



Bay Area Bicycle Coalition

of the San Francisco Bay Area
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September 1, 2004

Ms. Barbara Kaufman, Chair
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
50 California Street, Suite 2600
San Francisco, CA 94111

**Re: Bicycle access on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge:
Request for Commission hearing on Caltrans permits**

Dear Chair Kaufman and Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the Bay Area Bicycle Coalition (BABC) to respectfully request that the Commissioners of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) agendaize a full discussion about public access regarding new work being done by the California Department of Transportation on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The BABC represents all the local Bay Area bicycle coalitions on regional issues. Ensuring direct bicycle access on all trans-bay bridges is a top priority in the BABC mission statement.

We fully endorse and support the points expressed in the September 1, 2004 letter from the Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC) to the Commission. As the MCBC letter points out, bicycle advocates, as well as many elected officials, have been working for years to secure direct bicycle access on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. BCDC has a critical role to play in fulfilling its mission to ensure maximum public access to the Bay.

We are concerned that recent BCDC staff decisions appear to jeopardize the opportunity to require direct bicycle access as a condition for issuing permits for work on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge. The BABC urges the Commission to conduct a full public hearing regarding permits for the Caltrans work, and to take prompt action to ensure that direct bicycle access is a specific condition of any and all permits that are required for this important project.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

David Burch
Chair
Bay Area Bicycle Coalition