

MINUTES OF THE COMPLETE STREETS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019 AT 7:00 PM AT THE LOS ALTOS CITY
HALL-COMMUNITY CHAMBERS, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS,
CALIFORNIA

PRESENT: Suzanne Ambiel (Vice Chair), Stacy Banerjee, Randy Kriegh, Bob Jones,
Herprit Mahal, Jaime Rodriguez (Interim Staff Liaison)

ABSENT: Nadim Maluf (Chair), Paul Van Hoorickx

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Minutes

Commissioner Ambiel, Commissioner Jones, and Commissioner Mahal were not present during February meeting. Commissioner Maluf and Commissioner Hoorickx, who were present during the February meeting, are not present this meeting. Minutes of February 27, 2019 will be approved in the April meeting.

2. Cuesta Drive – Arboleda Drive Traffic Calming Project

Interim Staff Liaison Jaime Rodriguez and Consultants from Alta Planning Carlos Valadao and Joe Paull presented the item for discussion. The presentation included the following:

- Removal of the raised intersection concept on Cuesta Drive
- Addition of Arboleda Drive and Campbell Avenue to the project scope
- Various options of traffic calming measures such as all-way stops, speed humps, speed tables, lane reduction, and crosswalks.

Staff plans to receive feedbacks from the Commission and the community to finalize the plan to propose to City Council in May.

Commissioner Comments and Questions with answers from Staff:

- Is speed reduction the main focus? – Yes, the goal of the project is to reduce the 85th percentile to an enforceable level.
- What is the solar lighting option showed in the plan? – A street light that will illuminate the new crosswalk during night time.
- How is the budget for this project? – Moving away from raised intersection to the current plan with speed humps and speed tables has reduced the project cost.

- There is an existing policy to petition for speed humps in local street that involves neighborhood voting and contributing payment, will this project operate outside of this policy? – Yes, the project recommendation will be made to City Council for approval.
- Was there any feedback from school community or the PTA? – School administrators at Covington made inquiry regarding project notification. There were no other feedbacks.
- Are we aware of where the kids from school are crossing the streets in the school routes? – Traffic study is under analysis, City staff also seeks feedback from the community to know where kids are crossing.
- Are the City Stop sign policy used for this project? – Yes.
- What speed reduction are expected? – Goal is to reach close to 25 MPH for both Cuesta Drive and Arboleda Drive.
- Is the ongoing traffic study focusing on not only the vehicle traffic but also the bicyclists and pedestrians? – Yes
- How effective is the visual narrowing of the edge lines? – Visual narrowing is somewhat effective initially but becomes less effective over time. The use of visual narrowing in combination with the speed humps and speed tables will greatly increase the chance of speed reduction. Narrowing of striping may help bike lane implementation in the future as well.
- Is increased Police presence considered? – No, Police officer cannot enforce speed on Cuesta Drive until after the 85th percentile has dropped as a result of this project.
- Is the fire department involved in the project? – This will be planned for future.
- Will we be able to install a Stop sign even if the intersection fails to be warranted? – Yes, with the neighborhood's need and council approval as a corridor treatment, Stop signs can be installed without a warrant. Warrant studies are still being analyzed.
- Will there be a multi-way Stop sign study on Cuesta Drive and Springer Road even though there is already an existing all-way Stop? – No, there will not be a study for all-way stop study. There is however a study for Cuesta Drive approach to Springer for lane reduction and median sign relocation.
- Was there any spillover potential study onto Paco Drive as a result of this project? – There will likely be similar studies at Paco to address some of the concerns from residents.
- Is there any consideration for bike traffic? – Bike lane addition would be ideal, we don't know if it can be implemented as of now due to street width.

Public Comments:

- Residents raised examples of speed humps/tables in other neighborhood and their effectiveness to be considered in the current design.
- Several residents raised concern for traffic spillover onto Paco Drive, Benvenue Avenue and South Clark Avenue.
- Main purpose of the median on Springer Road is to deter semi-trucks from entering Cuesta Drive, need to keep the median.

- Cuesta Drive approach to Springer Road backs up and blocks driveways. Lane reduction will make this worse.
- Turn restriction to deter cut through traffic.
- Bikeway path to help bikers.

Additional Commission Comments and Questions:

- Good project changes in terms of overall coverage and cost. Concerned for the bypass of speed hump installation policy for this project, other neighborhood may want the same treatment. Stated the importance to set the goal to reduce speed in order to make Cuesta Drive enforceable.
- Recommend proper outreach notification to schools. Request for cumulative impact for cut through traffic analysis. Staff should point out streets that will be effected as a result of this project and address these streets in future project. Parking restriction is needed for back of school, but make sure parents don't use it as a new drop-off location. Shoulder striping for Arboleda Drive, visual narrowing to help bikers and pedestrian.
- Urges more attention to pedestrian and bikers as part of the project scope. PTA should be approached for notifying school parents.

3. VTA BPAC and Traffic Safe Communities Network

City of Los Altos seeks VTA BPAC and TSCN representative from the Los Altos Community.

Jim Fenton, a former Complete Streets Commissioner, who was recommended last meeting, has declined to represent VTA BPAC. Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Mahal will review the detail of the VTA BPAC to respond to this item. No recommendation or volunteer was made during the meeting.

Commissioner Banerjee has volunteered to continue to attend Traffic Safe Communities Network meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. Monthly Staff Report

- Cuesta Drive – Arboleda Drive Project will be brought back next meeting in April 24th.
- City Hall Council Chamber will be shut down due to construction during April and May.
 - April 24th Complete Streets Commission meeting will take place at Los Altos Youth Center (1 North San Antonio Road).
 - May 22nd meeting will take place at Hillview Community Center (97 Hillview Avenue).

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- Question on Cuesta Drive project's budget.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Blach School and City Council joint meeting
- Bike to work day in May
- Bike lane on Foothill Expressway discussion
- Measure B project at El Monte and Foothill
- 2020 Work Plan
- Cumulative Traffic Analysis

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ambiel adjourned the meeting at 9:10 PM