



City of Davis
Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC)
Minutes
Community Chambers, City Hall
February 9, 2017
5:30 p.m.

Commission Members: Frances Andrews, Earl Bossard, Ryan Dodge, Daniel Fuchs (Vice-Chair), Eric Gudz, George Hague, Andrew Hart, Mike Mitchell (Chair), Jon Watterson

Council Liaisons: Brett Lee, Robb Davis (alternative)

Staff: Brian Mickelson, Assistant City Engineer / Transportation Manager

Absent: Brian Abbanat, Senior Transportation Planner

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair

Mike Mitchell was elected Chair.

Dan Fuchs was elected Vice-Chair.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda (Bossard, Fuchs).

Motion carries unanimously.

4. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

Brian Mickelson announced the joint Council discussion will be held on March 7th. Agenda will be out soon and the meeting starts at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Hart gave kudos to staff for leveling out pathway near playfields park.

Commissioner Watterson inquired whether the BTSSC was involved with the Hyatt & Marriott hotels and how they connect to bike paths.

Brian Mickelson responded the plans will be brought to the commission.

Commissioner Fuchs raised problems with downtown circulation & problems with sharrows; vehicle passed him on the left into oncoming traffic.

Commissioner Mitchell stated downtown circulation is on the long-term agenda.

Brian Mickelson responded downtown issues are being reviewed as a whole. No resources available for a circulation plan

Commissioner Gudz raised some areas that warrant focus including:

- Tufts & Cowell.
- Hamel & Schmeiser.
- Russell Blvd, west of Hwy-113.
- First & B Street.
- E & First Street.
- Requested a subcommittee on transit to assess fitness of our bus system. Is our network adequate enough?

A. Bicycle / Pedestrian Program Update

Jennifer Donofrio updated the commission with the following:

- Bike Education: Rain has caused rescheduling of Team Davis & other bike classes such as Girl Scouts and Davis Little League.
- May is Bike Month: Starting to plan.
- Encouragement & Enforcement: Initiated Lights in a Pinch and Light the Night programs.
- Bike/Ped Wayfinding project
- Regional bike share

5. Public Comment

Tod Edelman: What new innovative ideas have you come up with in the past month? We missed out on learning about 2017 Bicycle Action Plan goals & bike mode share.

Darrell Dickey: Wants to get to know everyone. Was a police volunteer with John Berg (former commissioner/chair) to get green waste out of the way of bikes. This discussion will start up again. Enforcement is still lacking.

Commissioner Gudz inquired if the green waste schedule is open for discussion?

Brian Mickelson responded he will as Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator.

6. Consent Calendar

A. Draft Minutes: January 12, 2017

Motion to approve (Watterson, Hague).

Motion carries unanimously.

7. Regular Items

A. Traffic Enforcement Presentation

Police Sergeant Ilya Bezuglov gave an update on traffic enforcement. Key project includes developing a strategic traffic enforcement plan for the next three years. Will share the plan with the commission when complete.

Ilya stated vehicle collisions are up 20% over the past two years, DUIs are up 10%, and bike/vehicle collisions are approximately the same.

Commission Comments/Questions

Commissioner Hague requested information for next meeting on who is responsible for parking permits and their proper use.

Commissioner Bossard inquired about police bike patrols & ride-alongs.

Sergeant Bezuglov stated he would need to talk with PD Chief about bike ride-alongs.

Commissioner Fuchs requested ped data and collision heat map.

Commissioner Gudz asked for 20 year data to see trends.

Commissioner Dodge requested to break out collision severity – injuries vs. property damage.

Commissioner Andrews inquired about current staffing levels:

Sergeant Bezuglov responded, one sergeant and four patrol officers.

Public Comment

Trish Price thanked Ilya for increased presence at Cesar Chavez. Stated collaboration with DJUSD is needed to solve the problem.

Darrell Dickey wants police offices to stop saying “accident”. Instead of enforcement based on complaints, we ignore other citations. He has never seen a citation for people opening up doors into bike lanes & other things that make it unsafe to bike.

Sergeant Bezuglov responded they are working on education.

B. Traffic Calming Program

Roxanne Namazi gave an overview of the history of the traffic calming guidelines. Policies are 15 years old and wants input.

Commission Comments/Questions

Commissioner Bossard recommended reduced speed limits.

Commissioner Dodge stated speed limits can be reduced to 15 mph near schools.

Commissioner Hart inquired if there is a backlog of traffic calming requests.

Roxanne Namazi responded funds were just reallocated this year. We’re working on prioritizing requests to implement traffic calming.

Public Comment

Trish Price asked if schools & businesses should be allowed to make a request. Raise issues such as:

- 50% approval rate is very high.
- Who decides if a problem is pushed to another area?

Tod Edelman stated:

- 25 mph doesn't work.
- Neighborhoods should be 15 mph.
- 35 mph should be maximum speed limit anywhere in town.
- Full bike lane separation when speed limit is over 20 mph.

Darrell Dickey stated reduced speed causes most problems to go away. Leaving the decision to police does not make sense.

Councilmember Lee stated criteria are needed to manage work load. Referenced the Koso Street situation. Observed multiple near misses on blind corner. Should find a way to allow streets like Koso to get some attention. There are real concerns with existing street conditions.

Commissioner Bossard raised the issue of the state law regarding speed limits.

Councilmember Davis stated we are living in a world that is an artifact of feared speed traps. Giving local agencies jurisdiction to set our own speeds is fine but hard to get traction. Needs help pushing this.

Commissioner Hague stated that City resources are constrained, police resources are constrained. No law or sign is going to help. Need to redesign streets to control speeds. People will not pay attention to a sign if there is no cop, but they will slow down for design.

Commissioner Watterson suggested thinking beyond speed humps & tables and look at narrowing streets. Such as with planted boulevards and other low cost examples such as on Colgate or Bucknell.

Roxanne Namazi responded some examples are accompanied by many maintenance issues. We have lots of tools in our toolbox.

Commissioner Fuchs stated the process for updating the traffic calming program should be iterative. How do we achieve a lower design speed at an affordable cost. Suggested using public to come up with ways to reduce cost of traffic calming.

Commissioner Hart suggested reducing required 50% neighborhood approval.

Commissioner Hague inquired if developers such as hotels contribute to traffic calming to generate supplemental funds.

Roxanne Namazi responded that development impact fees are standard practice.

C. Davis Pathfinder Project Update

Jennifer Donofrio and consultant Tim McNeil gave a project status presentation. Stated the target audience for the project are new residents and visitors. Three public efforts are scheduled including Farmer's Market, a third and final workshop, and information from website.

Commissioner Bossard requested "No Outlet" signs on cul-de-sacs be corrected to indicate connection to bike path.

Commissioner Watterson suggested using universal symbols to simplify the signs.

Commissioner Dodge advised using existing infrastructure.

8. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Long Range Calendar

Discussion occurred regarding establishing a traffic calming subcommittee. Decision was made to wait until after the joint Council discussion.

Suggestions were made to improve meeting agendas and improve meeting efficiency.

B. Subcommittee Reports / Reports On Meetings Attended / Inter-jurisdictional Bodies / Inter-Commission Liaisons / etc.

No discussion

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn (Dodge, Bossard).

Motion carries unanimously.
