

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, January 28, 2009, 7:00 PM, AT LOS ALTOS CITY HALL, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA

PRESENT: Chair Crook, Vice Chair Gallagher, Commissioners Chan, Davidson, Ayers, Tollinger and Pasturel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lead by: Chair Crook

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following Los Altos residents addressed the Commission:

Sandy Sams, commented on children bicycling to school on Campbell Avenue and was in favor of the striping of Campbell Avenue.

BPAC member, Jim Fenton also commented on the striping of Campbell Avenue between Cuesta Avenue and Rosita Avenue and was in favor of the striping.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Commissioner Chan and seconded by Commissioner Davidson, the following was approved unanimously:

1. Minutes
Approval of minutes – Special Meeting of December 3, 2008

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Striping on Campbell Avenue
Discussion and recommendation on edge of travel way striping on Campbell Avenue.

The Commissioner's discussed the striping and suggested that the following corrections be made; 4200 feet should be 2200 feet and the \$4000 cost should be \$2000.

On a motion to strip the street with 10 foot travel lanes by Commissioner Gallagher, seconded by Commissioner Tollinger, and passed unanimously.

3. CIP Prioritization

Mayor Satterlee gave direction to the Traffic Commission on how to proceed with CIP prioritization recommendations. She suggested that priorities be color coded, showing what was moved up, moved down and what has been cancelled. Mayor Satterlee also directed the Commissioners to propose two new projects.

After a lengthy discussion for CIP prioritization the Commissioners decided on the following:

On a motion by Commissioner Crook to keep ADA priorities that were set in April 2008 and seconded by Commissioner Davidson, and passed unanimously, the following was approved.

ADA category projects: based upon the Commission's understanding that the three (3) in-process ADA projects (ADA Compliant Pedestrian Push Buttons; Audible Pedestrian Signals; Countdown Pedestrian Signal Heads) will consume both the 2008/2009 and 2009/1010 CDBG CIP funding, our 4/23/2008 communiqué to Council regarding future ADA priorities still holds:

1. ADA access into Rancho Center at the northwest corner of Foothill Expressway and Springer Road. This project will be a combined City / County Roads project.
2. Berry Ave wheel chair ramps – rectify deficiencies at three ramps locations: SW corner of Golden/Berry; SW corner of Russell/Berry; SW corner of Springer/Berry. The current deficiency can eject the occupant when the wheel chair bottoms out.
3. Municipal Service Center Driveway modifications to make the crossing sidewalk ADA compliant.

None of the above three (3) are currently defined as Capital Improvement Projects. Doing so would allow the projects to be included in the five year plan.

On a motion by Commissioner Tollinger to accept as transcribed and seconded by Commissioner Gallagher the motion passed unanimously:

Pedestrian / Bicycle category projects: the Commission's top four priorities for projects (that are not driven by a funded grant) are:

1. Bicycle Transportation Plan Update – VTA views the city's current plan as obsolete, potentially jeopardizing future VTA grant funding for pedestrian and bicycle projects.
2. Pedestrian Master Plan – without an inventory of existing facilities and a prioritized list of established needs, requests for new pedestrian facilities tend to generate needless churn and often become politicalized. The Pedestrian Master Plan could encompass the CIP 'Citywide Pathways Master Plan' (project to build Class I pathways along collector roadways). The development of a Pedestrian Master Plan needs to be moved up from the current 2010/2011 time frame.
3. El Monte Bicycle Lane Improvements at Summerhill – a hazard elimination that needs to be addressed before Los Altos Hills completes segment 5 of the El Monte Road / Moody Road bicycle pedestrian path project.
4. Bicycle Loops at Signalized Intersections – when an intersection is signalized, Caltrans standards expect the signals to work for both motorized vehicles as well as bicycles. BPAC has identified for staff a number of intersections where either the existing bicycle loops are not working or bicycle loops were never installed.

The CIP Bicycle Boulevard Feasibility Study, scheduled for the 2011/2012 year, can be moved out of the current 5 year plan to facilitate other pedestrian / bicycle projects.

School category projects and potential Safe Routes to School grant applications: the Commission recommends one of the following candidates for the 4/15/2009 State SR2S submission:

1. The July 2008 Federal SR2S grant application that was not selected for funding:
 - Five foot wide Portland cement sidewalk along W. Portola Ave from Egan School to Westminster
 - Speed hump on W. Portola at Carmel Ave to slow vehicle speeds
 - Edge of roadway line along entire north portion of W. Portola Ave (Los Altos Ave. to San Antonio Road) and along south portion in front of Egan School
2. Portions of the ‘in-process’ Carmel Terrace NTMP that directly benefit the Blach school commute, such as a Class I pathway to provide student bicyclists an alternative to the roadway.

Staff to make final determination for submission.

4. 2009 Goals
Discussion and recommendation of 2009 goals.

Continued to February 25, 2009 meeting. Commissioner Crook directed the commissioners to come to this meeting with recommendations for three goals.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND DIRECTIONS ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Prioritize list of intersections needing pedestrian improvements.
2. Ranking methodology for pedestrian accidents.
3. Elect new Chair person.
4. Red light camera.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Crook adjourned the meeting at 9:12 pm

Dawn Silva
Secretary to the Traffic Commission