



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Present: Barnes (arrived at 7:22 p.m.), Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey
Absent: Peng
Staff Present: Justin Fried, Transportation and Sustainability Manager
Michelle Plouse, Community Development Analyst
David Lam PE, Associate Engineer
James Cirelli PE, Associate Engineer
Allison Carrillo PE, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Manager

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeremiah Pinguelo noted the Planning & Zoning Commission discussed parking during its meeting the previous evening and requested a future discussion regarding 15 mph school zones.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3-1. Monthly Police Data on Collisions and Citations

Fried reported data for February and March 2023.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Loren Moore, Jeremiah Pinguelo:

- An inquiry regarding the reduction in the number of citations issued.
- A request for the locations of DUI arrests.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Support for reporting collisions that involve electric mobility devices.
- Albany Police Department (APD) monitors collision data and calls attention to noteworthy trends.
- A preference to utilize the annual review for details rather than monthly reports.

Fried advised that resource reductions have resulted in a decrease in the number of citations issued and agreed to share the request regarding electric devices with APD. The Transportation Commission's (Commission) annual review of collision data usually includes locations.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4-1. Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2023.

Recommendation: That the Transportation Commission approve the meeting minutes for the meeting of February 23, 2023.

Barnes/McCroskey: Moved to approve the consent calendar.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Peng

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

5-1. Pavement Maintenance Slurry Seal Project – Consultants for the City will present on the use of slurry seal as a pavement maintenance treatment. Staff will follow this presentation with locations proposed under the 2023 slurry seal pavement maintenance project.

Recommendation: That the Commission recommend to City Council the 2023 slurry seal pavement maintenance project.

Cesar Lara, UNICO Engineering, presented information regarding pavement maintenance.

Lam presented the 2023 slurry seal project.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Stop bars can be utilized at triple-four crosswalks.
- The paint color of crosswalks will not change. Triple-four crosswalks delineate the middle of the pedestrian path and provide a smooth and non-slip surface.
- The City has utilized ladder, continental, and now triple four crosswalks for high visibility crosswalks.
- Slurry seal is applied every 7-10 years to pavement in good condition in order to maintain the condition.
- Wet weather deteriorates roadways faster than dry weather and has a greater effect on roadways that have not been sealed.
- Quite a few slurry seal projects have been done in Albany since 2009 with a project in 2018 being the most recent.
- Staff has a list of streets in poor condition and is planning rehabilitation projects for them as time and the budget allow.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:

- Crosswalks near schools should be rainbow colored because they are more visible; a question of when streets in the project were last maintained; some of the streets are in good condition and should be removed from the project.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Pavement preservation is a good strategy and cost effective and will maintain more streets in good shape.

Javandel/Barnes: Moved to recommend the City Council approve the 2023 slurry seal pavement maintenance project.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Peng

5-2. Concept for Santa Fe and Key Route Intersection Safety Improvements –

Consultants for the City will present a conceptual design for improving the intersection of Santa Fe Avenue and Key Route Boulevard. The intersection changes are intended to improve safety, particularly for pedestrian crossings. The conceptual design will inform near-term sidewalk improvements and will be planned for incorporation into a future striping or paving project.

Recommendation: That the Commission recommend to staff that the conceptual plan for Santa Fe and Key Route be incorporated into future projects.

Commissioner Chomsky recused himself from the item.

Fried presented background context for safety improvements to the Santa Fe Avenue and Key Route Boulevard intersection.

Andrew Lee, Parisi Transportation Consulting/Parametrix, presented two alternatives for the intersection.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Alternative 1 would be a good choice for evaluating the placement of permanent features.
- The wobble in the projected path of travel for a hook-and-ladder truck is caused by preventing the truck from encroaching into the opposing lane.
- Neither alternative includes reinforcement of the center line on Key Route, but hardened center lines could be utilized. Generally, vehicles have more difficulty doing burnouts in smaller intersections.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

- In Alternative 1, the crosswalk along the southbound Santa Fe travel lane could be moved outward above the stop line.
- The crossing on Santa Fe was not included in Alternative 1 because of the need to construct curb ramps.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Loren Moore, Melody Reeves, Margareta Klaus, Jeremiah Pinguelo, Roberta, Maria Wilson:

- Concern about the loss of parking.
- Support for Alternative 1 and a crosswalk over Santa Fe; a suggestion to utilize materials that are visible at night.
- A 90-degree intersection will be safer; interest in traffic calming; suggestions for a crosswalk over Key Route and retaining parking on both sides of Key Route.
- A suggestion to make the intersection a three-way stop.
- Support for Alternative 2.
- Key Route Boulevard is narrow, and traffic speeds along it; support for a crosswalk over Key Route; appreciation for the proposed alternatives.

