



## General Public Comment

**From:** [CarsAreBasic](#)  
**To:** [Santa Barbara City Council](#); [Community Development PC Secretary](#); [Community Development HLCsecretary](#)  
**Subject:** CAB has been fielding multiple questions and points here are just a few  
**Date:** Monday, October 31, 2022 9:13:11 AM

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## EXTERNAL

Please see the informational items and questions to the Council

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31 October 2021

Mayor Rowse and Council

City of Santa Barbara

Re: Vision Zero concept, and street closing vs. reality

As the Council, City Administrator, and Transportation Planners are aware Cars Are Basic, Inc. (CAB) opposes this planning. All parties mentioned here, previously have been forwarded the referenced Los Angeles Times article of 2021 quoting from the City of Los Angeles official "Vision Zero" statistics.

Los Angeles; after a "decade" of policy and implementation of "Vision Zero" has seen an increase of pedestrian vs. auto accidents.

CAB this year (2022) asked, under CPRA, the following of the City of Santa Barbara, if they know if a) "Vision Zero" reduces pedestrian accidents, and b) if "Vision Zero" creates congestion? The very short answer is no studies.

As an organization CAB has received numerous complaints over the congestion "Vision Zero" has created on upper Anacapa to Micheltorena. We are now fielding complaints about De la Vina and Chapala. If the City were to operate solely on philosophy ignoring fact and outcomes it would destroy the city. CAB makes the point State Street had 40 years to prove philosophy of traffic planning and failed.

Note the following:

The St. Francis Traffic Plan has failed in "all objectives" that was based upon this philosophy.

The City has ignored fact regarding Bulbouts failure to reduce pedestrian accidents.

The City has ignored failed outcomes of the bicycle path program. The highest bike counts were in the early 1980's when there were no bike paths. Philosophy over fact?

The City followed the recommendation of MIG to "road diet" State St. After 30+ years it failed and Old Town is an economic pit. Why would you

hire them again?

Your advisor Mr. Bolton and the MIG just stated the core plan now needs to be expanded for a greater foot print in Downtown. CAB stated repeatedly the failed statements by the City for the original and now failed narrowing of State St. was, "wait until it is the entire street." It is now the entire street and failed. Why would you want to destroy the rest of the core of Santa Barbara?

How many failed socially "correct" experiments will the City pursue? You were just notified of another restaurant closing its doors. We believe it was \$11 Million in welfare the city spent to keep State St. working. (corporate welfare)

Is Old Town State St. and surrounding area as vibrant as it was before the "road diet" called street narrowing? No.

The Council and Staff have a choice. Santa Barbara has born the brunt of a "Failed Social Experiment." Each failure and public outrage is excused by "it needs to be larger."

"Vision Zero" is more failure to justify past failure. For those of you who follow NPR, Santa Barbara is NOT "Woe Begone." It is a failed social project.

CAB urges you to stop repeated failure that includes State St. "Vision Zero" is a failure. A definition of insanity is to repeatedly do what does not work. Is the Council sane?

On behalf of the Board,

(Electronic Signature)

Scott Wenz

President, CAB

## Public Comment #2

**From:** [Elly Bajor](#)  
**To:** [Community Development HLCsecretary](#)  
**Cc:** [Elly Bajor](#)  
**Subject:** State Street  
**Date:** Thursday, November 03, 2022 12:35:09 PM

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EXTERNAL

My thoughts and comments regarding State Street that I hope you will consider:

Remember when we all would repeatedly say how blessed we were to live in Santa Barbara and then we said: OMG how ugly State Street is then how very angry we were: and now how sad we are and how doomed we feel now

Let's go back to pride in our American main street, tree lined, shared by all, profitable for all, no Spain or other city wannabes, preserved and protected, admired and loved.

The world, the residents, the tourists, the future generations will appreciate your foresight.

Elly Bajor  
Santa Barbara