



Circulate San Diego
233 A Street, Suite 206
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 544-9255
@CirculateSD
www.circulatesd.org

November 2, 2022

Mayor Serge Dedina
City of Imperial Beach
825 Imperial Beach Boulevard
Imperial Beach, CA 91932

Subject: Support for Imperial Beach Ninth Street Complete Streets Project

Dear Mayor Dedina:

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing to support staff's recommendation to convert Ninth Street from a four-lane roadway to a two-lane roadway with a center turn lane and green buffered bike lanes.

Cyclist fatalities in San Diego County are increasing as 16 cyclists were killed in 2021 alone.¹ Currently, Ninth Street has no bike facilities. This poses a hazard to bicyclists' safety. Enhancing Ninth Street with protected bike lanes, bike signals with bike bend-outs, and a dedicated bike phasing at busy intersections such as Ninth Street and Palm Avenue would ensure that people of all ages and abilities could safely ride on Ninth Street.

The project would also help with traffic calming as it would complete the bike connectivity of major roads in Imperial Beach and install enhanced pedestrian crossings, thus creating more safe alternatives to driving.

Imperial Beach is already a leader in prioritizing transportation safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. The Ninth Street Complete Streets Project would further Imperial Beach's Vision Zero goal to eliminate traffic deaths.

Imperial Beach should not turn down the opportunity to increase bicyclist and pedestrian safety and the flow of traffic on Ninth Street.

¹ Will Rhatigan, San Diego County Records First Cyclist Fatality of 2022, San Diego County Bike Coalition (2022), available at <https://sdbikecoalition.org/2022/03/san-diego-county-records-first-cyclist-fatality-of-2022/#:~:text=Nonetheless%2C%20this%20first%20fatality%20of,least%2016%20cyclists%20were%20killed.>

Sincerely,



Jesse O'Sullivan
Policy Counsel
Circulate San Diego

CC:
Vice Chair Miguel Beltran
Design Review Board Member Ilia Voronchihin
Design Review Board Member Chelsea Grace
Design Review Board Member Lance Rogers