



## PUBLIC COMMENT

# MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION MEETING

May 21, 2024

Item No.	Agenda Item Description	Distributor	Document
1	<b>General Public Comment</b>	Yvonne LaRose	Email to Commission
2	<b>General Public Comment</b>	Cindy Rubin	In Person

## Fw: U.S. Access Board Webinar: Title II – Accessibility for State and Local Government Funded Facilities (June 6)

Yvonne LaRose [REDACTED]

Fri 5/17/2024 12:17 PM

To: MTIC Public Comments <mticpubliccomments@southpasadenaca.gov>; CCO <cco@southpasadenaca.gov>  
Cc: Armine Chaparyan <achaparyan@southpasadenaca.gov>; Sheila Pautsch <spautsch@southpasadenaca.gov>; Cathy Billings <cbillings@southpasadenaca.gov>

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Given my recent public comments regarding accessibility, it seemed a prudent move to bring this June 6 webinar to your attention.

Availability of public toilets (aside from Thursday Farmers' Market events) is a matter that I've attempted to bring to government attention. That topic will also be discussed.

I believe it will be very helpful for enabling us to take advantage of possible opportunities that are available and for becoming aware of needed remedies.

Viva

Yvonne LaRose, CAC

Organization Development Consultant: Diversity/Title VII, Harassment, Ethics

Linkedin - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/yvonnelarose/>


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

**From:** United States Access Board <access-board@service.govdelivery.com>

**To:** [REDACTED]

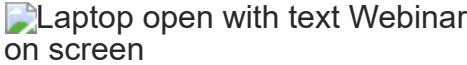
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2024 at 10:48:22 AM PDT

**Subject:** U.S. Access Board Webinar: Title II – Accessibility for State and Local Government Funded Facilities (June 6)

 Star logo with News from the U.S. Access Board text

May 17, 2024

## U.S. Access Board Webinar: Title II – Accessibility for State and Local Government Funded Facilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)  has five “Titles”, that provide different protections for people with disabilities. Title II of the ADA specifically covers Public Services provided by any state or local government. As a tax funded entity, there are more accessibility requirements than expected of private entities or businesses. During this webinar on **Thursday, June 6 from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. (ET)**, Access Board Accessibility Specialists will review what the different accessibility laws are, how they apply, and compare how the requirements for state or local government entities differ than those in the private sector. In addition to these concepts, the accessibility specialists will cover a broad overview of key components that are likely to apply to government funded spaces, such as accessible routes, toilet rooms, and counters.

For more information or to register, visit [Great Lakes ADA Center’s Title II – Accessibility for State and Local Government Funded Facilities webinar webpage](#). All webinars include video remote interpreting (VRI) and real-time captioning. Questions can be submitted in advance of the session or can be posed during the live webinar. Webinar attendees can earn continuing education credits. The webinar series is hosted by the [ADA National Network](#) in cooperation with the Board. [Archived copies](#) of previous Board webinars are available on the site.

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## **AREAS IN NEED OF SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:**

1. Stratford Avenue at Monterey Road needs a “Don’t Block” designated area as well. Cars are unable to safely make a left-hand turn onto Monterey when diving north on Stratford Avenue during this morning congestion.



