



Will Howard

, Sycamore Park · 13 Jun

Are electric bikes considered motorized vehicles? If yes, are they still allowed on the path? Its pretty easier for anyone to hit 25-28 MPH on the path and more and more electric riders are doing so.



3 Thanks



Alyssa Schiffmann

, Strawberry · 13 Jun

There are way too many cars [REDACTED] on da road so encouraging safe cycling would benefit everybody. I cycle and drive. The cyclists bug me when I'm driving, the cars bug me when I'm biking. But really, bikers should bike single file, but best option is give bikes their own path. Everybody would be happier, and the streets would be less congested. It's a sluggish mess out there [REDACTED]



4 Thanks



Jim Parrinello

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 13 Jun

It's used as a cycle speedway, everyone else beware. Policing isn't working. Speed bumps will help if there's a civic will to install them



2 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 13 Jun

Rob, in a perfect world that may work. The problem is, we live in an imperfect world where no one wants to compromise.



Dave Sams

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · Edited 13 Jun

^^ Only a non-cyclist would suggest speed bumps to slow down a cyclist. Even if I were doing 10 mph per the rules, I would bunny hop the speed bumps. They would have no effect on speed for a skilled cyclist. And they would be an annoyance to law abiding slow riding cyclists.



2 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 13 Jun

Dave, then what would you suggest, as an experienced cyclist, to ensure non law abiding cyclists obey the posted speed limits?

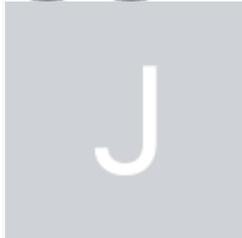




[Dave Sams](#)

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 13 Jun

Visibility. If you want everyone to obey the letter of the law, or at least ride responsibly, visibility is the answer. We can't afford to have officers out there 24/7 so that's out. So are cameras due to privacy concerns. So I'd add more speed limit signs. I do see them and think 'oops time to back off'.



[Jim Parrinello](#)

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 13 Jun

You're joking, right? It's a very uncomfortable situation for many path users and something meaningful should be done so it fulfills its intended multi-purpose use.



1 Thank



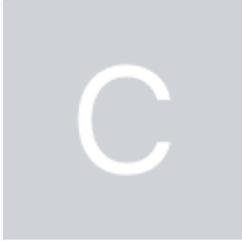
[Jenn Jeffers](#)

, Panoramic · Edited 13 Jun

I'm sorry, Dave. Did you just boldly suggest more speed limit signs as the answer to all this fuss? I must have wax in my ear canal cuz that would be kinda nuts.



1 Thank



Candy Lee
, Meadowsweet · 13 Jun

Please cycle safely. I have a friend who was hit by a bicycle while hiking and he is now paralyzed on the right side and still having mini strokes which are slowly taking away his eyesight.



4 Thanks



Lisa Edson
, Shelter Ridge · Edited 14 Jun

Twenty minutes ago, waiting at Camino Alto/Blithedale light, two cyclists with backpacks blew right through light. Dodged oncoming traffic, slowing cars down. Infuriating and dangerous. Cyclists point to vehicle code, claim “bikes are vehicles!” when they want equal road rights. Then oppose licensing when inconvenient, as do-gooders for carbon footprint and environment. Are bikes vehicles or not? Are dogs? Equating bikes with pedestrians and animals is absurd. And pointing to Holland or similar European cities as examples to strive for compares apples to eggplant. European cities differ in topography, density, population. They’re thousands of years old, where historically, cycling grew out of primitive transport— before cars and paved roads. Western US expansion needed to connect great distances between towns, roads laid specifically to support auto infrastructure. Developed around car culture, these roadways now being “claimed” as equal method of transport they weren’t intended for. Vehicle codes altered, costly accommodations made via striping, widened for devoted lanes and ease of riding. Favored accommodations, and, IMO, enough complaints. License bikes like every other “vehicles” on the road.



