



# TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Virtual Meeting  
Albany, CA

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022, 7:03 P.M.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: Graham, Javandel, McCroskey  
Absent: del Rosario (arrived during Item 5-1)  
Staff Present: Jeff Bond, Community Development Director  
Justin Fried, Transportation and Sustainability Manager

The Albany Land Acknowledgement Statement was read as adopted by the City Council per City of Albany Minute Action, November 15, 2021.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeremiah Pinguelo requested a future agenda item relating to school zones, and suggested pedestrian crosswalk striping and signage near the Sprouts Plaza area.

Chair McCroskey advised that the Sprouts Plaza area is not under the purview of the City of Albany and changes cannot be made.

### 3. PRESENTATION

#### 3-1. Monthly Police Data on Collisions and Citations

Fried presented data for February 2022.

#### 3-2. Shared Mobility Data

Fried presented data for November-December 2021 and January 2022.

**The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:**

- Inquiries regarding Gig vehicle safety measures, and a suggestion for collaboration between GIG Car Share and electric car charging stations.

Chair McCroskey indicated that Gig vehicles are modern vehicles that are equipped with airbags where required. Modern vehicles have special clips concealed beneath the seat designed to install a car seat easily and securely.

### 4. CONSENT CALENDAR

#### 4-1. Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2022



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**Recommendation:** That the Transportation Commission approve the meeting minutes for the virtual meeting of February 24, 2022.

Javandel/Graham: Moved to approve the meeting minutes for the virtual meeting of January 27, 2022.

Ayes: Graham, Javandel, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: del Rosario

Chair McCroskey announced that there is currently a vacancy on the Transportation Commission. Interested candidates can apply at [albanyca.org](http://albanyca.org).

### 5. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

**5-1. Local Road Safety Plan Goals and Objectives** – Consultants for the City will present draft goals and objectives for the Local Road Safety Plan and preview the web tool for community input.

**Recommendation:** Provide comments to staff.

Cory Peterson, Senior Transportation Planner, TJKM, presented the staff report.

#### The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Both public input and data will be used to ensure that safety recommendations are appropriate. Public input is critical to identifying locations that may not be evident from the data.

The following **PUBLIC COMMENTS** were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo and Edward Fields:

- Concern about riding a bicycle on streets without a designated bicycle lane; high visibility signage and speed bumps are needed; AC Transit travels too fast along Solano Avenue.
- An inquiry into whether the collision data exhibited car-car, car-pedestrian, and car-bicycle collisions; engagement with the public is important.

#### The Commission made the following comments:

- The Commission needs to be clear whether countermeasures are being placed to reduce a pattern of collisions occurring, or to remove barriers to improve mobility.



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- A suggestion for an objective under Goal 2 that explicitly describes what transit safety entails; transit accessibility and safety must be addressed simultaneously; and the Commission needs to make decisions that will not adversely affect transit.
- Both public input and data should be compared; it is not the responsibility of the Transportation Commission to determine how the City defines equity.
- Enforcement cannot constitute a significant portion of the influence in implementing projects fostered in the Commission; and a suggestion that discomfort be explicitly addressed in the goals.

**5-2. Proposed Red Curb at 721 Hillside Avenue** – Staff will discuss a request for red curb ‘No Parking’ zones for the area currently signed for ‘No Parking Thursday 8AM to 11PM’ adjacent to 721 Hillside Avenue.

**Recommendation:** That the Commission recommend that staff install approximately 70 feet of red curb on the west side and approximately 100 feet of red curb on the east side restricting parking adjacent to 721 Hillside Avenue to facilitate Waste Management and Fire Department vehicle access as presented by staff.

Commissioner Javandel recused himself from the item as he owns real property located within 1,000 feet of the site.

Fried presented the staff report.

**The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- The fire engine would still be unable to navigate the Hillside Avenue maneuver. There is space for a vehicle to pull over or maneuvering multiple vehicles.
- Waste Management trucks attempting to make the maneuver have resulted in some collisions or scrapes.

**The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:**

- Support for the project.

del Rosario/Graham: Moved to approve the recommendation to install approximately 70 feet of red curb on the west side and approximately 100 feet of red curb on the east side restricting parking adjacent to 721 Hillside Avenue to facilitate Waste Management and Fire Department vehicle access as presented by staff.

Ayes: del Rosario, Graham, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: Javandel

Absent: None



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- 5-3. Grant Applications for County, State and Federal Transportation Funding –** Staff will provide an overview of upcoming transportation grant programs and potential Albany projects to submit for grant applications.

