

**Virtual Meeting Via Zoom
Monday, January 25, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee Meeting of January 25, 2021 was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Chairperson Deckert. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Chairperson Chuck Deckert, John Houston, Matt Maciel, Todd Nelson, Steve Nigro, Sharon Piekarski and Ashwin Sriram

Committee Members Absent: Brandon Pace, Dan Schulenberg.

Staff Present: Mike Tassano, City Traffic Engineer; Matt Nelson, Associate Traffic Engineer; Sean Welch, Management Analyst; Léa Frizzell, Recording Secretary.

Agency Representatives: None.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

None.

MINUTES

1. Approve regular meeting minutes of June 29, 2020

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Piekarski, to approve the June 29, 2020 meeting minutes. **The motion was approved 7-0, Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions

Associate Traffic Engineer Nelson introduced new Committee Member Matt Maciel.

Member Maciel provided his biography and expressed his excitement for the opportunity to serve.

3. Public comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda

None.

MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

4. City Council 2021-2022 Two-Year Work Plan Prioritization Process

Associate Traffic Engineer Nelson introduced the item.

Sr. Management Analyst Welch presented a PowerPoint summarizing the process, and requesting the Committee consider its short-term goals for the next two years.

City Traffic Engineer Tassano presented potential BPTC related priorities including Design West Las Positas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements; Design Santa Rita Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements; Design Foothill Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements; and Implement New Traffic Signal Technology.

Andre Pegeron discussed his biking experience in the City and suggested a system of maps, paths and signage orienting people to streets for bicyclists. He encouraged input via his email address and requested the Committee share its opinion on feasibility.

Member Houston asked if the new traffic signal would include signals for pedestrians. City Traffic Engineer Tassano discussed the proposed traffic signal technology including vehicle to infrastructure communication.

In response to Member Maciel, City Traffic Engineer Tassano and Associate Traffic Engineer Nelson confirmed that the West Las Positas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements project was the soonest to be implemented; explained the proposed elements and five phases of the project; discussed the goal to make the bike lanes feel safer, neighborhood outreach and community feedback, existing examples of the proposed delineators, bike lane use counts, protected spaces, and bulb out design.

In response to Member Piekarski, Management Analyst Welch stated a Council workshop would be conducted on the priorities. City Traffic Engineer Tassano clarified the location and cost of the pilot project; proposed improved traffic signal technology; likelihood of the Foothill project moving forward in the coming two years; and Master Plan and Regional Trail.

Member Piekarski expressed concern about the crossing of Santa Rita Road.

Member Nelson requested the description of the West Las Positas improvements be corrected. He asked if the Foothill project would lower traffic stress. Traffic City Engineer Tassano discussed the Merrit property and inclusion of land for protected bicycle lanes. Member Nelson suggested taking more credit for the completed trails. He discussed the results of the survey he conducted on Facebook. He discussed the need to combine the priorities of the Trails Master Plan and Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Member Piekarski suggested adding a part-time staff dedicated to bicycle and pedestrian issues.

Member Nelson suggested adding to the list of priorities the Arroyo Del Valle Trail and a bike boulevard and wayfinding to direct bicycles away from the busier streets.

A motion was made by Member Piekarski, seconded by Member Nelson to add a priority for a part-time staff dedicated to bicycle and pedestrian issues. **The motion was approved 7-0, Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Houston to add the Arroyo Trail project and wayfinding to the list of priorities. **The motion was approved 7-0, Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

Member Houston stated his guiding principle was to consider projects that lowered the level of traffic stress. He discussed the need to balance between accomplishing visible projects with studies. City Traffic Engineer Tassano discussed funding allowing for smaller spot projects.

Member Maciel suggested adding a priority to resurface the Arroyo Mocho and Centennial Trails. Member Nelson discussed the willingness of Zone 7. City Traffic Engineer Tassano discussed the maintenance and access agreement with Zone 7. He clarified the location of the Arroyo del Valle fair weather trail.

Member Piekarski reminded the Committee of the infeasibility of the Arroyo Del Valle Trail as referenced in the Trails Master Plan.

Member Nelson encouraged completion of the Arroyo Del Valle Trail.

A motion was made by Member Maciel, seconded by Member Nelson, to add the improvements to the surfaces of Arroyo Mocho and Centennial Trails to the list of priorities. **The motion was approved 7-0, Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

A motion was made by Chair Deckert, to prioritize as follows:

1. West Las Positas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements;
2. Design Santa Rita Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements;
3. Design Foothill Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
4. Implement New Traffic Signal Technology

5. Arroyo Mocho and Centennial Trail improvements and Arroyo trail from downtown to Shadow Cliffs
6. Bike boulevard and wayfinding
7. Part-time staff

An alternate motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Piekarski, to prioritize as follows:

1. West Las Positas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements;
2. Design Santa Rita Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements;

Chair Deckert withdrew his motion.

The alternate motion was approved 5-2, Members Maciel and Nelson dissenting, and Pace and Shulenberg absent.

A motion was made by Member Piekarski, seconded by Member Nelson, to remove Design Foothill Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements from the list of priorities. **The motion was approved 5-2, Chair Deckert and Member Nigro dissenting, and Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

A motion was made by Member Piekarski, seconded by Member Nelson, to remove traffic signal technology from the list of priorities. **The motion was approved 5-2, Chair Deckert and Member Sririam dissenting, and Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

A motion was made by Member Houston, seconded by Member Nelson, to prioritize resurfacing of Arroyo Mocho and Centennial as the third priority. **The motion was approved 7-0, Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

In response to Member Nelson, City Traffic Engineer Tassano stated it was unlikely that staff would be added due to budget constraints.

A motion was made by Member Piekarski, seconded by Member Nelson, to prioritize wayfinding as the fourth priority. **The motion failed 4-3, Chair Deckert and Members Maciel and Sriram dissenting, and Members Pace and Shulenberg absent.**

5. Status Update on the West Las Positas Boulevard Corridor Plan

Associate Traffic Engineer Nelson provided a brief update on the WLP Corridor Plan, indicating it would be considered by the Council on February 16, 2021.

Member Piekarski expressed concern that the plan still did not show improvements to Santa Rita Road. City Traffic Engineer Tassano discussed the proposed pilot project, indicating Santa Rita was Phase 3.

Member Maciel expressed concern about the aesthetics of plastic delineators. Associate Traffic Engineer explained it as a compromise to obtain feedback.

Member Piekarski discussed the history of dislike of removing lanes and stated temporary barriers were a solution to move forward.

In response to Member Maciel, City Traffic Engineer Tassano explained that the alternative mixed use path along the south side was cost prohibitive. He presented potential designs for delineators.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Updates from the Parks and Recreation Commission

Chair Deckert summarized the recent meeting of the Commission at which it determined its priorities.

7. Updates from Project/Program/Agency Representatives

None.

8. Other brief reports on any meetings, conferences, and/or seminars attended by the Committee members

None.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

None.

STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Deckert adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.