

MINUTES OF THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE LOS ALTOS YOUTH CENTER, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA

PRESENT: Wes Brinsfield (Chair), Randy Kreigh, Suzanne Ambiel (Vice-Chair), Jim Fenton, Nadim Maluf, Cedric Novenario (Staff Liaison)

ABSENT: Jerry Chester, one open seat

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Gary Hedden, representing GreenTown Los Altos, provided comments promoting 3rd Street Green and a bike rodeo at Hillview Community Center

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Minutes

On a motion by Commissioner Ambiel, seconded by Commissioner Kriegh, the meeting minutes for July 27, 2016 is approved, including a provision to state any approved amendments for an agenda item on the meeting minutes. Passed 5-0.

2. Miramonte Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements – Conceptual Design

Staff and the consulting project team, Bellecci and Associates, presented three design concepts for bicycle and pedestrian improvements on Miramonte Avenue. The design concepts included alternatives: (note, all improvements are proposed in the public right-of-way)

- Alternative #1 Class I Pathway
- Alternative #2 Class II (bike lanes) with an accessible walkway
- Alternative #3 Class III (bike route) with an accessible walkway

In addition, Fehr and Peers, a sub-consultant, presented an analysis called Level of Traffic Stress. This analysis evaluates how it feels for a bicyclist to traverse the corridor given the varying alternatives for the project. The result of their analysis yields that Alternative #2 - Class II option is more desirable for bicycle infrastructure.

The project team also recommended Alternative #2. This option was selected based on several factors:

- Provides improvements for both bicycle and pedestrian travel modes
- Provides the most continuous bicycle infrastructure improvements with the added benefit of vehicle-bike separation
- Least impactful to trees and utilities compared to Alternative #1, but not compared to Alternative #3
- More cost effective compared to Alternative #1, but not compared to Alternative #3

It should be noted that on-street parking may be impacted with the addition of bike lanes.

The commission expressed the following concerns as the project moves forward:

- Conduct a parking study of the area to understand parking impacts if Alternative #2 is selected.
- Value infrastructure continuity
- Accommodate all users of the road
- Try and improve Level of Traffic Stress score
- Facility maintenance
- Obtain more bicycle and pedestrian data for the corridor

The public in attendance expressed the following concerns regarding the project in general:

- Question and concerns regarding the Level of Traffic Stress analysis. Is it appropriate?
- Do nothing on Miramonte Avenue
- Concern over a Class I pathway. It is already difficult to get out of my driveway.
- Happy with existing conditions
- Don't want landscaped areas
- Concern of parking loss
- Concern regarding property being taken away
- Need tree trimming for improved visibility
- The existing AC berms are an issue and need to be more visible or raised
- Vehicle speed is more of an issue
- Concerns regarding rain run-off or an increase of rain run-off
- Supportive/in favor of improvements
- Need more clarification on the project and study details

On a motion by Commissioner Maluf, seconded by Commissioner Ambiel, the BPAC requests future evaluation of Alternative #2 with a request for additional clarification on the following:

- Parking impacts (study)
- Maintenance impacts to the City
- Evaluate ingress/egress for residential driveways
- How project would be landscaped, if desired
- Extend project scope to south city limits
- Maintain bicycle infrastructure continuity as much as possible
- Additional public input if feasible
- Report back to the commission

Passed 5-0.

3. Bicycle Transportation Plan

Commissioners Chester and Maluf provided an update on their work on the subcommittee. In general, the subcommittee agreed that the BTP would benefit from a revision. The subcommittee will strive to obtain high level vehicle and bicycle data as a start. Some initiatives that could be packaged with the BTP include Vision Zero and a merging of the Pedestrian Master Plan and BTP into one document.

4. Bicycle/Pedestrian Education – Event Planning

Commissioners Brinsfield and Ambiel provided an update on their work on the subcommittee. The subcommittee came to a conclusion that a non-governmental agency, such as GreenTown Los Altos, provides the optimal conditions for an open-exchange type forum where residents and members of the commission (as members of the public) can participate. In the event the subcommittee could not find a willing organization to host this education event, the subcommittee suggests a staff report be presented a commission meeting. The commission generally supports the subcommittee to identify an outside organization willing to host such an event.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. Monthly Staff Reports

Staff liaison updated the Commission on related City Projects.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wes Brinsfield adjourned the meeting at 10:21 P.M.