2 Thanks





Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Excellent post Lisa! Had these cyclist had license plates, they could have been reported, or perhaps they would have thought twice about blowing through the intersection for fear of being reported. Cyclists claim they are equal to cars except, of course, when it comes to responsibility and accountability. Same Road, Same Rules!



1 Thank



Nico van Praag

, Tamalpais Valley · Edited 14 Jun

Lisa, with respect your understanding of how Holland created it's bicycling infrastructure is completely false. During the 70's they too were facing the effects of the energy crisis (as well as an increase in motorist/ped/cyclists crashes and deaths) and the prime minister at the time made it a priority to shift its strategy to become less dependent on cars. They declared car free Sundays, made city centers car free, built dedicated, SEPARATE, roadways for bikes and pedestrians, built parking garages for bikes, as well as a truly well-developed system of signs and infrastructure. If you're interested in the true story watch this 6 minute video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XuBdf9jYj7o> If we as a society are going to become less dependent on cars we need to make a dedicated choice to do so. Just like Holland did in the 70's.



2 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Nico, and how do the cyclists in Holland treat the laws of the road?



1 Thank



[Lisa Edson](#)
, Shelter Ridge · 14 Jun

Nico, interesting video, thanks for the link. Though it actually supports my point that western US isn't comparable to Holland. The video states that Holland "was never built for cars." Unlike us. Bikes came FIRST, eventually vying with automobiles on clogged streets. And those autos were few, rarely affordable. Only after WWII with booming economy were cities in Netherlands adapted for cars, to its detriment. Plus, major geographic reason we aren't comparable: Netherlands is 10 times smaller than all of CA. And our population exceeds 37 million, 20 million fewer than all of Netherlands. I'm all for separate cycling roads, though!



3 Thanks



[Steve Shinn](#)
, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

I have advocated that there should be an initial registration fee of say 5% of the purchase price of a new bike and then \$5 per year (as a previous sailboat owner this the amount I paid). The funds would be go towards, theft protection, license plates, biking safety classes, bike lanes/paths, etc. I'm sure someone knows the average purchase price of a bike, maybe \$500? and an estimate of how many bikes are owned in Marin, maybe 25,000 to 50,000? and the state, maybe 5,000,000 to 10,000,000? Do the math, this small fee would generate a lot of revenue. Raising the gas tax to fund transportation infrastructure is not the answer, unless we go back to driving cars that get less than 10 miles to the gallon.



4 Thanks



[Nico van Praag](#)
, Tamalpais Valley · 14 Jun

Lisa, the population of the Netherlands is actually 17mm. And there are 22.5mm bikes. No license plates, no registration fees. Again, the shift came from a specific and focused effort to reduce car

dependency. We face that same issue. It takes me longer to commute 13 miles to work in my car than the 16 mile route by bicycle some days. We have a major problem in the Bay Area that needs to be addressed.



2 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Lisa, again...excellent post. Also, I've read that in Holland cyclists are required: 1. To stop at red lights. 2. Use proper hand signals to indicate turning left or right. (Many Marin cyclists need to brush up on their hand signals...🤔) 3. Required to have bells, lights and reflectors. 4. Cyclists are allowed to ride two abreast unless it hinders traffic then they are required to ride single file



2 Thanks



Lisa Edson

, Shelter Ridge · Edited 14 Jun

Nico, we aren't Holland. Geographically, historically, and most importantly, in proximity of homes to business center. You drive the point that transportation needs to be addressed (to the exclusion of other points I made about cyclists running stops, lights, and not comparable to animals and pedestrians on roads and MUP's.) But, I agree with you on this need. We can debate ways to do so. Most cities/towns in CA have bent over backwards to adapt roads for cyclists. Unlike Holland (for reasons cited above) I believe this must include licensing of bikes. They are vehicles enjoying equal road laws and should be equally identifiable. Scott, good list of road laws Holland cyclists must obey. Just like ours! But I bet with strict enforcement, being much smaller and dense than Marin.



4 Thanks





Davi Gainer

, Horse Hill · 14 Jun

BTW, my dog does have a license, which is more than any of the bike riders!



