From: Ann McCarty-Executive Director

To: Haddon, Stacey

**Subject:** Public Comment for submission **Date:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 2:44:31 PM

I would like to submit this as a record for tonight. Thank you.

Mayor Osborne and members of the City Council,

My apologies for not being in attendance tonight to offer my remarks during public comment. A family obligation keeps me away. I wanted to take a moment to thank you Mayor Osborne and Council Member Ball for attending an event we hosted along with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) on July 21-22<sup>nd</sup> in Lompoc. Riders from Pedal the Pacific rolled in to town on July 21<sup>st</sup> simply looking for a place to rest. They were unaware that Lompoc was going to roll out the red carpet for them. Thank you Mayor Osborn and Council Member Ball for attending the welcoming of the 12 riders who took off in early June from Seattle, Washington on their way to San Diego to raise awareness around the issue of human trafficking. Their stop here wasn't the first, as Pedal the Pacific has stopped in Lompoc 3 other times since 2017, but it certainly was the most memorable. Our thanks to you both for meeting with them, engaging with them, and above all showing them that Lompoc cares. I believe this was the first time they have been presented with a "key to the City" and it quickly rose to a highlight of their trip. We are also especially appreciative for the support by Trinity Church of the Nazarene as well as Bicycles Unlimited, Vandenberg Space Force Base Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Lompoc Police Department, Lompoc Valley Community Healthcare Organization, the National Honor Society of CHS, and Surf Connection for being amazing community partners and supporting the riders while they were in town. From goodies that were donated for the swag bags to time spent tuning up the bikes for the riders, to the safety of a place to sleep and warm showers, we are indeed grateful for those who stepped up in a big way to make this a safe, restful break for all. I was indeed proud of our City and I thank you Mayor Osborne and Council Member Ball for taking time out of your busy schedules to make it a memorable stop for the riders.

Sincerely yours,
Ann McCarty
Executive Director
North County Rape Crisis and
Child Protection Center

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