**DO NOT BLOCK INTERSECTION  
PAINT NEEDED HERE IN ROADWAY**

## 2. Stratford Avenue - between Oak Street and Monterey Road



### POOR SIGN VISIBILITY



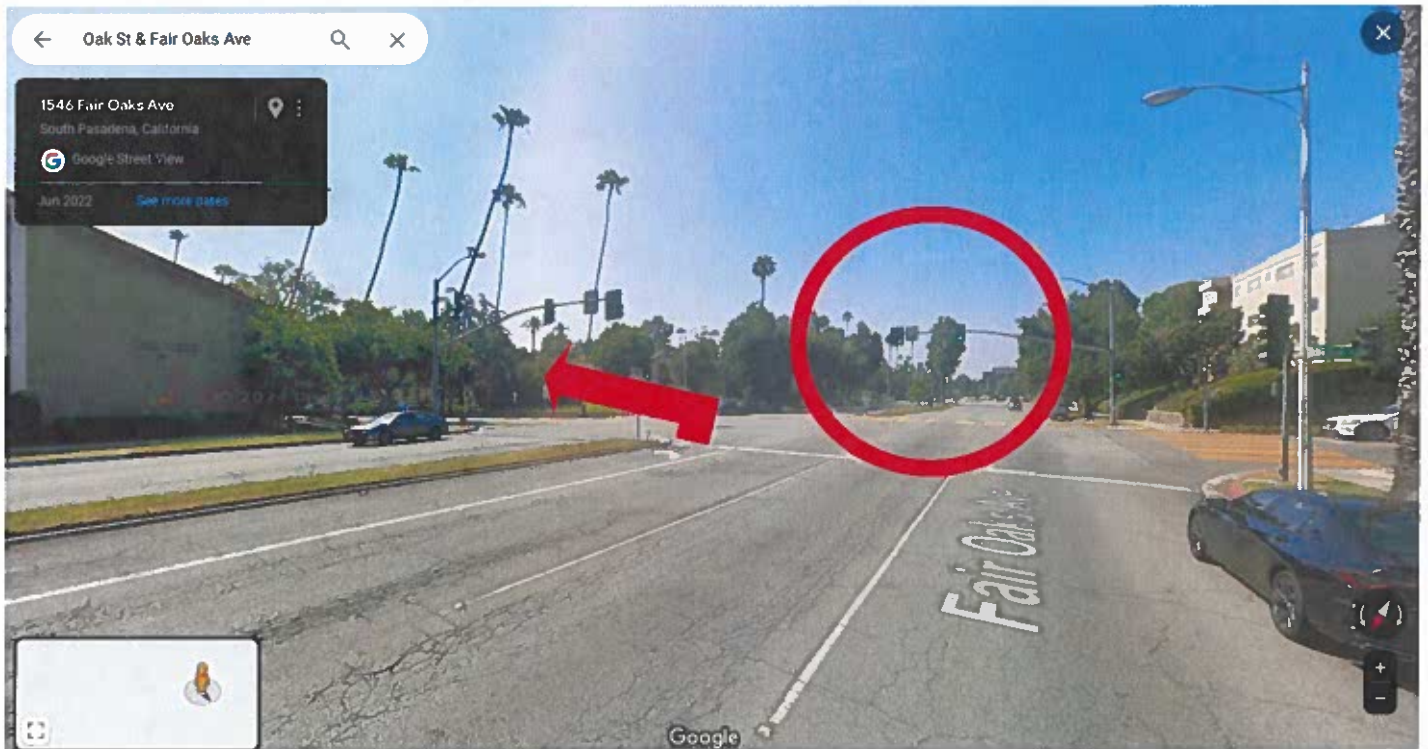
## NARROW ROADWAY WHEN PACKED W/ CARS



## STRIPING NEEDED ON DRIVEWAY TO PREVENT STOPPING & DROPPING KIDS IN MIDDLE OF ROADWAY BY GATE



3. Oak Street at Fair Oaks left turn signal - it is 4 seconds long. Cannot move from that lane due to gridlock. Can the left turn signal light be extended longer to allow people turning left to clear the intersection?



