

**Editor:**

I have been using the Hammond Trail for multiple trips to McKinleyville last week, each time admiring the long life of this bridge crossing, I remember the construction of the bike ramp approaches in the mid 1980's. Since then I have, perhaps, saved my life by using this facility in stead of the dangerous highway 101-Mad River over the years. And many others have also safely crossed here.

By contrast we lost a good man just over a year ago, commuting on his bicycle to Blue Lake on Hwy 299. He may have survived if the Annie and Mary Trail had been made by then.

I asked a supervisor candidate, Cleary, how he would advance a trail here, he had no clear path or commitment that the county might offer under his leadership. But I remembered county public works building the ramps to the Hammond Bridge, and a County Government behind this. I also asked Candidate Higgins his views, and he had concise plans for establishing the A+M trail, including HCAOG participation, the water district shared use, and using the participation of non-profit groups.

Pat Higgins is the only candidate who has demonstrated real mechanisms to connect and build the A+M and other trails. Some of us will thank him for our continued safe passage as he moves this and the Bay Trail projects forward.

**Bill Burton**

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