Fried indicated that the review of the intersection design will inform upcoming sidewalk repairs and a future project.

The Commission made the following comments:

- If the crosswalk along southbound Santa Fe is moved, it should not block the driveway.
- Concern regarding the loss of space.
- Interest in installing planting areas in place of concrete, preserving parking spaces, and installing Alternative 1 as a trial.
- A stop sign on Santa Fe would encourage traffic to use Key Route; stop signs could have unintended consequences.
- A speed table may be a better option than a stop sign.
- A crosswalk on Santa Fe may be practical; perhaps it could be a speed table crosswalk.
- Support for Alternative 1.

Barnes/Javandel: Moved to recommend staff incorporate the Commission's comments into the conceptual plan for Santa Fe Avenue and Key Route Boulevard and to incorporate the revised conceptual plan into future projects.

Ayes: Barnes, Javandel, McCroskey

Noes: None

Recused: Chomsky

Absent: Peng



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

5-3. Sidewalk Repair Project – Staff will provide an update on planning and design efforts for four (4) sidewalk repair locations funded by the Measure P1 parcel tax. Staff will discuss design for curb ramp upgrades at three (3) repair locations and red curb markings at two (2) repair locations.

Recommendation: That the Commission recommend to staff the implementation of the following elements in conjunction with the sidewalk repair program:

1. 1501 Washington Avenue design (curb ramp layout and red curb markings)
2. 602 Santa Fe red curb markings
3. 1612 Solano curb ramp upgrade (in-place)
4. 1134 Santa Fe curb ramp upgrade (in-place)

Cirelli presented a preliminary concept for 1612 Solano Avenue.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Upgrading the curb ramp would not include markings in the street.
- The planter box will be repaired.
- Widening the curb ramp would create issues with the landing.
- A Type A curb ramp will look much the same as the existing curb ramp, but it will have a detectable warning surface and compliant slopes and landing spaces. Type A is a standard curb ramp.
- The preference is two directional ramps at a corner, but that would require a redesign of the corner.
- The extent of sidewalk repairs triggers the need to upgrade the curb ramp.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Jeremiah Pinguelo:

- The detectable warning surface has come up at other locations.

Cirelli advised that the detectable warning surface is yellow per the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) specifications. Typically, the surface is placed into the concrete, but it can be affixed to the concrete surface.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Staff's recommendation is reasonable.
- A preference to round the edges of the planter box.
- Perhaps the Public Works Department can stripe a diagonal crosswalk bar parallel to the curb and between the crosswalks on Solano and Ventura.

Barnes/Javandel: Moved to recommend staff implement a curb ramp upgrade at 1612 Solano Avenue in conjunction with the sidewalk repair program and the Public Works Department to implement the suggested striping in conjunction with any future striping work.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Peng

Commissioner Chomsky recused himself from discussion of the repair at 1134 Santa Fe Avenue.

Cirelli presented a preliminary concept for 1134 Santa Fe Avenue.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Margareta Klaus:

- Questions regarding the curb ramp location and the retaining curbs.

Cirelli advised that the curb ramp will follow the Santa Fe path of travel. The retaining curbs will be placed so that they are not a tripping hazard.

The Commission made the following comments:

- A request for staff to ensure the curb ramp does not preclude a future crosswalk over Santa Fe.

McCroskey/Javandel: Moved to recommend staff implement a curb ramp upgrade at 1134 Santa Fe Avenue in conjunction with the sidewalk repair program.

Ayes: Barnes, Javandel, McCroskey
Noes: None
Recused: Chomsky
Absent: Peng

Barnes/Javandel: Moved to extend the meeting to 10:00 p.m.