## MTIC Notes

Good evening, Commissioners,

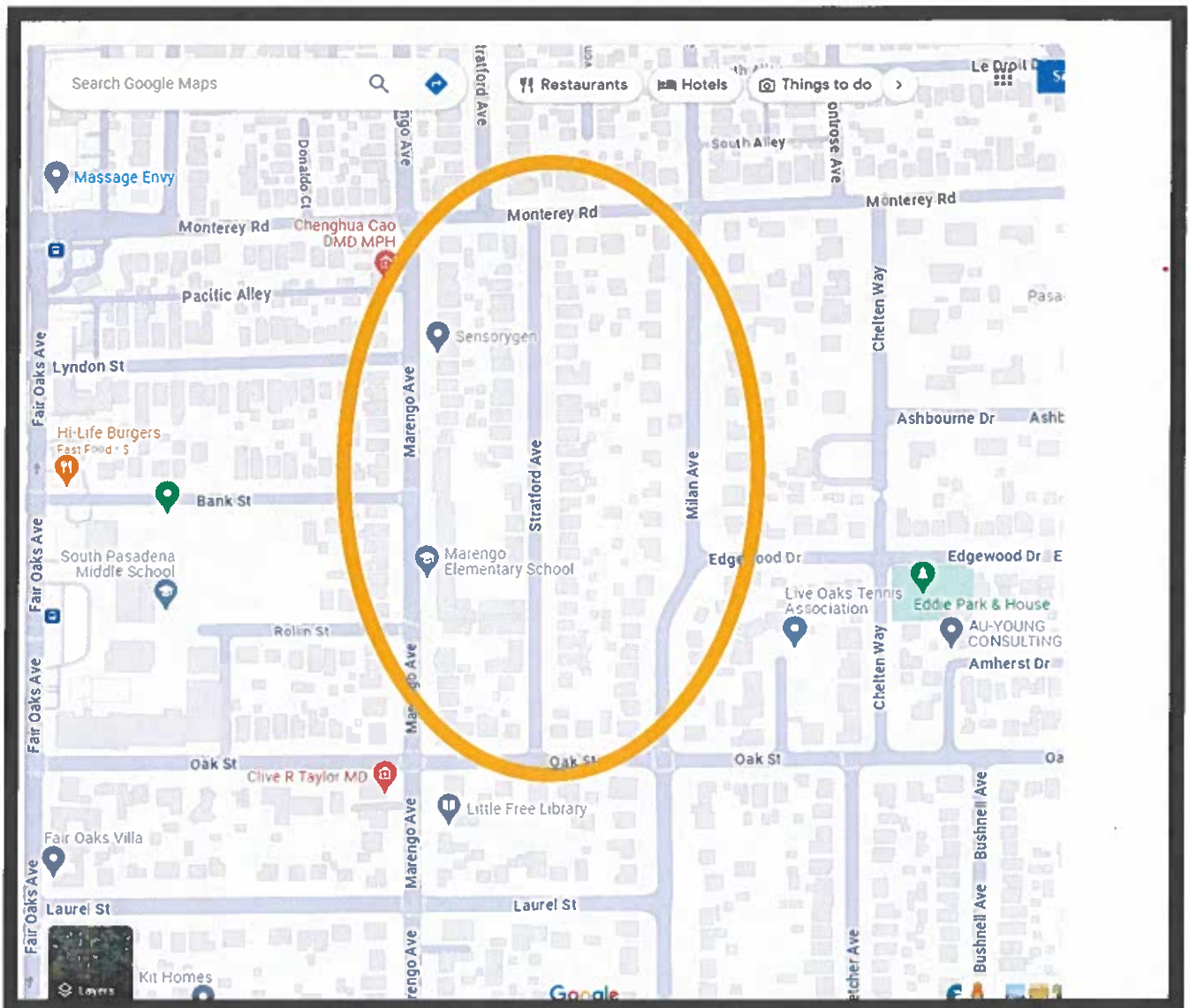
My name is Cindy Rubin and I am a parent to a Marengo Elementary School child. I'm here to voice my concerns over Stratford Avenue located directly behind Marengo Elementary. Specifically, during the hectic morning drop off time frame between approximately 7:45 -8:20 am on weekdays. The roadway is highly congested as frantic parents are rushing to drop their children at school without regard to roadway safety. The issue of unsafe driving should indeed be blamed on the parents; however, Stratford Avenue has very few traffic indicators to guide parents when in a school zone. The only signage located on that roadway are two "NO U-TURN" signs and two faded school crossing signs at north and south ends of the street; the sign adjacent to Oak Street indicates "15 MPH when children present" (next to trees and not highly visible) and drivers continue to speed well over that marked speed limit. None of these signs stand out as noticeable when driving on Stratford Avenue during these chaotic mornings, and roadway safety and courtesy are continuously ignored by drivers.

Would it be possible for the city to approve a traffic study of this avenue and consider implementing proactive measures such as speed bumps, better signs (even flashing signs during the morning drop off) and roadway striping to guide drivers during the most impacted time on Stratford Avenue? There have been too many close calls of kids nearly getting struck by careless vehicles, cars nearly colliding, people driving at unsafe speeds through this narrow roadway while we are unloading our children from our vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration.