4 Thanks



Eric Harger

, Tamalpais Valley · 14 Jun

As I posted yesterday, I have found it pointless to engage with bike haters on this site. However, I have the day off today, have had my second cup of coffee, and the fog on Coyote Ridge is not my favorite riding weather. @ Nico van Pragg- You generally seem to be a voice of reason on this site regarding most topics. You inspired me to jump back in the fray. @ Scott Greenstone- I actually do encourage safe riding amongst my peers. I also scold my friends for smartphone use while driving, and I lecture my own mother about following pedestrians who cross when the no walking sign is on. Call me a nag. @ Scott Sasser- Please don't assume that cyclists have a "Trumplike entitlement mentality." I've never seen Trump on a bike. @ Rob Kamai- You nailed it! You are welcome at my home any time. @ **Will Howard- Here is a link regarding electric bike usage on paths.**

<https://peopleforbikes.org/blog/new-e-bike-law-passes-in-california/> Type I and II are allowed and are capped at 20mph, however I agree that electric bikes do create a new set of challenges for sure. @ Jen Jeffers- I hope you check that crazy anger at the door before you get in your car. @ Candy Lee- I am sorry to hear about your friend's accident. I have a cyclist friend who was hit by a car and is now deaf in one ear and blind in one eye. Life's misfortunes are indiscriminate and we all need to be cautious and aware. Head injuries are no joke. @ Lisa Edson-

Yes, any vehicle that runs a red light is infuriating. As for the absurdity of equating bikes with dogs and pedestrians, I disagree as we are talking about a multi use path and all these user groups pose unique hazards to one another. We all need to obey the rules, be courteous of others, and exercise caution at all times. With regards to the evolution of transportation, cycling in North America and the European continent was very prevalent during most of the 19th century. Much of the bike technology developed towards the end of that century enabled the success of the automobile in the early 20th century. Trains, not automobiles, enabled the rapid Western expansion of our country. The United States was a patchwork of small roads until the late 1950's with the passage of the Interstate Highway Act. @ Steve Shinn- The average price of a bike is way above \$500. Most of the bikes you see in Marin are priced well above \$2000 and top out at about \$10,000. Sales tax is collected at time

of sale. @ Scott Sasser, and others regarding license plates- The problem with plating bikes is that they would have to be so small to fit that they would be ineffective. I suspect that is why Holland does not require them. Cyclists are required to have a valid photo ID on their person while operating a bike which may make you feel better. @ Davi Gainer- I glad your dog has a license. I doubt it is visible to passerby. Again size... The reason for my long winded post is that I am concerned that the anger generated on this site endangers cyclists. Cyclists are hated just because they are cyclists. I have witnessed irate drivers deliberately try to run cyclists off the roads. I have been assaulted by a female hiker and bitten twice by dogs in the GGNRA. All user groups have bad actors and we must all exercise caution, courtesy, and be aware of our surroundings. Lastly I would like to add that the MUP is mostly conflict free and a valuable asset of Marin. I would like to thank the community leaders who had the foresight to transform a former rail line into an auto free zone that everyone can share. It's not all bad out there in the real world. Let's all just remember that humans are a mostly imperfect species.



11 Thanks



[Steve Shinn](#)

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Thanks, Eric for informing me of what the average bike price in Marin. Then, a 5% registration fee on top of sales tax is too much, maybe 1% or 2%. I agree with others that all vehicles who use the roads should contribute.



2 Thanks



[Nico van Praag](#)

, Tamalpais Valley · 14 Jun

Thank you, Eric. Extremely well stated.





Nico van Praag

, Tamalpais Valley · 14 Jun

Again Steve, we already do contribute if we also own a car. Relative to our use, more than a non-cyclist as we can't possibly drive and ride at the same time. A bicycle wears our infrastructure a fraction of that of a car.



