



## Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

### PRESS RELEASE CRASHES HIGHWAY DEBATE

As the clock ticks down to a confrontation between forces that propose to widen Highway 1 and those that oppose it, the curiously passive Pacifica City Council has issued an undated press release on city letterhead whining that citizen opposition lawsuits have forced the city to delay public hearings on the widening proposal. Oh, the crocodile tears! Well, duh, why hasn't the council already done the right thing, the proactive thing, the responsible thing, the democratic thing, and let some air and sunlight into this secretive, bureaucratic process? Why didn't our elected representatives hold public forums long ago? I will leave speculation about the council's motives or reasoning (or lack thereof) to others. Meanwhile, dear readers, see the city website or my Pacifica Riptide blog to experience nausea while reading the pusillanimous prose proffered by Whodini (or Question Mark and the Mysterians). Pete Shoemaker, chair of Pacificans for Highway 1 Alternatives (PHIA), responded to the city press release: "The Mayor of Pacifica said that he was 'frustrated' that hearings on the proposed Highway 1 widening project have been postponed. We at Pacificans for Highway 1 Alternatives (PHIA) agree and share his frustration. We have been advocating for a long time that public hearings be held, and have been frustrated that the City Council did not schedule them sooner, ideally when the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) was first released. Now that the final report (FEIR) is out, it is more important than ever that the public be educated on this proposed project, and to that end PHIA is holding a public forum on October 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Vallemar School. All concerned citizens are encouraged to attend."

### PSC FIGHTS HIGHWAY WIDENING

To help Pacificans for a Scenic Coast (PSC) in its legal challenge to the Caltrans final environmental impact report (FEIR), visit PSC's sponsor [PacificasEnvironmentalFamily.org](http://PacificasEnvironmentalFamily.org) for more information.

### EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

How different human interaction would be if schools included emotional intelligence training in their curriculum. According to [Queendom.com](http://Queendom.com) research, emotional intelligence (or EQ) is a multifaceted competency that has a major impact on how successful a person is at creating and maintaining relationships. Hollywood movies would have us believe that to be popular, you need to have charisma, devious powers of manipulation,

and the emotional depth of a teaspoon. Granted, charisma can draw people to you, but [Queendom](http://Queendom.com) says emotional intelligence keeps them there. Analyzing a sample of 34,870 people who took [Queendom's](http://Queendom.com) emotional intelligence test reveals that those with strong emotional intelligence are more popular in their social group, more satisfied with their relationships in general (family, friends, romantic), and tend to experience fewer conflicts and arguments. High scorers on the EQ test are more comfortable dealing with emotional problems (their own and others'), have greater self-esteem and self-control, know their value system and live by it, have good coping skills and flexibility for conflict resolution, and show a positive mind-set. [Queendom](http://Queendom.com) also found that people in relationships score higher EQs than single people.

### WEAR WHITE AT NIGHT

Mary Sheppard reminds me that when we were kids, the schools used to tell us to wear white at night when walking, running, or bicycling, so that we could be seen by motorists and not get run over. This ancient wisdom still applies, folks. If you are out at night, whether exercising or not, be sure that you wear something white, bright, or shiny. It also wouldn't hurt to have a light on your hat, helmet, or bike.

### ALANDROME

Alan Wald says the Pacifica Tribune reports you can honor your favorite pet by having its name inscribed on a brick at the Pet Path at Rotary Plaza for a donation of \$100. Pacifica palindrome lovers propose that for a small additional charge the name on the brick could be laminated: "Laminate Pacifica pet animal!"

### WANDERING THE PRODUCE AISLE

Scotty Kindelfire wanders among the fruits and vegetables at his supermarket, and wonders why the avocados he buys and takes home either stay rock-hard or quickly go soft. I advised him to buy them unripe, and as soon as they start to ripen, eat some and turn the rest into guacamole. A little bit of lemon juice makes guacamole last longer in the refrigerator. Incidentally, one of the best guacamoles in town is at Joe Murillo's Pacifica Farmer's Market or his booth at Coastside Farmer's Market on Wednesday afternoons. Pacifica's other great guacamole is in the produce section at Oceana Market, made right there on the premises.

### SWAMI SEZ

"It's hard to make predictions, especially about the future."  
(Yogi Berra)

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