



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Virtual Meeting
Albany, CA

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022, 7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: Javandel, McCroskey, Peng
Absent: del Rosario, Graham
Staff Present: Michelle Plouse, Community Development Analyst
Jeff Bond, Community Development Director
James Cirelli, Associate Engineer
Johnny Menhennet, CivicSpark Fellow

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

3. PRESENTATIONS

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4-1. Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2022

Recommendation: That the Transportation Commission approve the meeting minutes for the virtual meeting of June 23, 2022.

Javandel/Peng: Moved to approve the meeting minutes as revised for the virtual meeting of June 23, 2022, as revised by Chair McCroskey.

Ayes: Javandel, McCroskey, Peng

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: del Rosario, Graham

4-2. Asphalt Art Safety Study

Recommendation: Receive *Asphalt Art Safety Study: Historical Crash Analysis and Observational Behavior Assessment at Asphalt Art Sites, April 2022, prepared by Sam Schwartz for Bloomberg Philanthropies.*

The Commission made the following comments:

- Noted a Bloomberg study that showed asphalt art as being a help for people seeing traffic safety signage and speed constraints.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Virtual Meeting
Albany, CA

4-3. Dangerous By Design Report

Recommendation: Receive *Dangerous by Design 2022 report by Smart Growth America and National Complete Streets Coalition.*

The Commission made the following comments:

- The increase in fatalities during the pandemic was noted by the consultant to be contributed to by speed.

Javandel/Peng: Moved to approve Items 4-2 and 4-3 of the consent calendar.

Ayes: Javandel, McCroskey, Peng

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: del Rosario, Graham

5. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

5-1. Local Road Safety Plan – Safety Countermeasure Toolkit

Consultants for the City will present safety countermeasures for the identified emphasis areas for the Local Road Safety Plan.

Recommendation: Provide comments to staff and consultants.

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

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Pedestrian right-of-way violation is when the right-of-way belongs to the pedestrian and the vehicle violates it. Pedestrian violation is when the pedestrian violates the vehicle's right-of-way.
- Red curbing for improved sight distance can be explored.
- Caltrans Toolbox may be revised to include additional countermeasures.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:

- An inquiry regarding implementation of signage; trees surrounding crosswalks should be maintained.

The Commission made the following comments:



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Virtual Meeting
Albany, CA

- Public comments should be analyzed further and include the raw information in the final report if possible; a suggestion to include some traffic calming measures on the slower streets and not the arterials; the difference between the intersection and inner block collision data should be examined; and the public comment prioritizes concerns on Solano Avenue, while the City's emphasis areas are on San Pablo Avenue.
- Additional guidance regarding the installation cost and the maintenance cost is worthwhile; and red curbing is longer lasting than in-road yield pedestrian signage that tend to get knocked down.

5-2. Albany Sidewalk Repair Program

Staff will present a summary of the critical repair locations identified by the April 2021 sidewalk survey and present the plans for the next three phases of sidewalk repairs funded by Measure P1 Parcel Tax.

Recommendation: Recommend that:

1. City Council authorize the Sidewalk Rehabilitation Phase 6 project for construction of additional sidewalk improvements at the proposed locations as presented by Staff.
2. Transportation Commission conditionally approve the Phase 7 and Phase 8 projects for construction and the 2022-2023 repair schedule, where Staff will prepare a memo for Commission prior to seeking City Council authorization for construction.

Cirelli presented the staff report.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Most of the critical repair locations are located near trees.
- The forester evaluates tree health to determine whether it should be removed and replanted. Removal is also considered if the sidewalk has been previously replaced in a reasonable timeframe.
- A new City standard governs the curvature of sidewalk sections around trees.
- To ensure a four-inch pour, root pruning is performed when the concrete is removed. Roots are covered by a wire mesh to increase the strength of the concrete.
- Sidewalk repairs are anticipated to begin during Phase 8.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Support for the program and recent data gathering and implementation of locational data.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Virtual Meeting
Albany, CA

Peng/Javandel: Moved to approve the Sidewalk Rehabilitation Phase 6 repair location and conditionally approve the remaining critical repair locations in the 2022-2023 repair schedule.