## Stratford Avenue (between Oak Street & Monterey Road), South Pasadena



### CONSIDERATIONS TO KEEP FAMILIES SAFE:

1. **Traffic Study** - for identified weekday morning school drop off (approximately 7:45-8:20 am)
2. **Speed Bumps** (drivers are speeding while parents are unloading children from vehicles, narrow passageway - this road needs slowing down)
3. **Flashing Signs** (No U-Turns; Slow Speed Reminders, Speed Limits) - most drivers are ignoring the ordinary signage (only 2 signs on this avenue)
4. **Roadway Paint** (Speed limit reminders, children crossing during school hours, lane splits to avoid people swerving into oncoming traffic, etc.)
5. **Painted striping or tall street cones next to back gate driveway** where school-placed orange cones exist - parents should not pull over in that area - it is a pedestrian path with a gate adjacent to the sidewalk, not a valet drop-off

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Cindy Ann [REDACTED]  
Date: Fri, Apr 7, 2023 at 8:57 AM  
Subject: Stratford Gate Drop Off Concerns !!  
To: Patricia Cheadle <[pcheadle@spusd.net](mailto:pcheadle@spusd.net)>  
CC: Jon Rubin [REDACTED]

Good morning, Principal Cheadle,

I'm writing you once again with serious concerns for the Stratford Gate morning drop off. Just this morning, that same mini van that I previously sent photos to you of stopped in the middle of the road during the chaos of drop off, used the automatic switch to open the side door of the mini van and allow her young child to jump out of vehicle and cross the road to the back gate. **Unfortunately, he was nearly hit by an oncoming motorist and the entire ordeal played out right in front of me while I sat helpless.** This child could not have been more than third grade level, very small and completely unaware of the hazards of stepping into the busy roadway. The parent then drove off totally un-phased by what just happened while the door was still electronically closing. This is unacceptable risk to our children! It seems that the **same parents** are the repeat offenders. **This morning was a very scary situation, and I am grateful that this child was miraculously not hit by the car, but it was a close call.**

Secondly, this past Tuesday morning, multiple parents were driving their vehicles up to the curbside for quick drop offs, again too lazy to find parking and walk their child to the gate like the rest of us. They pulled over against oncoming traffic to the wrong side of the road, and continued to block the roadway while rushing and dropping their kids off with easier access to the gate by driving to the wrong side of the road. This was happening before spring break, and now after as well. See photos I have attached. I snapped these while walking back to my vehicle.

There is complete chaos on the Stratford side of the school for morning drop offs. It is placing many people at risk and completely unattended to by the school. Can something be done to monitor this roadway in the morning like it is monitored on the Marengo side of the school? It is unfair to put children and parents who are doing drop off the right way at risk. The majority of us plan ahead for time, find parking spots and walk our children to the gate appropriately. The other families who are taking risky shortcuts should be doing the same, or else held accountable.

Many thanks,  
Cindy






----- Forwarded message -----

From: Cindy Ann [REDACTED]  
Date: Tue, Nov 14, 2023 at 9:16 AM  
Subject: Stratford Street Drop Off  
To: Geoff Yantz <[gyantz@spusd.net](mailto:gyantz@spusd.net)>, <[nfong@spusd.net](mailto:nfong@spusd.net)>  
CC: Jon Rubin [REDACTED]

Good morning, Dr. Yantz and Principal Fong,

Just as was occurring last year, this year again parents are being reckless in the manner in which they are dropping off their children at the back school gate. This morning, I managed to only capture the car pulling away but this very car is one of many parents who pull right up to the orange cones in the middle of the road and unload their children in front of oncoming traffic as if drop off is some type of valet. Some parents feel entitled to repeat this behavior, rather than take the time and effort as the rest of us to properly, respectfully and safely park and walk our children to the designated drop off gate.

