

# Elderly Woman Dies After Bike Hits Her at Bayfair

Sisters of woman say police won't show them report or let them see video of the collision

*By Michael Singer*  
*San Leandro Times*

Judy Eisenberg's family is looking for answers following her death on Jan. 22 after she was hit by a bicyclist and fractured her skull on the concrete at Bayfair Mall earlier this month. She was 77.

Eisenberg was a longtime resident of San Lorenzo before moving to the East Coast five years ago to be closer to her children. She happened to be visiting family in the East Bay during the holidays and was shopping at Bayfair on

January 3.

San Leandro Police say Eisenberg was walking to the parking lot from Kohl's department store when a group of young people riding bicycles and "popping wheelies" quickly approached her from her right side. Investigators say surveillance footage from the store shows Eisenberg stopped near the curb to let the first rider pass.

Police said another rider  
*see WOMAN, page 5*



# Woman: Questions remain about collision that lead to death

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swerved to avoid Eisenberg but crashed into her, sending her to the ground, slamming her head to the concrete and fracturing her skull.

Lieutenant Abe Teng of the San Leandro police told the Times, an officer arrived and spoke with the three cyclists involved, including an 11-year-old cyclist who collided with Eisenberg. He added that the officer who spoke with Eisenberg said she appeared to be dazed from the collision and fall.

## She Was Dazed From the Collision

“Judy borrowed my car that day, and I got a phone call from the police department telling me that my sister was walking around confused and wondered if she was like this,” Eisenberg’s sister Cathy Tapia told the Times. “They asked me to come over and get my car and that they were taking her by ambulance to Eden Hospital.”

Eisenberg was transported



**Judy Eisenberg lived in San Lorenzo for years before moving back East.**

and remained hospitalized at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley until she passed away from her injuries on January 22.

San Leandro police say the boy was not cited for reckless negligence leading up to the collision and will likely not face criminal charges, that there was no malice.

“By all indications thus far, this incident was a tragic accident,” Lt. Teng said.

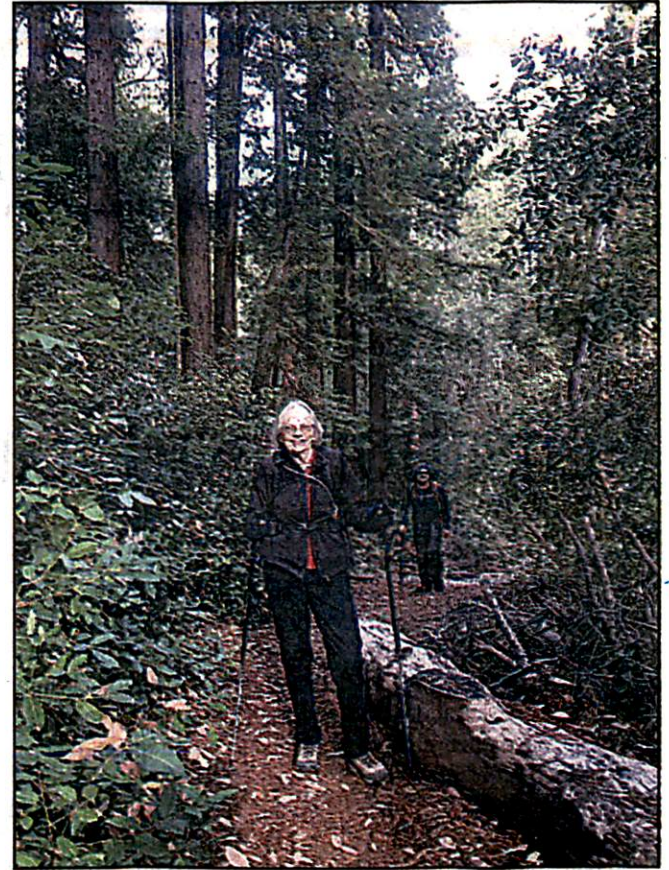
Eisenberg’s sisters, Tapia and Mary Lou Eggiman questioned the police investigation. They say an officer commented that Eisenberg was “tapped,” but hospital officials categorized the injury to their sister as a “blunt force assault trauma.”

The sisters also said they asked for a police report but haven’t been allowed to see it. They say they told the police that Kohl’s had surveillance

video but the police waited 3 to 4 days to pick up the video. And then police said Eisenberg’s son is the only family member who can see the report or view the surveillance video because he has power of attorney.

With the increase in the number of large groups of bicycle riders blocking traffic and riding recklessly, the sisters say they’re also concerned about the message Eisenberg’s death sends to other young bicycle riders.

“Saying there’s nothing you can do lets every 11-year-old think they can go ride bikes out there and they can do whatever they want because there’s nothing the police can do to me,” Tapia said. “We don’t know if this boy and his friends know how seriously he injured Judy. We want to ask the community to tell these boys and their families of the tragic outcome of this accident. If you know of this group of bike riders or their parents, please spread the news of my sister’s fate.”



*PHOTOS COURTESY OF CATHY TAPIA*

**Eisenberg is shown in this family photo hiking on the Appalachian Trail. She was here visiting relatives in Castro Valley when she went to a store at Bayfair and was knocked down by a bicyclist.**