

DATE: September 27, 2017

AGENDA ITEM # 3



TO: Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

FROM: Susanna Chan, Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Complete Streets Commission Discussion

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss Work Plan and Training for the New Complete Streets Commission

BACKGROUND

At the September 12, 2017 City Council meeting, Ordinance No. 2017-434 was introduced converting the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) to a Complete Streets Commission. The Ordinance moves commission jurisdiction for transportation-related matters from the Planning and Transportation Commission (eliminating Transportation from the title of this commission) to the BPAC, and renames BPAC to the Complete Streets Commission. The Council is scheduled to approve Ordinance No. 2017-434 at its September 26, 2017 and the Ordinance will become effective 31 days after adoption.

DISCUSSION

Under Ordinance 2017-434, the jurisdiction of all transportation-related matters will fall under the purview of the new Complete Streets Commission. Specific responsibilities of the new Complete Streets Commission include:

- Help to create multi-modal transportation solutions and policies that enable safe, attractive, comfortable and independent access and travel for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and motorists of all ages and abilities, including connectivity across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Shall advise the Council on existing and proposed City policies related to traffic calming and traffic enforcement.
- Shall advise the Council on projects and budget priorities for transportation-related capital improvements.
- Provide for community engagement and serve as a conduit for community input.

Additionally, the new commission will review development projects and act in an advisory capacity to the City Council on traffic, bicycle, pedestrian, and parking matters related to the development projects.

Work Plan

With this upcoming change, it is prudent for the BPAC to review its current Work Plan and make modifications accordingly to be consistent with the new commission roles and responsibilities. The existing BPAC Work Plan is attached for reference.

To aid the discussion, the draft Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Capital Project Complete Street Checklist is also attached as a reference. The draft checklist is designed to be used as a reporting requirement for Measure B funded capital improvement projects. It is intended to document existing conditions and the types of Complete Streets infrastructure to be provided with the capital projects. Please note that the checklist is a draft document and currently being reviewed by various VTA committees. Modifications to the checklist are anticipated.

Training

The BPAC has expressed interest in the past to receive training on transportation related topics. With the pending change of responsibilities, it is even more important to provide training to commission members to be better prepared for the new role. Based on the discussion of the commission, staff will arrange speakers if necessary and schedule trainings in future meetings. Some initial suggested topics include:

- Traffic calming on local and collector streets
- General Plan, with focus on Circulation Element which is a component of the General Plan
- Development project review
- County expressway operation and future planning
- Green Infrastructure and Stormwater Management

Attachments:

1. Existing BPAC Work Plan
2. Draft VTA Capital Project Complete Streets Checklist