There needs to be a greater presence of law enforcement enforcing laws of the road and violators who continually make illegal U-turns directly in front of "No U-Turn" signs, making dangerous 3-point turns that turn into 7-point turns, holding up traffic and nearly hitting other vehicles/pedestrians, and parents who drive TOO fast in a school zone. It is shocking and unimaginable what is happening around our schools to endanger families and children on a daily basis! More supervision is needed for the entire street and gate, from law enforcement to school reps enforcing safety protocols for parking, crossing, and general drop-off efficiency. This was occurring last year, and it continues this year and is only getting worse.

I am going to continue documenting via phone/video AND reporting any violators that I personally witness as this matter needs to be resolved ASAP. There is a playground supervisor standing at the back gate each morning that could also be more proactive about safety, although it is more likely absolutely  the school's responsibility to shoulder these concerns and hazards.

Thank you for your anticipated attention to this serious matter,

Cindy Rubin  
[REDACTED]

Attached- vehicle that dropped children in middle of street this morning. Was also speeding up the road from Oak Street. Terribly dangerous.





----- Forwarded message -----

From: Cindy Ann [REDACTED]  
Date: Thu, Feb 29, 2024 at 10:04 AM  
Subject: Driving Safety in School Zone  
To: Geoff Yantz <[gyantz@spusd.net](mailto:gyantz@spusd.net)>, Ted Gerber <[tgerber@southpasadenaca.gov](mailto:tgerber@southpasadenaca.gov)>, <[nfong@spusd.net](mailto:nfong@spusd.net)>

Good morning Dr. Yantz,

I am following up with you on my ongoing concerns and my previous email dated 2/17/24, and Dr. Yantz your reply back to me on 2/20/24. Traffic danger in the immediate surrounding areas of Marengo School (which are residential but should also be considered a school zone) continue to wreak havoc by careless, irresponsible, and inconsiderate parents driving in a manner that is not only terribly alarming and unsafe but unlawful.

**Many parents continue driving at unsafe speeds and seem to have a sense of entitlement which is that their convenience is the only priority they are concerned with.**

South Pasadena community departments need to network together to develop a higher communication system and planning that works, and the sooner the better before someone gets hurt or worse. I've started with and continue my immediate point of contact with the school district (SPUSD), but I firmly believe that Public Works needs to be involved and consider doing a traffic study to re-zone this area.

Further, there is an unmarked exempt car which is visible during morning drop offs, but parents continue to make illegal u-turns, speed and conduct other traffic violations in front of this car so it doesn't appear an effective deterrent. Is the school district coordinating with LE? I know department staffing is strained in our community, yet more visibility and reaction for violations will actually serve comfort to concerned parents like myself (there are many!) and be the truest deterrent to repeat unmindful parents driving in the school zone area.

Attached are photos from this morning; a parent driving up and pulling over yet again to the wrong side of the road, then cutting off oncoming cars when she pulled off. Same parent, repeat offender, doesn't care when people ask her not to do it. She will do what she wants because her convenience is more important than respecting general principles of safety. After I photographed her, she sped off unsafely. Other than one reliable playground supervisor who stands at the back gate every morning, no one from the school is present to support, enforce reminders or even encourage school safety. **This needs to change.**

This is just one example of many as you know from previous emails and documentation I've reported up regarding traffic danger, and I will continue to inform in an effort to make improvements.

Please let me know how I can assist with making things better for our school because we deserve it.

Thank you,

Cindy Rubin  
[REDACTED]









----- Forwarded message -----

From: Cindy Ann <[REDACTED]>  
Date: Fri, Mar 8, 2024 at 10:30 AM  
Subject: Marengo School Traffic - FollowUp  
To: Geoff Yantz <[gyantz@spusd.net](mailto:gyantz@spusd.net)>, [dlubs@spusd.net](mailto:dlubs@spusd.net) <[dlubs@spusd.net](mailto:dlubs@spusd.net)>  
CC: <[nfong@spusd.net](mailto:nfong@spusd.net)>

Gentlemen,

I wanted to send one follow up email to recognize Mr. Joey who was at the front gate as always this past week for afternoon pick up. A mom in a silver minivan pulled up right in the middle of the road and double parked while she waited for her child. She blocked the entire roadway going north on Marengo! It is unreal what some parents do for their own entitlement and convenience.

