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10/18/16

Agenda Item 18 Neighborhood Reinvestment Projects  
Santa Cruz Pedestrian Safety Improvements

This SC plan is based on lies, misrepresentations, minority rule, lack of true discussion by and with affected neighbors.

Cottonwood Lane is newly paved so it does not need rehabilitation which is one of county's stated goals. Creating a path that would kill the existing trees is counter productive to fighting heat island effects. The proposed path does not improve safety for children, which was the original stated purpose, as the majority of people that would use path have to cross the street since most live on the opposite side of the street. Children would have to cross twice to use it for the school bus stop. It does appear that the county has found a clever way to use neighborhood reinvestment funds to add to their 14M SC river project by using those funds to supposedly have to provide linkage to the river park.

The SC neighborhood actually is very advantaged as it has amenities such as the 14M dollar river project next to it and the West Branch of SC River Conservation area within it.

This project only benefits a very small number of people in the neighborhood, not the stated 4000 plus. About 18 people used the name of the neighborhood to push this through while about 50 people opposed it and were ignored. Those 50 people represent the large numbers of people that will be negatively impacted by this project. Many of those people at the end of this dead end street are elders and may very well be endangered by increased amount of response time by emergency vehicles.

At noticed meetings discussion by and between members was neither encouraged nor allowed before those that pushed for this plan voted on it.

Those 50 people that asked for inclusion in the discussion are being told by this Board that they have no say in what happens to them. Not only is this not democracy but the plan itself is against the bylaws of the neighborhood.

Again am asking that this Board send this SC project back to the consensus level within the neighborhood, which was skipped as part of the process, as per county rules governing such awards for funds.

To do otherwise is to admit that minority rules in this county, that people have no voice in what happens to them and the county does not have to follow its own rules.