

MINUTES OF THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT
THE LOS ALTOS CITY HALL-COMMUNITY CHAMBERS, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO
ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA

PRESENT: Suzanne Ambiel (Chair), Wes Brinsfield (Vice Chair), Jim Fenton, Steve Hindman,
Randy Kriegh, Nadim Maluf, Jeannie Bruins (Council Liaison), Susanna Chan (Staff
Liaison)

ABSENT: Jerry Chester

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Jim Wing suggested different traffic considerations once BPAC is officially Complete Streets
Commission.

Mr. Gary Hedden provided items of interest regarding Greentown, including an update on the
bicycle tour of the City, a traffic mitigation meeting that was rescheduled from September 18, 2017
to October 23, 2017, and concerns about adding a bike rack by Red Berry.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Minutes

Upon a motion by Brinsfield seconded by Kriegh, the Commission approved the minutes of July 26,
2017, by the following vote: AYES: Five. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: One. ABSENT: One. Passed 5-
0

Upon a motion by Maluf seconded by Hindman, the Commission approved the minutes of September
6, 2017, by the following vote: AYES: Four. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Two. ABSENT: One. Passed
4-0

2. Linden Avenue Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan

Commissioner Kriegh recused himself from the discussion.

Staff Liaison Chan and Traffic Engineer Daniel Varela provided an overview of the current project.
The NTMP is part the City's commitment to safety and livability of residential neighborhoods. It is
designed to address two specific issues-speeding, and volume of vehicles. Residents do provide input
and a neighborhood consensus must be reached for projects to continue. Once approved, the
residents will be responsible for 50% of the cost of the improvement. If they are unable to do so,
the project will be cancelled. Once the improvement is in, we will collect data to evaluate the
effectiveness of the improvement.

The process started last year after receiving a petition. Data was collected for speed and volume and
this data met only one out of two criteria, but one is all that is required. This was followed by a
neighborhood meeting on May 24, 2017 and speed humps were suggested. Ballots went out to the
residents on June 12th and based on the votes, it was decided that there would be two humps with

the location fitting the support of the neighbors. Emergency services have approved the locations. If BPAC/CSC recommends approval, this will go to Council. If approved by Council, the project will be funded with the residents being responsible for 50% of the cost of the improvement. If they are unable to do so, the project will be cancelled. Once the improvement is in, data will be collected to evaluate the effectiveness of the improvement.

Commissioners comments/questions covered clarification of speed and volume criteria, clarification of the data involved in the process, concerns over the effect on surrounding streets, and concerns that because BPAC is acting as Transportation on this issue, the public may not be able to speak on this subject if they were not aware that this would not be going to the Planning and Transportation Commission.

Public Comments from nine residents provided feedback and were in favor of the proposed calming measure. The majority would also like to see additional measures to better control speed and volume, as well as, increase safety for the children going to and from school. Suggestions included striping, crosswalks, signage, and a stop sign.

Discussion/comments: Commissioners were generally in favor of the traffic calming measures with one against due to the conflicting wording in the NTMP packet. Commissioners are also in favor of additional options to make this a safer passage, especially regarding making it a safer route to school.

There was an initial motion to recommend moving forward with the measures as approved by residents of Linden Avenue. Commissioner Maluf seconded the motion with a caveat to clarify that this is a BPAC recommendation. Chair Ambiel advised that the public should be noticed that this will not go to the PTC. She suggested a motion to recommend that the plan goes to council for approval, subject to the fact that it was decided as BPAC's recommendation and that the public be notified that this will not be going to the PTC. Council will make the final decision. Commissioners accepted modifications to motion. Motion and second accepted. Vote was 4-1 for with one abstention.

3. Complete Streets Commission Discussion

On September 26, 2017, City Council approved changing BPAC to Complete Streets Commission, taking effect 31 days after adoption. The Complete Streets Commission will advise the Council of existing and proposed city policies related to traffic calming and traffic enforcement. The commission will advise the council on projects, budgets, priorities for transportation related capital improvements and provide for community engagement and serve as a conduit for community input. The Commission will review development projects in an advisory capacity to the Council and advise regarding traffic, bike, pedestrian, and parking matters related to transportation projects. BPAC would like to receive training to prepare themselves for this transition. Potential training topic may include:

- Traffic calming on local and collector streets
- Modification of current NTMP documents
- Understanding the General Plan and the principals for transportation related matters in the City
- Planning process-Developmental plan review-traffic, parking, pedestrians-what to look for when reviewing documents
- County expressway
- Green infrastructure and storm water management

- Complete Street Checklist (still under review)-used as a tool so that projects funded by Measure B will make requirements. (Measure B has been out on hold pending lawsuit.)