**Recommendation:** Recommend that City Council authorize the City Manager to submit grant applications for San Pablo and Buchanan Complete Streets Project Phases 2 and 3 and Pierce Street Path Segment II to the Caltrans Active Transportation Program, Alameda County Transportation Commission 2024 Comprehensive Investment Plan, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission One Bay Area Grant Cycle 3 programs and enter into funding agreements with Caltrans, Alameda County Transportation Commission, and/or Metropolitan Transportation Commission upon award of grant.

Fried presented the staff report.

**The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- The Capital Improvement Plan identified next steps, including allocation of funds for shorter-term improvements to accommodate future alternatives, Active Transportation Plan update, and working with Berkeley.
- The Active Transportation Program can be used for non-infrastructure.
- The funds are geared toward capital.

**The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:**

- Inquiries regarding school zone funding; a suggestion for other grants to be considered.

**The Commission made the following comments:**

- The Commission needs to seek funding for planning as more grant opportunities arise.
- The projects are good choices for funding.

Javandel/del Rosario: Moved to approve the staff recommendation that City Council authorize the City Manager to submit grant applications for San Pablo and Buchanan Complete Streets Project Phases 2 and 3 and Pierce Street Path Segment II to the Caltrans Active Transportation Program, Alameda County Transportation Commission 2024 Comprehensive Investment Plan, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission One Bay Area Grant Cycle 3 programs and enter into funding agreements with Caltrans, Alameda County Transportation Commission, and/or Metropolitan Transportation Commission upon award of grant.

Ayes: del Rosario, Graham, Javandel, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None



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**5-4. Expenditure of Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax** – Revenue generated from the sugar-sweetened beverage tax approved by voters in November 2016 is used to fund health-related programs, events, and activities in the City. The ordinance requires the Transportation Commission along with three other advisory bodies to provide recommendations for how to spend the revenue generated by the tax.

**Recommendation:** That the Commission discuss ideas for how to spend revenue from the sugar-sweetened beverage tax proceeds for Fiscal Year 2023 and provide a recommendation to City Council for consideration at their special study session.

Fried presented the staff report.

**The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- The Affordable Housing Project Bike Path is part of the Pierce Street path connection. The path is located down the hill from Pierce Street Park.
- The corner of the Affordable Housing Project is the northeast corner of Washington Avenue and Cleveland Avenue.
- Sidewalk shaving is in conjunction with the sidewalk repair program.
- The piece that the \$61,000 would build would not connect all the way to the park.

**The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:**

- Inquiries regarding project funding.

**The Commission made the following comments:**

- Support for continuing the commitments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023; and a suggestion to build the bike path with the hope of obtaining the grant.
- Support for continuing the expenditures for school crossing guards, Safe Routes to School bike education, and Healthy Me Music & Movement programs.
- Support for school crossing guards, Safe Routes to School bike education, and the addition of the \$61,000 bicycle path.

Commissioner Javandel indicated recusal from the bike path connecting to Pierce Street as it is located between 500 feet to 1,000 feet from his residence.

**Javandel/Graham:** Moved to approve the recommendation to Council of the listed amounts for the school crossing guards, Safe Routes to School bike education, and Healthy Me Music & Movement programs.

Ayes: del Rosario, Graham, Javandel, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None



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Graham/del Rosario: Moved to approve the use of the remaining balance to fund the Affordable Housing Project Bike Path for \$61,000.

Ayes: del Rosario, Graham, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: Javandel

Absent: None

**5-5. San Pablo Ave Specific Plan** – Staff will provide an update on the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan.

**Recommendation:** Provide comments to staff.

Bond presented the staff report.

**The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by** Jeremiah Pinguelo:

- A suggestion to include electric car charging parking spaces on San Pablo Avenue.

**The Commission made the following comments:**

- Suggestions to mandate parking limitations, and remove driving from the Travel Choices section in the Guiding Principles.
- A suggestion to clarify that bicycle parking be at-grade.
- Support for parking maximums.
- Support for eliminating parking minimums.
- Requiring all larger vehicle parking to be electric-charging ready is key.

## 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fried announced that the project on lower Marin Avenue between San Pablo Avenue and Masonic Avenue is underway. The Washington Avenue Pavement Rehab Phase 2 Project should be completed in April.

## 7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Fried announced a future agenda item on the Outdoor Dining Parklet Program.

**8. NEXT MEETING** – Thursday, April 28, 2022, 7:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Avenue or virtual meeting pursuant to state and county COVID-19 guidance.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.