Claudia Aceves

From:

Norine Moses <norine.moses@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:14 AM

To:

Public Comment

Subject:

Fwd: Community: Slow Down: Back to School Means Sharing the Road

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Regarding my earlier comments on item 1514 Washington Street Design Review DR 2020-2:

For supporting evidence of already existing neighborhood traffic congestion, refer this message from the City of Calistoga staff.

Sincerely, Norine Moses

----- Forwarded Message ------

Subject: Community Message: Community: Slow Down: Back to School Means Sharing the Road

Date:Tue, 24 Aug 2021 14:50:14 +0000

From:City of Calistoga city-of-calistoga@emails.nixle.com

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Tuesday August 24, 2021, 7:47 AM



City of Calistoga

Community: Community: Slow Down: Back to School Means Sharing the Road

Dear Norine Moses.

School days bring congestion: School buses are picking up their passengers, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, and hurried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work. It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school.

Schools are back in session and during School hours all visitors including parents are required to check in at the administration office at the school to check in and receive a visitor pass. During school

hours the campuses are not open to the public unless authorized by the school administration.

SAFETY TIPS:

If You're Dropping Off:

- 1. Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.
- 2. Don't load or unload children across the street from the school (creates a safety issues with students crossing the street mid-block) AND use the crosswalks.
- 3. Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school.

Sharing the Road with Young Pedestrians:

According to research by the National Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in busrelated incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking. They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus. A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe:

- 1. Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light, stop sign, or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic
- 2. In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection. Always stop for a crossing guard holding up a stop sign
- 3. Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas. Don't honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way.
- 4. Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians. Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way

Sharing the Road with School Buses:

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

- 1. Never pass a bus from behind or from either direction if you're on an undivided road if it is stopped to load or unload children.
- 2. If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop!
- 3. The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.
- 4. Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks

Sharing the Road with Bicyclists:

On most roads, bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicles, but bikes can be hard to see. Children riding bikes create special problems for drivers because usually they are not able to properly determine traffic conditions. The most common cause of collision is a driver turning left in front of a bicyclist.

1. When passing a bicyclist, proceed in the same direction slowly, and leave 3 feet between your car

and the cyclist.

- 2. When turning left and a bicyclist is approaching in the opposite direction, wait for the rider to pass.
- 3. If you're turning right and a bicyclists is approaching from behind on the right, let the rider go through the intersection first, and always use your turn signals.
- 4. Watch for bike riders turning in front of you without looking or signaling; children especially have a tendency to do this.
- 5. Be extra vigilant in school zones and residential neighborhoods.
- 6. Watch for bikes coming from driveways or behind parked cars.
- 7. Check side mirrors before opening your door.

By exercising a little extra care and caution, drivers and pedestrians can co-exist safely in school zones.

For full details, view this message on the web.

Sent by **City of Calistoga** 1232 Washington St, Calistoga, CA 94515

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