However, after double parking, she exited her vehicle to stand near the curb/gutter, completely abandoning her vehicle and leaving it unoccupied in this process while backing up traffic behind her. Mr. Joey hollered over to her and said she needed to move her vehicle, that was illegal and not allowed. He did so with courtesy but just the right amount of authority and firmness to where she scurried back to move her car. She also had a full audience of disgusted parents watching it play out.

I truly believe the school playing a hand in the surrounding traffic safety will greatly improve the expectations of the school rather than simply over-burdening law enforcement. Mr. Joey was effective and terrific!

Also, thank you Mr. Lubs for taking time out of your busy schedule on Wednesday to meet with me about these very concerns.

With gratitude,

Cindy Rubin  
[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cindy Ann** [REDACTED]  
Date: Fri, Apr 12, 2024 at 12:21 PM  
Subject: Marengo Traffic Safety - Ongoing Issues  
To: Geoff Yantz <[gyantz@spusd.net](mailto:gyantz@spusd.net)>  
CC: <[dlubs@spusd.net](mailto:dlubs@spusd.net)>, <[nfong@spusd.net](mailto:nfong@spusd.net)>

Good afternoon Dr. Yantz,

I'm writing you again to inform of the ongoing, persistent dismissive attitude of a handful of parents who continue to disrespect driving laws and the safety of everyone around in the school zone (specifically the backside of the school = Stratford Road) during morning drop off. This father is also a repeat offender, and not only with how he parks incorrectly but he speeds nearly daily down the narrow portions of this congested road. It is not enough to simply rely on law enforcement to ticket.

**My request is that the school will step up and write a stern newsletter to all parents where the only topic is related to driver safety.** In the past, blurbs have been mentioned among other PTA or school district announcements, only to be unread and ignored by uninterested parents. A special bulletin needs to be crafted and sent out to all families so that they are reminded of the dangers they themselves create and be put on notice that it will not be tolerated. This absolutely will continue until someone is struck or worse scenario killed.

In this morning's particular incident, this father mocked the school supervisor who said he was not allowed to do what he was doing, that he would receive a ticket. His response was to laugh and say "Get a ticket? I don't see anyone around to give me a ticket" while looking around. It is disrespectful and parents need to do better.

I'm also going to attend a future South Pasadena MTIC commission meeting to voice my concerns, convey these details and see if Public Works can be more involved as well by conducting a street/traffic study and possibly install more visible signage or street direction. **At any rate, my most immediate concern is for the school to be more proactive in a written notice to everyone.** The school does not have any authoritative representation at the back gate except for ONE playground supervisor by the orange cones and back gets (no other staff is there during this chaotic time). There is no volunteer joint-effort to direct traffic as is done on the front side of the school. This needs to be corrected.

Please see attached photos from this morning. I was only able to document one vehicle, as the other vehicles (a whole row of them) had already pulled away from the curb before I could capture the entire scenario. This happens continuously, and sadly photos don't seem to translate the message of just how chaotic it can get during the morning drop off.

Thank you again for your time and consideration,

Cindy Rubin  
Marengo Parent - 3rd Grade  
[REDACTED]







