

From: [Judi Gorski](#)
To: [REG - BSC Clerk](#); [Judi - gmail Gorski](#)
Subject: Ballot Simplification Committee Meeting, Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 9:00 AM, City Hall, Room 400
Date: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 6:29:36 AM

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To: Ballot Simplification Committee Members

From: Judi Gorski, District 4 resident living across the street from the Great Highway

Date: July 23, 2024

Subject: Proposition to Close the Upper Great Highway

Dear Ballot Simplification Committee Members,

Thank you all for the work you do for San Francisco. I am a longtime resident, homeowner and former owner of a small art business where I created and sold paintings of surfers and Ocean Beach. I have lived across the street from the Great Highway since 1985 with my family, and in District 4 since 1978. I am writing to you because the fate of the Great Highway that will be decided by voters in the upcoming election will have a daily impact on the lives of my family and immediate neighbors.

After reading the draft digest re Closing the Great Highway, I would like to suggest the following small changes in the language that I believe will more clearly, accurately and truthfully represent the issue.

(1) Whenever referring to “private vehicles” please add the two words “and commercial” so it will read instead “private and commercial vehicles.”

I ask this due to personal observations of the types of vehicles that have been entering and driving through our residential neighborhood where children play, the elderly walk and people back out of driveways whenever traffic is diverted off the Upper Great Highway and would otherwise be driving hundreds of feet away. This traffic consists of not only “private vehicles” but big rigs, huge grocery vans, trucks carrying heavy construction equipment, motorcycles in groups of 100+, tour buses, and other types of commercial vehicles that create air and noise pollution, disturb the peace and add danger to the normally quiet residential streets.

(2) Please change the line that says: **A “YES” Vote Means:** If you vote “yes” you want the City to *reserve the Upper Great Highway as public open recreation space* permanently closing it seven days a week to private motor vehicles with limited exceptions, to instead read as follows:

A “YES” Vote Means: If you vote “yes” you want the City to permanently close the Upper Great Highway seven days a week to private and commercial motor vehicles.

I ask this because banning all the private and commercial vehicles that usually drive on the Great Highway (17,600-19,900 per day according to SFMTA) from using it will not “reserve

the Upper Great Highway as public open recreation space.” It will simply only close the road. The Proposition provides no approved design or funding for building and maintaining a public open recreation space, nor does it provide for maintenance of the closed road, which is underfunded and poorly maintained now. There is no traffic diversion plan that has proven to be successful during the existence of the Pilot Project, and for the health and safety of all, that should be in place BEFORE closing a 4-lane highway, not after.

(3) Lastly, because of the above reasons, please do not headline, title or refer to this proposition as “Reserving the Upper Great Highway as Public Open Recreation Space,” and instead please call it what it is, “Closing the Upper Great Highway to Private and Commercial Vehicles.”

Thank you in advance for considering my gentle suggestions, and for your valuable service to our City.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Gorski, District 4
Ocean Beach Resident