Steve Shinn

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Eric, bikes/bikers don't contribute for bike paths, motorist do. Then to generate revenue for bike paths like the one on the new bay bridge, they raise tolls or the gas tax. The financial burden of 1% for an individual who buys a new \$2000 bike is not significant, but the overall amount generated would be tremendous and a new source of revenue dedicated to bike paths/lanes.



1 Thank



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Eric don't assume that if someone disagrees with you or sees things differently from you that they're spewing ignorant hatred...



1 Thank





[Scott Sasser](#)

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Oh and Eric, I'm sure you think Nico is the only voice of reason here. Birds of a feather and all that...



2 Thanks



[David Harland](#)

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 14 Jun

Drop a stick in front of the bike! Just kidding of course... But yeah if they are riding aggressively I'll make it a point not to move out of their way ;)



1 Thank



[Scott Sasser](#)

, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Endangers cyclists? Seriously? You really think we're all going go out and target cyclists? Cyclists aren't hated...but we have the right to voice our concerns regarding those cyclists that would create unsafe environments for us, our kids and our pets.



3 Thanks



[Scott Sasser](#)

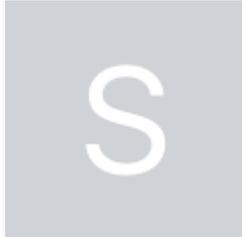
, Christmas Tree Hill · 14 Jun

Finally, Eric and Nico, many people here have shared their experiences with Cyclists..pets hit, grandkids almost hit, blowing through red lights, victim blaming, etc. And unless I missed something,

not one bike advocate/activist has said any thing condemning the actions of their fellow cyclists. Police your own so others don't have to. Same Road, Same Rules! I'm out....🚫



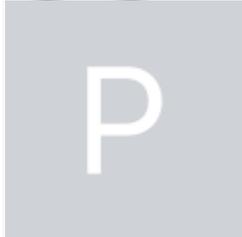
4 Thanks



Sam Adams

, Homestead Valley·14 Jun

I thought you all would be pleased to know that your forward thinking city leaders have a plan for this, and it's putting bike lanes on Camino Alto from Miller to E. Blythedale, so the fast cyclists can take the road instead of the MUP. I hope you can all support this project. For me the sooner it arrives, the better-because I bike, I drive, I walk, I have kids. No dogs though...



Peter Craddock

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge·14 Jun

I don't have much experience on the bike paths so I'll not comment. However, I have a great deal of experience on Tam since I hike most days with my dog and have been since '94. Up until a couple of years ago, the mountain bikers were almost unanimously jerks on the downhill. I would yell at them to slow down, they'd yell back to F Off and that would be it. Then I had a couple of face-to-face confrontations which came close to fisticuffs and it really soured me on the entire crew. However, in the last year or two, I have noticed a distinct improvement in checking downhill speed and politeness which I am hoping continues. All that the downhillers have to do to stay in the hikers' good graces are 1) slow way down on blind turns and 2) when you are booking down a straight of way and see people/dogs/horses just slow down until you're past and then carry on. Pretty simple.



5 Thanks



Jenn Jeffers

, Panoramic·Edited 15 Jun

I'm always amazed at the way we, the civilized folks of Marin, can turn a simple bike discussion into a personal argument. But here we are! And since I apparently have "crazy" anger issues, I'm happy to oblige. Eric and a bunch of other people on this thread, I'm not sure what you are talking about, but I am talking about suffering. I am talking about injury. I am talking decisions so poor, they have the power to hurt or even kill other creatures in the area. I am not angry—I am CLEAR. I have never been struck or even harassed by a biker, so I really don't have any anger around the issue. I do, however, have a great deal of anger around the notion of irreversible suffering at the hands of idiots. Bike prices, licenses, speed signs all that crap mean nothing in the cold light of what's really at stake here—our safety. People in this discussion have referred to serious near-death incidents resulting from this problem. As I recall, a young child almost died a few years back. And I wonder, Eric—how would you react if your dog, your daughter, your mother were to be struck by some entitled, thoughtless jerk in a spandex bodysuit? I don't know about you, but I would feel horrified, sad, confused, and really, really pissed off. So, yeah. Anger in the face of this possibility doesn't seem so crazy to me. It seems human and perfectly logical. In fact, if you're NOT angry when thinking about this problem, you might want to check your dosage—cuz you're numb.



