

June 9, 2022

Supervisor Dean Preston
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
San Francisco, CA 94102

Tom Maguire, Director
Streets Division, SFMTA
Tom.Maguire@sfmta.com

Re: Traffic Safety Mitigations in Hayes Valley

Dear Supervisor Preston and Director Maguire:

The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association has repeatedly urged the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, SFMTA, SFCTA, and SFPD to prioritize traffic safety and act immediately to mitigate increased traffic in and around Hayes Valley.

We wrote a letter on February 17, 2022 detailing some of the most dangerous intersections in Hayes Valley with a plea to fix them. We held a public safety meeting on March 7, 2022 with Commander Peter Walsh, Captain Derrick Jackson, and Supervisor Preston to discuss these issues and our concerns. We have held numerous meetings with Casey Hildreth from SFMTA, and held additional meetings with SFCTA, to discuss the issues along Oak St. and Octavia Blvd. To date, we have not heard back from *anyone* with concrete plans to mitigate the danger at these intersections.

On Tuesday evening, March 31, 2022, a car accident caused a vehicle to flip upside down on the 400 block of Oak St. while approaching the intersection at Oak St. and Laguna St., crashing into a tree and narrowly missing a home (photo attached). A woman was trapped inside the car, suspended upside down, pinned down by her hair with her face on the ground. She was gravely injured and carried away on a stretcher.

Not more than 12 hours later, a cyclist was killed at the intersection of Oak St. and Octavia St. after being hit by a truck.

I live a couple houses up the hill from where the first accident occurred. We have witnessed at least five accidents on the 400 block of Oak St. that launched cars upside down, crashed vehicles into my neighbors' homes, and caused serious injuries. We are tired of begging for the safety on these streets to be addressed. We are tired of being the first to respond to serious accidents, trying to keep injured people calm while waiting for first responders, checking to make sure fluid leaking from cars isn't flammable. We are tired of having cars crash into our homes, and tired of our lives being endangered while crossing the streets.

These are the intersections with the greatest immediate need due to aggressive and dangerous driving:

- Fell Street at Octavia and Laguna
- Oak Street at Webster during school arrival and departure hours for the John Muir Elementary School
- Oak Street at Buchanan, Laguna and Octavia
- Haight St. at Buchanan and Laguna

We have talked enough about this. While SFCTA conducts another survey, people are dying and being gravely injured on our streets. We need action now. We need you to implement measures immediately before another person is killed.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Laska, President
The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association

Supervisor Dean Preston and Director Maguire

June 9, 2022

Page 2

cc: Captain Derrick Jackson, SFPD, Northern Station
Commander Peter Walsh, SFPD, Special Operations Bureau, Municipal Transportation
Casey Hildreth, SFMTA
Kyle Smeallie, District 5 Legislative Aide
HVNA Board
Bob Barnwell, Hayes Valley Public Safety Chair