Ayes: Javandel, McCroskey, Peng

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: del Rosario, Graham

5-3. Preliminary Discussion of Adding Shared Scooter Regulations into the Albany Municipal Code

The City of Albany has not adopted regulations related to private companies offering shared scooter programs (e.g., micromobility or e-scooters). Staff will present information on regulations adopted by nearby cities related to shared micro-mobility operations.

Recommendation: For information and discussion. No action required.

Johnny Menhennet, CivicSpark Fellow, presented the staff report.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Richmond has instituted its own municipally run docked bike share system. No dockless vehicles are currently operating.
- It should be acceptable for Albany to apply most of the requirements put in place by Berkeley.
- Charging a per vehicle fee would be unproductive.
- UC Berkeley is interested in continuing to advance alternative transportation, but the e-scooters are not permitted at this time.
- Micromobility firm Veo applied for the business license in Albany.
- An ordinance can be crafted to include age requirements.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:

- Support for the program; and a question about the provision of helmets.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Support for the recommendation that regulations in the vicinity be matched; the fee should first cover any administrative expense, but then go towards expansion of bike racks in the City; and on-street bike corrals could be implemented in setbacks from the intersection.
- If the City does not move in concert with El Cerrito, a relocation node may be needed at Cerrito Creek on the Greenway.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Virtual Meeting
Albany, CA

5-4. Update on Draft Parklet Program Guidelines

Staff will provide the draft Parklet Program Guidelines recommended by Economic Development Committee and Planning & Zoning Commission. Due to additional changes recommended by the Economic Development Committee, staff is bringing the draft Parklet Program Guidelines back to the Transportation Commission for consideration.

Recommendation: Recommend that City Council approve the Parklet Program Guidelines

Plouse presented the staff report.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- A recommendation can be made that the Parklet Program be reviewed by the Transportation Commission.
- At least one complaint has been made regarding roofs blocking establishment signage. Blockage would only occur at certain viewpoints.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:

- A request for data on the amount of force required to push over a K-rail barrier; and a suggestion that K-rails be painted by artists.

The Commission made the following comments:

- A K-Rail would take one-third of the space that is operatable.
- Support for flexibility regarding signage on the perimeter of the parklet; and K-rails bring comfort but do not need to be mandated.
- The Transportation Commission should continue to split from the Economic Commission regarding the proportion of usage; and a suggestion that parklets with a duration less than two months be under staff review and use up to three diagonal spaces and two parallel spaces.

Graham/McCroskey: Moved to recommend that the City Council approve the Parklet Program with the modification that the Transportation Commission does not agree with the Economic Development Commission's recommendation on the forty percent constraint, and to include the exception that the temporary parklet with the duration less than two months have the ability to use up to three diagonal spaces and two parallel spaces.

Ayes: Javandel, McCroskey, Peng
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: del Rosario, Graham



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Virtual Meeting
Albany, CA

Javandel/Peng: Moved to extend the meeting to 9:45 p.m.

Ayes: Javandel, McCroskey, Peng

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: del Rosario, Graham

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

6-1. Update on Active Transportation Plan Signage and Striping Project

Plouse announced that striping was completed earlier this month, including bicycle boulevard stencils on Washington, Jackson, and part of Talbot, and the remainder of the bike lanes on Posen Avenue. Wayfinding signage will be installed in early August. The Construction Alerts page on the Public Works section of the City website continues to provide information on active projects.

6-2. August 2 is National Night Out

Plouse announced that information and the link to register for the block party can be found at albanyca.org/nno.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair McCroskey advised that meetings will resume in September. Three meetings remain in the year. The Commission will be seeking a new Chair in the new year.

8. **NEXT MEETING** – Thursday, September 22, 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 9:40 p.m.