

Full Answers from Claudio Bono · 2022 WBC City Council Candidate Survey

<p><i>Increased biking can reduce traffic and improve community health and sustainability. What would you do to increase bike use within Cupertino?</i></p>	<p>The city can partner with school district to encourage kids and families to get on their bike to go to school. It's about promote culture. It's quick and simple way to travel accross the city. The City of Cupertino can also build infrastructure for safer bike lane, meaning installing green lanes and bollards to make it safer for cyclists.</p>
<p><i>Many new sidewalks cannot be added in Cupertino due to decades old zoning of streets as rural which do not require homes to have sidewalks, and homeowners that oppose adding them there. What are some other ideas you have to improve walkability in our city as adding them in these areas is difficult or impossible?</i></p>	<p>It goes back to building infrastructure that make our prioritizing pedestrians and cyclists over cars and vehicles. I know many communities that have rejected infrastructure for cars over people and that can be done in Cupertino. i.e. Brussels/Belgium. Around downtown, we can encourage closing off traffic which would allow people to walk from place to place.... instoring a car free day program... we could do that monthly.</p>
<p><i>What is your view on removing some parking (<10 spaces) to allow for bicycle right-of-ways when doing so improves student safety near schools?</i></p>	<p>If we build it, they will come. I will explore removing parking and replace it with bicycle insfrastructure as a way to encourage more biking and walking in our neighborhoods and throughout the City . I am well aware that this improves student safety near schools and protects pedestrians. I am also well aware that parking remains a necessity for construction. I would however overall, like to relax high parking requirements and implement road diet strategies to encourage more bicycle infrastructure.</p>
<p><i>How have you personally advocated for proven improved walking or biking in Cupertino or the surrounding areas? Examples could include Safe Routes to School work, supporting new infrastructure through signing a petition, or by advocating by speaking as a resident at a City Council or at a Bicycle Pedestrian Commission meeting.</i></p>	<p>As a Cupertino resident and Chamber of Commerce President I have always advocated for stronger partnerships between our community organizations, City Hall and our schools. That means creating walkable, livable, and cyclable neighborhoods and safe routes to school and around major commercial destinations in our City. This is also beneficial for the business community at large. Studies show that creating these walkable environments actually supports small business entrepreneurship with increased foot traffic. I am also an advocate for last-mile transit accessibility and options that are not attached to personal vehicle. This coalition can expect the same level of engagement and passion for these issues if elected to the City Council.</p>
<p><i>Why or why not would you support giving the right-of-way path easement at Lozano Lane to the local HOA (closing it to public use) which was planned to connect to the Regnart Creek Trail?</i></p>	<p>Public like to be able to move freely.</p>
<p><i>The Cupertino 2016 Bicycle and 2018 Pedestrian Plans prioritize infrastructure projects based on many factors derived through community input such as need and safety. What do you think is the role of Councilmembers in adjusting the prioritization of those lists of projects? Do you support building the Carmen Bridge, which is next in the list?</i></p>	<p>The role of a Council Member is to prioritize safety and deliver on infrastructure while still allowing for strong fiscal stewardship over our City's finances. Yes, I am supportive of the building of the Carmen Bridge and the other projects in line thru the Cupertino Bicycle and Pedesterian Plans, as they promote good habits and create the infrastructure we need for the reasons we all enjoy. However, with must also recognize our the increased costs and budget and plan accordingly. As a Council Member I will be watchdog over our expenditures and balance the immediate needs of the community using safety as a main metric. I will bring thoughtful care and attention to each item and have an open dialogue with members of the community to allow me to arrive at a decision that satisfies the community's needs and priorities.</p>
<p><i>Should the city of Cupertino pay for improvements, such as fencing, on private properties of residents near new trails or other infrastructure projects? If yes, then approximately what percentage of the total project cost would be acceptable to spend on this?</i></p>	<p>I will need to review more information about this project, to determine the efficacy of the program. However, I am generally not supportive of using city funds to pay for improvements.</p>
<p><i>The 2016 Cupertino Bike Plan has expired, but the Bicycle Pedestrian Commission choose not to create a new one in the last two years of workplans, which puts city grant funding at risk. Do you support creating a new one? Please explain why or why not.</i></p>	<p>Yes! I am in support of re investing energy to complete the Cupertino Bike plan. I think that Cupertino resident deserves better. We are missing monies provided in the Grant. It's about time to implement plan in order to meet standards like other cities in the bay area have adopted already.</p>
<p><i>Do you feel it is necessary to appoint Bike Ped Commissioners who regularly walk or bike within the city and have a track record of supporting walking and biking infrastructure projects in Cupertino? Why or why not?</i></p>	<p>Absolutely. Having this type of respresentation on the bike pedestrian commission should better prepare us by having the full experience and knowledge from this community so we can better serve the greater population. I would be uneasy about appointing someone who does not have a day-to-day experience with biking and walking in our City. It would be my priority to appoint someone who has this experience.</p>
<p><i>What would you like voters, including all the members of Walk-Bike Cupertino, to know about your position on walking and biking in the city?</i></p>	<p>I grew up in Europe and while Cupertino and Europe are not the same, there are certain practices and policies related to walking and biking that Cupertino could implement like they do in many European urban centers that would improve quality of life in our City. I've seen first-hand what kind of success it is in other cities, and I honestly believe that we can make the same kind of success and experience here. I want to be an advocate and a champion for bike safety issues in Cupertino and bring our city into its new green and healthy chapter!</p>