

Good Afternoon Councilmembers,

My name is Monica Davis, and I'm here representing **She Shreds Shed (S3)**, a national women's mountain biking community. We don't just use these parks and recreational spaces — we are deeply proud of our members and partners who help **steward, maintain, and protect** them.

I'm here to strongly support maintaining the amendments and funding levels for our park systems — and to urge you to oppose any cuts to parks, parkland, and recreation infrastructure.

The County's CIP is our long-term plan for essential public assets. Parks are not optional amenities — they are core infrastructure, just like roads, schools, and public facilities.

When we defer these investments, we don't save money — we only make the bill larger. Deferred maintenance accelerates deterioration, increases safety risks, and drives up future repair and replacement costs. You either pay a little now, or a lot more later.

But this isn't just an infrastructure issue. It's also an economic, public health, and climate resilience issue.

Our parks support local jobs and local economies. They provide accessible places for physical activity and mental health — reducing long-term healthcare costs. And they are a critical part of our climate resilience system — managing stormwater, reducing heat, protecting ecosystems, and buffering our communities from extreme weather.

As a group that organizes rides, clinics, and stewardship days, we see firsthand what happens when parks are well-funded — and what happens when they are not.

I urge the Council to fully include and protect the park-related amendments in the FY27 budget, and to avoid shifting today's responsibilities into higher costs and lost benefits tomorrow.

This is smart infrastructure policy. It's smart financial policy. And it's smart community policy.

Thank you for your time and for your leadership.

Monica Davis, Founder & Trail Fairy Godmother

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