



# Pacific Beach Planning Group

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May 16, 2022

**To: Jorge Riveros, Director, City of San Diego Department of Transportation**  
**Re: PB Planning Group Vote in Support of the Diamond “Slow” Street Program**

Dear Director Riveros -

On April 20, 2022, the Pacific Beach Planning Group (“PBPG”) held a joint public meeting with the Pacific Beach Town Council to review the history and current state of affairs surrounding the Diamond “Slow Street” program, and to formulate our recommendation to the City regarding whether the program should be discontinued or continued with modifications. As discussed below, the PBPG board recommends that the City continue operating Diamond Street as a slow street, but with immediate and significant improvements as noted further below.

**Public Comments:** After hearing a background presentation by BeautifulPB President Katie Matchett regarding the history and general concept of slow streets, the PBPG board heard over one hour of public comments in compliance with Brown Act requirements. Significantly, the number of commenters speaking in support of the program turned out to be exactly equal to the number speaking against the program (16 to 16). All public commenters stated their views with great passion.

**The Motions and Votes:** The first motion entertained by the board was one to simply recommend discontinuance of the program. After a full discussion, that motion failed by a vote of four to six. The board then entertained a motion to recommend continuation of the program while urging the City to immediately upgrade the signage and conduct appropriate traffic studies to assess the full impact of the program. That motion passed by a vote of seven to three.

**Compliance With the Slow Streets Act:** During the meeting, a board member noted the recent enactment (October 6, 2021) of the Slow Streets Act (aka AB 773). Along with the recommendations set forth above, PBPG urges you to immediately seek an opinion from the City Attorney to confirm that the current operation of the program is not inconsistent with the requirements of the Slow Streets Act.

Respectfully,

Karl Rand, Chair  
Pacific Beach Planning Group

cc: PBPG Board Members  
Mayor Todd Gloria  
Councilmember Jennifer Campbell  
Transportation Advisor Randy Wilde