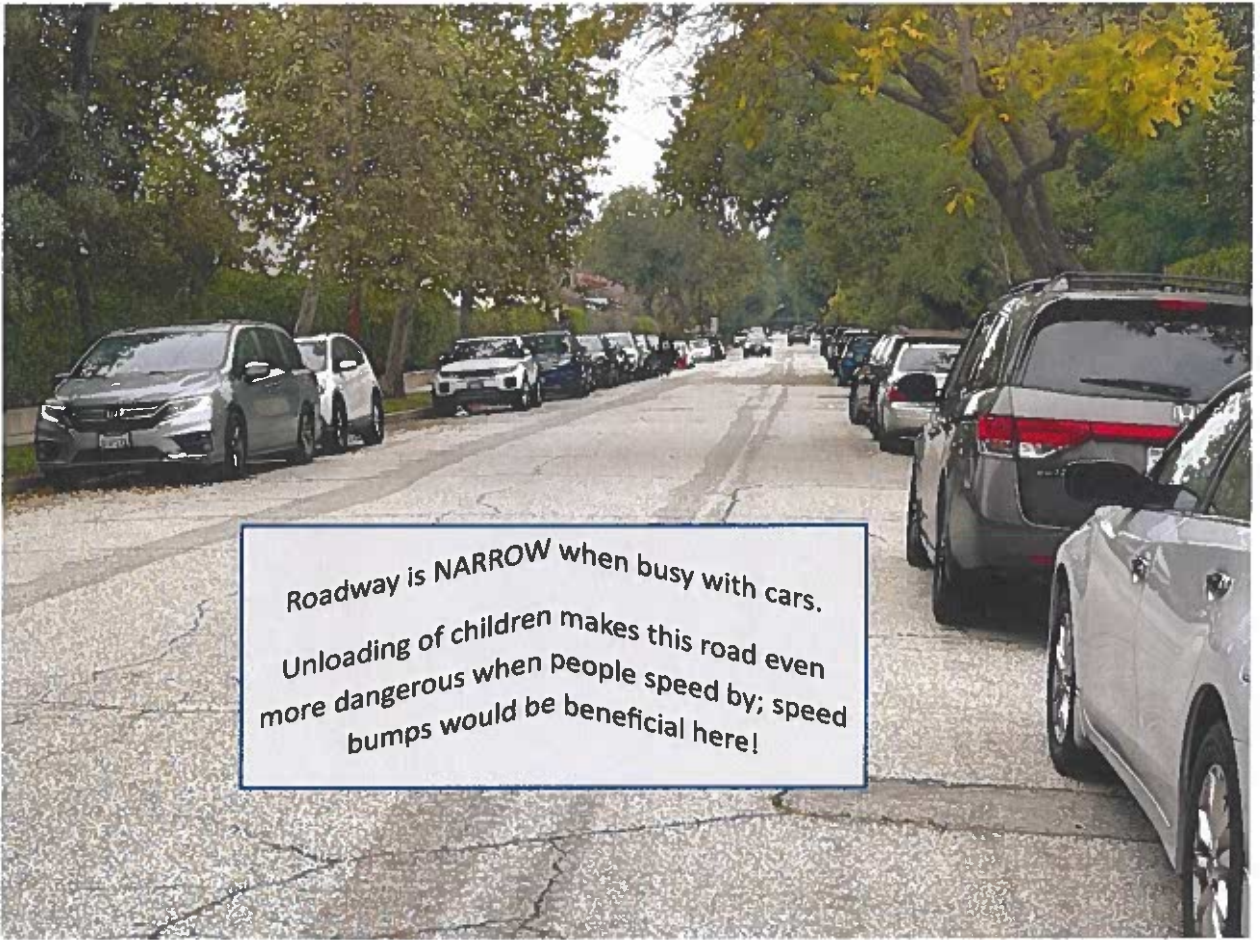




Some parents  
treat the  
orange cones  
like a valet  
drop off – stop  
in middle of  
the road







Roadway is **NARROW** when busy with cars.  
Unloading of children makes this road even  
more dangerous when people speed by; speed  
bumps would be beneficial here!

2:07



Multiple Wrong-Way Drivers



me Apr 7, 2023  
to gyantz@spusd.net ▾



Good morning Dr. Yantz,

I'm forwarding my concerns to you as well due to the time sensitive nature of my concerns. Not enough is being done by the school (Mariposa) to



2:07



Cindy



It is the SAME parents who are the repeat offenders of this unsafe driving – they see and read the school warnings, but choose to continue driving on the wrong side of the road, doing unsafe behavior, and not respecting the safety of other families...



2:08



## Stratford Gate Drop Off

Concerns !!!

Inbox



me Apr 7, 2023  
to Patricia, Jon ▾



Good morning Principal Cheadle,

I'm writing you once again with serious concerns for the Stratford Gate morning drop off. Just this morning, that same mini van that I previously sent photos to you of stopped in the middle of the road during the chaos of drop off, used the automatic switch to open the side door of the mini van and allow her young child to jump out of vehicle and cross the road to the back gate.

**Unfortunately, he was nearly hit by an oncoming motorist and the entire ordeal played out right in front of me while I sat helpless.** This child could not have been more than third grade level, very small and completely unaware of the hazards of stepping into