Ayes: Barnes, Javandel, McCroskey, Chomsky
Noes: None
Recused: None
Absent: Peng

Commissioner McCroskey recused himself from discussion of the repair at 1501 Washington Avenue.

Cirelli presented a preliminary concept for 1501 Washington Avenue.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- This project does not include modifications to the other three corners of the intersection.
- The grade differential for the Type C ramp crossing Curtis Street is fairly small.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

- The bulbout is needed to create space between the curb ramps to meet accessibility requirements, but will also improve visibility and ensure pedestrians of all ages and abilities can utilize the crossing.
- The City policy for daylighting an intersection is 20 feet of red curb on approach and 10 feet on departure.
- The City Council would have to approve an exception from the daylighting policy.
- The Commission may agendaize an item to consider other parking designations adjacent to the church school.
- Staff projects the loss of two on-street parking spaces, one on Washington and one on Curtis, in the recommended design.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Pixie Heyward Shickley, Loren Moore:

- Opposition to the recommendation because it removes parking on both Washington and Curtis.
- Eliminating parking and adding a curb bulbout will not benefit residents; opposition to the recommendation.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Daylighting provides safety benefits that outweigh the loss of parking.
- The loss of two parking spaces probably will not affect driver behavior.

Barnes/Javandel: Moved to extend the meeting to 10:30 p.m.

Ayes: Barnes, Javandel, Chomsky

Noes: None

Recused: McCroskey

Absent: Peng

Javandel/Barnes: Moved to recommend staff implement two curb ramps and red curbs at 1134 Santa Fe Avenue in conjunction with the sidewalk repair program and plan for the drain outlet to the curb on Curtis Street between the curb ramp and first tree, and to note staff may return to the Commission to discuss parking management along the St. Alban's frontage.

Ayes: Barnes, Javandel, Chomsky

Noes: None

Recused: McCroskey

Absent: Peng

Commissioner Barnes recused himself from discussion of the repair at 602 Santa Fe Avenue.

Cirelli presented a preliminary concept for 602 Santa Fe Avenue.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Staff will refer updating the street sign to maintenance.
- Staff is not proposing a red curb along the bulbout.
- One parking space could fit along the bulbout, one adjacent to the driveway, and one for a small car between the red curb and the bulbout.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Concern that the back of a car parked beside the bulbout would protrude into the street.
- A white line could be painted to define a parking space along the bulbout.

Javandel/McCroskey: Moved to recommend staff implement red curbs at the intersection of Thousand Oaks and Santa Fe Avenue in conjunction with the sidewalk repair program.

Ayes: Javandel, McCroskey, Chomsky

Noes: None

Recused: Barnes

Absent: Peng

Cirelli provided an update regarding the 2023 sidewalk repair program.

5-4. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan – Transportation Key Performance Indicators – Staff will present an analysis of transportation-related key performance indicators (KPIs). This is part of an analysis prepared annually intended to measure progress towards achieving the goals of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

Recommendation: For discussion only.

Commissioner Chomsky announced the item is postponed to a future meeting.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner McCroskey reported the Climate Action Committee's Zero Energy Transportation Subcommittee has invited a Commissioner to its May 15, 2023 meeting to provide the Commission's perspective. The Expo is scheduled for April 29, 2023 at the Community Center from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bike to Work Day will be held May 18, 2023 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the intersection of Marin and Masonic. Public Works is invited to attend and discuss the new features of the intersection.

Commissioner Javandel tentatively agreed to represent the Commission at the Zero Energy Transportation Subcommittee meeting.



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA
April 27, 2023

Fried announced AC Transit is launching a systemwide review of bus service and seeking input through a survey on its website. The agenda for the May 1 Council meeting includes a second reading of an ordinance that adds student and student-affiliated representation to the Commission, approval of a change order for installation of speed humps, and a recommendation for a bill proposal that allows contraflow parking on Kains and Adams. The street tree inventory is wrapping up, and submittals for the Request for Proposals (RFP) to prepare a street tree management plan are due April 28, 2023.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Staff envisions the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission will take the lead on the street tree management plan.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner McCroskey requested an agenda item regarding formation of a subcommittee to discuss climate goals and coordinate with the Climate Action Committee's Zero Energy Transportation Subcommittee.

8. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, May 25, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 p.m.