

MINUTES OF THE COMPLETE STREETS COMMISSION (FORMERLY THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION) OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE LOS ALTOS YOUTH CENTER, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA

PRESENT: Suzanne Ambiel (Chair), Wes Brinsfield (Vice Chair), Jerry Chester, Steve Hindman, Randy Kriegh, Nadim Maluf, Lynette Eng (Council Liaison), Susanna Chan (Staff Liaison), Aruna Bodduna (Staff Liaison)

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Minutes

Upon a motion by Jim Fenton, seconded by Randy Kriegh, the Commission approved the minutes of February 28, 2018, by the following vote: AYES: Six. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Maluf. ABSENT: None. Passed 6-0

2. Traffic Calming Plan on Cuesta Drive Between El Monte and Springer

Staff presented information on existing conditions on Cuesta Drive between El Monte and Springer, that included report from Police Department (PD) staff on enforcement along this stretch of the roadway. PD report included information on commercial vehicle violations, speeding, stop sign violations and right-of-way violations. and the proposed traffic calming measures for this roadway. To address the speeding issues along this roadway, staff worked with the neighborhood representatives to identify traffic calming measures. Staff presented the proposed traffic calming plan that includes raised intersections at Cuesta/Arboleda and Cuesta/Clark. Additional improvements include shoulder area improvements and gateway median improvements at the intersection with Cuesta.

Questions/Comments:

Commission members had questions regarding duration of enforcement, pedestrian/bicycle violations, shoulder violations (cars driving on the shoulder area) and stop sign violations. Questions on traffic calming devices used on local roads and collector streets. What is the cost for the design for traffic calming device as such as raised intersection? What are advantages for reclassification of Cuesta to Local Collector? Can signal at Cuesta/Springer be included in this project? What are the impacts on the parallel streets such as Arboleda? What is the time period for before and after traffic studies to assess the impacts on the parallel streets? Is raised intersection an effective solution to reduce speeds? Will the before and after traffic counts be conducted when the schools are in session? What streets will be considered as parallel streets to be included in the traffic studies? Can flashing stop sign be implemented at Cuesta at Campbell? What is the current lane width and pavement width along Cuesta?

Public Comments:

Resident Rick Amerson requested clarification on the 85th percentile speed and Cuesta/El Monte intersection improvements. He observed vehicles passing in the opposite direction on Cuesta and at Springer.

Resident Jerry Wright expressed concern about cut through traffic and supports traffic calming measures such as raised intersection and other improvements.

Resident Jaya Kamath supports the Cuesta traffic calming plan.

Resident Howard Kurasaki stated that speeds have increased in recent years and supports any traffic calming measures to slow down vehicles. He also noted the impacts on Arboleda.

Resident Brent Rolland stated that raised intersection could reduce traffic volume. He expressed speeding concerns that occur at night.

Resident Michiko Hashimoto expressed concerns of current traffic spilling onto Arboleda and accidents occurring at Campbell and Arboleda.

Resident Susan Evard expressed concerns about speeding and safety concerns such as cars passing on the right, into the bike lanes. She stated that traffic should stay on Foothill and supports the Cuesta traffic calming plan.

Resident Suresh Babu supports the Cuesta traffic calming plan.

Resident Murthy Bobba supports the Cuesta traffic calming plan. However, does not support raised intersection at Arboleda due to noise impacts, and suggested roundabouts or other measures.

Resident Jim Davidson advised the commission to consider level of service (LOS) requirements, needs of emergency vehicles, and impacts on adjacent local streets.

Resident Ceanne Ruehle stated that Arboleda is already utilized as a cut-through street and traffic calming is needed on Arboleda.

Resident Rainer Schulz supports the Cuesta traffic calming plan and expressed the need for a raised crosswalk at Campbell and Cuesta for safety concerns.

Resident Kelly Berman supports the Cuesta traffic calming plan and expressed the need for traffic calming measures on Arboleda.

Resident Ann Marie Joel expressed support for a permanent and inclusive speed and volume reduction plan, including side streets such as Arboleda.

Resident Girish Patangay supports the raised intersection.

Resident Mark expressed concern about a speeding issue and how enforcement is addressing such issues.

Resident Chang Lee expressed concern about speeding on Arboleda.

Discussion:

Commission members generally favored the traffic calming plan for Cuesta between El Monte and Springer, and emphasized need for additional traffic studies to be included on the parallel streets. Commission Member Hindman made a motion to move the project into the design as proposed, amended by Commission Member Brinsfield to consider exploring options for improvements at the intersections of El Monte/Cuesta and Arboleda/Cuesta and bring back to the commission as to what can be done at those intersections. Motion was seconded by Commission Member Maluf and was unanimously approved.

Additionally, Chair Ambiel recommended to start investigation for traffic calming plan on Arboleda and work with the residents along Arboleda.

3. VTA's Complete Streets Policy

VTA staff Lauren Ledbetter presented information on their recently adopted Complete Streets Policy and what it means for the transportation projects delivered by VTA.

Questions/Comments:

Commission members had questions if there was any relation between complete streets policy and vision zero? What can VTA do help deal with cut through traffic issues within Los Altos through this policy?

4. VTA's Pedestrian Access to Transit Plan

VTA staff Lauren Ledbetter presented information on the Pedestrian Access to Transit Plan and provided overview of recommended projects identified in the focus area within the City along El Camino Real near El Monte Avenue.

Questions/Comments:

What is the process to implement the projects identified in the focus area? Will City initiate the project implementation and go after funding?

Discussion:

Commission members said that there needs to be a way to make public transit more attractive for transportation mode choice in Los Altos.

5. Bike to Work Day Plan

Commission members support the upcoming Bike to Work Day scheduled for May 10. Energizer station will be located at Foothill/Main by Lincoln Park. Vice-chair Brinsfield will be the point of contact for this activity. Formal planning will be discussed at next meeting.

6. Workplan Sub-Committee Report

Work-plan subcommittee met once in March to further refine the work plan to align with the Commission vision and goals. This workplan was presented to the City Council at the joint session on March 27, 2018. There were no further revisions made to the workplan presented to the City Council.

Public Comments:

Resident Harry Guy asked the commission to prioritize local street traffic calming plan as a network approach and consider updating the NTMP.

Discussion:

Commission members discussed about engaging with the neighboring jurisdiction per Council's direction. This could be used as a tool (cross-jurisdiction coordination). Commission members agreed that the work plan is a living document and may be revised, as needed depending on projects/priorities.

There were no further revisions made to the workplan presented to the City Council. Chair Ambiel disbanded the sub-committee.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. Monthly Staff Report

Staff requested changes to the Commission Agenda – Community Center project will be presented in June and El Camino Development project will be moved to May.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Vice-chair reported on the VTA BPAC meeting.

Member Fenton reported on the Planning Commission meeting on March 1, 2018 and an upcoming referral to Complete Streets Commission.

Chair Ambiel requested elections to be conducted in May, if there is a lack of quorum in April.

Chair Ambiel recognized Member Fenton for his service over the last ten years on the Commission.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Bike to Work Day Planning
- Potential for a special meeting in May

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Suzanne Ambiel adjourned the meeting at 10:20 P.M.