7 Thanks



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill·15 Jun

Jen, BOOM!! mic drop... Perfectly stated....👍



4 Thanks





[Jonathan Kibera](#)

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge·Edited 15 Jun

@jen We're a family of horse riders, dog walkers, drivers... and cyclists. I don't think the constituents on this thread are all that far apart, flames aside. Speaking of public safety, I have been hit – twice. Two different drivers. So it's not a theoretical concern for me. Both drivers were at fault, but despite my ICU time I don't harbor ill will or see any reason to denigrate those drivers in particular, much less all drivers. Hopefully they'll drive more safely, certainly I ride more defensively than 15 years ago. I don't know what the data shows re: # of incidents across modalities (bike injuries from cars, pedestrian injuries from bikes, hiker injuries from horses...). That might be a productive place to start. Anecdotally - I hike w small kids, and the MTB riders have been great – especially the Tam High kids. Kudos to them. I'm far more nervous on two wheels around their parents.



3 Thanks



[Scott Sasser](#)

, Christmas Tree Hill·15 Jun

Jonathan, sorry to hear about your accidents, happy you came out okay. Where the drivers in these incidents identified and charged for their actions?



[Jonathan Kibera](#)

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge·15 Jun

@Scott One was, and settled. As for the other, his insurance company sent me a bill for the dent my helmet made on his hood. My mother always said to leave a good impression... Haven't paid it yet, and they haven't asked again. "All's well, that ends well" quoth the Bard.



5 Thanks

E



Eric Harger

, Tamalpais Valley · 15 Jun

@Jen Jeffers- Thank you for providing an excellent example of what I stated as one of my concerns near the end of my previous post.



Scott Sasser

, Christmas Tree Hill · 15 Jun

Jonathan, the story i mentioned earlier about the 60 year old woman that was assaulted a couple of years ago, the cyclist was never identified or caught. The story in the IJ reported there was another cyclist with the attacker that conveniently didn't know the other cyclist, nor was able to identify him. We all know that not all cyclists are like the one this woman encountered, as not all drivers are like the ones you encountered. We need a better way of identifying these bad apples. Because there is no way to catch these perpetrators they will continue to do as they please and create unsafe environments for everyone else.



1 Thank

J



Jimmy Hurley

, Strawberry · 15 Jun

Do they still make the mini license plates with names on them for bikes??



1 Thank



Dave Sams

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 17 Jun

Reviving this thread. If you look above to my post #12 (why aren't they numbered?), you'll see that I'm pro-cyclist. I'm also pro-pedestrian. I've been a Mill Valley resident for 21 years and have spent more time on the Mt Tam trails than anyone I know. Equal time cycling and running. Literally thousands of hours. So I've seen a lot. But today's incident takes the cake. It's Father's Day. Not for me as I don't have children but for a friend with four sons. He emailed last night 'Let's run Eldridge'. Three others joined so we had a group of five. We were on our way back to Ross Commons running down Shaver Grade. When on a fire road, I'm always on the right edge at the vegetation line and that's where I was when 'Whack'. I got hit on my right arm/shoulder by a mountain biker going by way to fast. In fact, he bailed off the road and was going through the bush when he hit me. My reaction was to yell "A\$\$hole". Bad move. He steered back to the road and stopped to let us pass. We're a harmless group of 50-60 yr old pacifists and no one broke stride. Just took it in and kept going. So the perp looks at me and says 'You in purple (I was wearing a purple singlet) 'I'm getting a visual on you'. Very threatening as in 'if I see you again when you're not with your four buddies, we'll settle this'. wtf? I running on the right edge of the fire road and now a mountain biker is threatening me??? We ran past and again no one broke stride. We just kept going. So he mounted his bike, headed toward us and then veered toward me. On my left. When he got close, he coiled his right fist and through it at me. Caught me on my left shoulder. For the second time, I'm thinking wtf? I was just assaulted while running down Shaver Grade minding my own business. To be honest, I've read accounts of cyclists and pedestrians being assaulted by mountain bikers for no apparent reason and have been skeptical. But now that I've experienced it, I'm just lost for words. This dude is a bad apple and is doing a real disservice to all of those that share the mountain. He also broke the law.



