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To: [Gary Schiffmiller](#); [GLORIOSO-MOSS , ROMELLA S.](#); [Aria Chiodo](#)
Subject: Comments for BPAC meeting
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Gary and Romella,

I'd like to provide comments about consequences of car crashes for the next BPAC meeting, if that's possible.

Santa Fe Police recently chose not to charge the driver who ran a red light and killed Steven Ballinger with reckless driving. They claim that running a red light with a several thousand pound vehicle at a busy intersection is not a "willful disregard for safety". That is a terrible decision that allows a driver who has no concern for human life back on the road with essentially no punishment, but unfortunately, it's not unusual for this area. A few months ago, the Santa Fe Police found "no driver error" when a city employee drove over a curb and into a bus stop, killing Glen Smith. Before that, a driver near Galisteo killed Luis Quiroz-Batista but wasn't charged with anything because the sun was in his eyes. The police responded similarly to a driver who deliberately ran over cyclists in Galisteo several years ago, and another driver who hit Irena Ossola in Santa Fe.

Time and again, the police let drivers get away with poor decisions that destroy other people's lives. As a result, New Mexico has had the highest pedestrian fatality rate in the US every year in the last 10 years. This needs to change. The police need to start taking cyclist and pedestrian lives seriously, and there needs to be consequences for poor decisions.

Cyclists and pedestrians deserve to be treated like human beings whose lives matter. The city needs to tell the police this and demand they start enforcing traffic laws in a way that ensures the safety of this community.

Thank you.
Kai Filion