Commissioner questions were focused on the General Plan and when the Transportation section is scheduled to be updated and whether certain aspects of the Plan can be updated as needed. The current General Plan is scheduled to be updated in 2020.

Public comments by two residents mentioned that the packet leaves out one element-cut through traffic, and that we need to keep the focus on children-safe routes to schools, ADA and the elderly.

Commissioner discussion revolved around the following issues:

- Changing the commission charter and how it will impact the work plan
- Developing a deeper understanding of the NTMP-how it works, how it is changed, how documents are merged
- Working with the Police Department to understand current traffic flows, incidents, vehicular patterns
- Looking at concerns as a community-beyond Complete Streets-are we solving the right problems with the right tools
- Developing a new work plan now that the role has expanded
- Reviewing of development projects, what will be the process?
 - Commission will review transportation and Planning will take our input in reviewing the project as a whole aspect of the development projects
- Continuing training and education regarding traffic impacts, traffic analysis, speed surveys, best practices
- Training/study sessions-frequency, length

Council Liaison Bruins recommended bringing the work plan to Council on November 7th and suggests having a work plan for the work plan. The work plan can be on the agenda for October 25th. She also suggested helpful documents to know before getting started would be transportation, collector street plan, and traffic calming and considering using VTA for a resource as they have trainings, modules, and speakers that can be used. They work with many cities, so are familiar with cross issues. The hardest task will be prioritization.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. Monthly Staff Report

Staff liaison updated the Commission on the following items:

- Transportation Services Manager-Aruna Bodunna will start October 9th. She comes from Santa Clara County as their Transportation Planner. She has a Civil Engineering degree and is a PE. She also serves as the liaison to the county BPAC
- West Edith-Waiting for electrical equipment to be delivered. Project should be finished by the end of October
- Covington Pathway Bike and Sidewalk Improvement Project-accepted by City Council
- Annual Pathway Rehab Project- accepted by City Council

- Illuminated Crosswalk-Infrastructure in, some bugs in system, contractor working on punch list items
- Paving Project-Phase 1, complete. Phase 2, surface treatment, has begun. Phase 2 involves 18 miles of streets that will be cape and slurry sealed and then restriped.
- There was a joint meeting between the cities of Los Altos, Sunnyvale and Cupertino school districts on September 14th. Los Altos provided updates about school routes improvements. Goals of the group and frequencies of future meetings were discussed. Public comments included the need for developing a safe route to schools for children traveling between Los Altos and Cupertino and the need for improvements in the area.
- Hillview Community Center-a joint session between the Task Force and Council and the Council supported the Task Force's recommendations and added \$10 million to the project. The seven items for consideration were: building quality, functionality, upgrading building from silver to gold, enhanced pedestrian connectivity within civic center campus, increase area by 3000 sq. ft., increase outer program space, and refinish existing parking lot. The additional funding includes \$1 million to pedestrian access.
- Accessibility around the construction site at 467 First St. During the last meeting, the issue of accessibility at construction sites was brought up by a resident who had a difficult time navigating the area. This brought up questions as to how we addressed ADA accessibility issues around construction sites. We reached out to the resident to get a better understanding of the issues we need to address. We reviewed the detour plans for this project and although they were sufficient for the immediate area, the detour for pedestrians lead to a portion of the street where there was no sidewalk, causing him to go into the street. Once we realized this was an issue, they added a safe pathway utilizing on-street parking spaces. We do not have the staffing to follow a project all the time, so we may not see issues unless there is a problem.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioners Brinsfield, Fenton, Kreigh and Maluf reported on events/meetings that they attended.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Work plan
- Presentation on expressway operations and bicycle and pedestrian actuation. Invitations have been extended.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Suzanne Ambiel adjourned the meeting at 10:15 P.M.