



City of Davis
Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC)
Minutes
Community Chambers, City Hall
November 10, 2016
5:30 p.m.

Commission Members: John Berg (Chair), Earl Bossard, Daniel Fuchs, Mike Mitchell (Vice Chair), Jim Skeen, Doug Waterman, Jon Watterson

Council Liaisons: Brett Lee, Robb Davis (alternative)

Staff: Brian Mickelson, Assistant City Engineer / Transportation Manager
Brian Abbanat, Senior Transportation Planner

Absent: Commissioners Bourne, Renaud.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 5:31 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda (Jim Skeen, Daniel Fuchs)

Motion carries unanimously

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

Brian Abbanat announced the City learned the ATP grant applications to for the Olive Drive/Pole Line Road Connection and Montgomery E.S WBAR Improvements were not selected for funding at either the state or regional level.

A. Standing Item: Bike/Ped Program Update

Jennifer Donofrio shared the following:

- Next bike education class (Traffic Safety 101) is scheduled for 11/19.
- Most recent TS 101 class had 5 people who found it very helpful.
- Wayfinding public meeting was recently held and was successful, survey available online for anyone who's interested.
- Submitting monthly article to Enterprise about the importance of bike lights.
- Japanese colleagues visiting this month.
- Scavenger hunt for Car Free October was successful and will be released in the Enterprise soon.

Council Liaison Lee shared that commission interviews completed. City Council will make appointments at December meeting.

Mayor Robb Davis shared about a visit to Boulder about complete streets. Believes resources should be put into data collection at least every three years. Car trips into Boulder holding steady over last two decades, not increasing.

Commissioner Mitchell inquired about status of Cannery undercrossing.

Brian Mickelson responded the City is currently selecting a consultant to begin design.

Jon Watterson commented about the Bike/Ped Wayfinding workshop: The Group went through an array of possibilities. Tried to determine needs of different user groups.

4. Public Comment

Laura Rodman: Backyard on F Street at Grande. Increased traffic and speed. Influx of traffic speed problem.

Jane Schaeffer-Kramer: Home owner across from Sterling. Condition of bike path will make it difficult for 700 new students. Unitrans frequency needs to be increased. UCD needs to step up housing & bus service.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Draft Minutes: October 13, 2016

B. Memo: Lincoln40 Apartments

Motion to approve with revisions to minutes (Mitchell, Watterson)

Motion carries unanimously.

6. Regular Items

A. Sterling Apartments

Katherine Hess explained the purpose of the agenda item and is seeking feedback on policy issues of Sterling Project. Gave a project overview

Commissioner Questions:

Commissioner Mitchell inquired if the claim of students renting per bed can be legally binding in development approvals?

Katherine Hess responded this assumption is in the environmental review. Any increase beyond the original assumptions make the project subject to additional review. Also, entitlements run with the land. Any changes must go through proper process.

Jon Watterson inquired about traffic model detail

Katherine Hess responded they are working with consultant.

Dan Fuchs inquired about parking ratios.

Katherine Hess responded there is an inherent tradeoff between requiring adequate parking without encouraging too many cars or causing impacts to adjacent users. Ratio is .75 spaces per unit.

Public Comment:

Gerry Hattee: Not consistent with city's transportation plan. Fears action taken approves project.

Robbie Fanning: Rancho Yolo difficult to get out on Pole Line Road.

Greg Roy: Route to campus has many dangerous interactions. Businesses on Madson are concerned students will park in their lots. Concerned about Bicycle Safety. Occupancy should follow completion of mitigations.

John Reweter: Proposed Parking structure is bigger than both downtown garages. Transportation model isn't real. Assumptions change model performance. Can't see how you can support staff recommendations.

Mary Jo Bryan, Rancho Yolo resident. Davis is becoming very unfriendly to bicyclists and emergency vehicles. Adding more traffic to Fifth Street is very concerning.

Eileen Samitz: Pole Line Road is impacted more than ever. City cannot regulate the number of residents. Car versus bicycle conflicts constantly. Enormous traffic impacts. Project doesn't belong there.

Claudia Krich: Dorms need continuous monitoring. Fifth & L intersection is dangerous. Students want to bring and use their cars. Everyone is being impacted by new development. Commission should state entire project is not appropriate.

Todd Edelman: Agrees too much in the wrong place. Why no parking requirement exemption? Affordable housing project will not have access to pool.

Christy Herwig: Concerned about noise.

Marj Beech: Existing traffic is already bad. A lot more is coming. Way too dense of a project.

Commission Comments:

Commissioner Watterson commented about the project's entrance and exit. Crossing two lanes to exit is fairly dangerous. Look at safety issue or no left turn barrier.

Commissioner Bossard inquired about peds and buses.

Katherine Hess responded a crosswalk with Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon is proposed.

Commissioner Berg noted a section of Pole Line Road is proposed for an upgrade. Is it possible to do Fifth Street improvements between Pole Line Road and L Street before project is constructed?

Brian Mickelson responded the City is hoping to advance that project more quickly.

John Berg commented the Fifth Street road diet should continue from L Street to the roundabout at Fifth & Cantrill.

Mike Mitchell stated he has no confidence in the traffic study. It focused on a traditional apartment complex versus one intended for students. We need to wait or vote against.

Commissioner Skeen stated the study ignores existing problem. Not happy with traffic study.

Commissioner Berg stated emergency services will not be affected. Need specific, evidence-based issues. Project is very large, should have been repurposed. Project-level transportation issues are very good. Fifth Street road diet project got a lot of panicked responses. This project is not fully, but 90% of the way there.

Motion (Mitchell): Commission does not find the project is consistent with city and SACOG transportation guidelines.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion (Fuchs, Watterson): Not find consistent at this point in time because we don't have adequate traffic studies reflecting transportation patterns of a largely student population.

Commissioner Mitchell suggested left turn refuge on westbound Fifth Street from primary project entrance/exit.

Commissioner Fuchs stated infill development is desperately needed.

Commissioner Mike Mitchell stated he's not opposed to a project at this site. We need a new model.

Motion carries 6-0-1 (Berg Abstention).

B. Draft Richards Blvd / Olive Drive Corridor Plan

Brian Abbanat (City staff) and Garry Horton (Mark Thomas & Co.) gave a presentation on the infrastructure options studied, their feasibility, costs, their anticipated effects on traffic circulation, and proposed prioritization of projects.

Commissioner Bossard stated a preference for the Pole Line Road / Olive Drive connection.

Commissioner Mitchell mentioned Olive Drive families struggle getting their kids to school. Leans toward the spiral overcrossing at the train depot.

Public Comment:

Todd Edelman: Downtown Arch is a nice idea. Pedestrians won't use arch. Create parking lot adjacent to I-80 with shuttle into downtown.

Commission Comments:

Commissioner Watterson stated the Richards/I-80 interchange is a high priority with I-80/Olive Drive off-ramp closure. Also wants train depot connection.

Commissioner Bossard stated the Depot connection should be moved up in priority. Expressed doubts about the arch priority due to expense.

Commissioner Mitchell preferred the cycle track continue through Richards. Wants other options looked at for Richards/Olive.

Commissioner Fuchs stated a preference for the Gateway arch then the depot project.

Commissioner Skeen stated the depot crossing is too close to Richards tunnel.

Commissioner Watterson stated a preference for the spiral design at the train depot.

C. FY 2017/18 Transportation Capital Improvement Projects Priorities

Item withdrawn due to meeting length.

7. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Add cannery connectivity to long range calendar.

8. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn (Bossard, Berg)

Motion carries unanimously.