

RECEIVED ON: January 25, 2022

From: [Mike Garabedian](#)
To: [WebMail - CCD](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Greenway Trail Westward Completion
Date: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 10:27:16 AM

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Dear Whittier City Council,

As a lifelong resident of Whittier who recognizes the many ways in which the Whittier Greenway Trail has improved the health and quality of life for so many Whittierites over the past decade, I was heartened to learn you will be considering completing the trail to the west in order to link it up with the San Gabriel River Trail as originally intended, partly by way of funding derived from this year's budget surplus.

When I think of the myriad, direct benefits of this completion—obviating the current, dangerous path to the SGRT via Pioneer and Beverly; allowing folks on bikes who want to avoid automobile traffic to come to Whittier and patronize businesses here; providing access to miles of estuary-adjacent trails for Whittier hikers, cyclists, and walkers to enjoy as an alternative to the overused Whittier Hills—to say nothing of potential ancillary benefits, like transforming our City's notorious "graffiti" bridge over the 605 Freeway into an attractive Whittier mural/sign about which we can all be proud, I arrive at just one conclusion: completing the trail will make what was one of the best, most useful and beloved City amenities even better.

I am aware of the issues and complications about this project, some of which I delineate in [this document I wrote last year](#). However, none of these things are insurmountable obstacles, and most especially if the City works with the other municipalities and entities that must be involved. The time is now: With great respect, I request you do what it takes to fund the westward completion, and work with partners to fast track the project for the benefit of all.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mike Garabedian
Rio Hondo College Dean of Library and Instructional Support
Whittier Public Library Foundation President-Elect

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