2 Thanks





Mari Robinson
, Scott Valley · 17 Jun

Very inappropriate aggression. So sorry that this happened to you. I hope that you report it. This is the form you can use:

<https://forms2.marincounty.org/lc/content/forms/af/citizenobservationreport.html>



Dave Sams
, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · Edited 17 Jun

Hi Mari: Thanks for the link. I'm filling it out but the form is for Marin County Parks. Shaver Grade is in Mt Tam State Park so the County isn't involved.



Mari Robinson
, Scott Valley · 17 Jun

Thanks so much for reporting. The county rangers are very responsive to their reporting system; hope the state is as well. MCP works closely with One Tam so hopefully MCP rangers will forward or let you know where you can send info. Calling a state ranger station is another option--I know there is one on Panoramic.



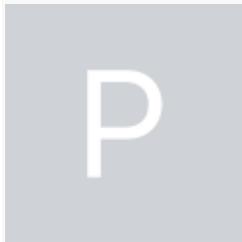
Ed Cortis
, Strawberry · 17 Jun

@Dave - FWIW you can maybe jump onto Strava - find a Shaver Grade segment (maybe this one-> <https://www.strava.com/segments/993437>) - filter on people that rode down it today (click This Year -

then today) and then drill into their rides to see what time they were at a particular point... assuming they were using Strava and you can be bothered - might help find the muppet that assaulted you (LMK if I can help) I've done this once to find a witness to a super-near miss when a car crossed double yellow lines fully onto the opposite side of the road, straight at me, to pass cyclist on his side. This idiot passed with 2 feet of me and put my life and other cyclists life at risk ... guess it might work the other way around too. I'm a passionate cyclist and I always slow down near other people - be it on the shared-use path near MVMS or up in the hills - Marin is too beautiful for anyone to ride/hike/walk angry...



5 Thanks



Peter Craddock

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge · 18 Jun

It seems to be a fairly common occurrence. I suspect that they know they'll probably never be identified so feel empowered to try to be tough guys. Similar to the anonymous rants and threats you see on the web. None of it would happen otherwise.



1 Thank



Dave Sams

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge·18 Jun

@Ed - Good idea but he apparently wasn't on Strava. I was and have the record of my run. Strava Labs also has another tool called 'View Flybys'. It's in the upper left just below the list of Kudos. Clicking the link and adjusting the time to 0930 shows everyone on Strava who was near me during the incident. Unfortunately he wasn't on Strava at the time. Thanks for the tip.



2 Thanks



William Greig

, Blithedale Canyon / Middle Ridge·20 Jun

Just to add a little perspective, I was in Oakland tonight sitting at a traffic light waiting to make a left hand turn. I was the second car. When the light changed the first car made his left and then I followed. As I was turning a big guy (6'6") on a bike blew through the red light and tried to get ahead of the car I was following. He didn't make it so he banged on the car with his fist and flipped the guy off. The driver (about 5'5") got ahead of him, pulled to the curb, jumped out of his car, grabbed the bike and proceeded to smash it against a lamppost. The big guy cowered behind some street furniture. When the car driver stopped smashing his bike the big guy decided to verbally confront the car driver so he again picked up the bike and smashed it some more. He decided to go after the cyclist but to motorcycle guys stopped him. There is a moral here somewhere.....



4 Thanks



Jenn Jeffers

, Panoramic·21 Jun

See? I'm not alone.



1 Thank



Louette Colombano

, Panoramic·21 Jun

Both parties involved have lost touch with the “Golden Rule”.

