



# TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, May 25, 2023

---

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Present: Barnes (departed at 9:26 p.m.), Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng  
Absent: None  
Staff Present: Justin Fried, Transportation and Sustainability Manager  
Michelle Plouse, Community Development Analyst  
Jeff Bond, Community Development Director

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

McCroskey/Javandel: Moved to allow Commissioner Barnes to participate in the meeting remotely.

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

Commissioner Barnes disclosed that no other persons are at his location.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

In response to email comment, Fried reported that navigation or mapping services do not contact him regarding traffic changes caused by construction in the City and encouraged citizens to notify their preferred services.

### 3. PRESENTATION

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

Fried reported data for April 2023. The Albany Police Department staff does not recall any reported collisions involving electric scooters to date.

#### The Commission made the following comments:

- The decrease in the number of citations issued is occurring in San Francisco as well as Albany.

#### 3-2. Quarterly Shared Mobility Data

Fried reported GIG and Veo data for the first quarter of 2023.



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, May 25, 2023

---

### The Commission made the following comments:

- Average fleet size and number of trips seem to be the most relevant data.
- Data regarding average fleet size is fine; a line graph of both number of trips and miles traveled would be ideal.

## 4. CONSENT CALENDAR

### 4-1. Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2023.

**Recommendation:** That the Transportation Commission approve the meeting minutes for the meeting of April 27, 2023.

Javandel/McCroskey: Moved to approve the consent calendar.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey

Noes: None

Abstain: Peng

Absent: None

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

**5-1. San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Program: Safety Enhancement and Parallel Bike Improvements Projects** – Representatives from Alameda County Transportation Commission will present project conceptual designs for both the San Pablo Avenue Safety Enhancement and Parallel Bike Improvements Projects.

**Recommendation:** That the Commission recommend that the City Council:

1. Approve the conceptual design for the San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Program: Safety Enhancement and Parallel Bike Improvements within the City of Albany, and
2. Direct City staff to work with the Alameda County Transportation Commission on final design and implementation of these projects.

Fried presented the staff report.

Matthew Bomberg, Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) Senior Transportation Engineer, presented improvements planned within the San Pablo Avenue Corridor.

### The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- In coordinating the San Pablo Corridor Project, City staff has worked with ACTC staff not to change the design of the Kains and Adams pilot project. If changes are



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, May 25, 2023

---

made after the end of the pilot, the safety improvements at the crossings of Solano and Marin could still continue under the San Pablo Corridor Project and provide safety benefits.

- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has approval authority of project design for San Pablo Avenue. ACTC seeks City approval to show support as it initiates the Caltrans approval process.
- Including new changes to city improvement projects incorporated in the San Pablo Avenue Corridor Project would impact project delivery and jeopardize funding.
- ACTC is exploring bus and bicycle facilities on San Pablo Avenue for the southern section of the San Pablo Corridor outside of Albany and identifying parking and loading strategies associated with it.
- The project includes bicycle crossing improvements at San Pablo and Dartmouth.

### Washington Avenue

- Traffic lights will be added on the leg that is currently not signalized.
- Ideally, the eastern and western legs will operate as a single signal.
- The signal phasing will be long enough for bicyclists continuing on Washington through the intersection to clear the intersection before through traffic from San Pablo enters the intersection. The design would include a raised median to separate the two opposing turning movements in the center lane.
- An initial concept utilized the median for a two-way cycle track, but it was deemed unsafe and not favored. After conversations with Caltrans, the initial concept was developed into the current concept and recommended by the Commission.
- Relocating the crosswalk on the western leg to the north side of the intersection was considered, but a driveway on the east side and business entrances constrain the locations for the curb ramp and signal pole.
- In signal phase 1, traffic from San Pablo clears the intersection; green lights would need to be staggered so that vehicles can clear the intersection.
- In signal phase 2, pedestrians and student cyclists could cross San Pablo in the crosswalks.
- The intention is for traffic on San Pablo and continuing on San Pablo to clear the intersection before traffic from Washington enters the intersection in signal phase 2.
- Inductive loops or video detection would likely be used to activate signal phase 2.
- An east-side cycle track was eliminated because of the width of a cycle track and the need for high-turnover parking for businesses. Reducing the width of the sidewalk is not being considered for the project.

### Marin Avenue

- A bicycle push button is proposed.
- If the bulbouts are removed to create a travel lane, the median would need to shift, and signal poles may need to be relocated. Placing the signal poles in the median is a possibility.



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, May 25, 2023

---

### **The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Carrie Schulman:**

- Disappointment with improvements at Washington; children bicyclists mixing with cars is not acceptable; preference for a two-way bike lane on the east side of San Pablo; a leading pedestrian interval at Solano Avenue and stop signs at Kains and Adams are needed.

### **The Commission made the following comments:**

- The City could explore adding stops signs at Kains and Adams once the pilot project is complete.
- The project will reduce the stress for bicyclists crossing San Pablo at Washington so that the stress level at the intersection matches the rest of the Washington bicycle route. Young and more cautious bicyclists will continue to ride on the sidewalk.
- Public engagement and exploration of options for this project have been good.
- There is not a local example of a split intersection with the solution in the middle for the public to know how useful it would be. A demonstration may be possible at Clay and Brighton if Caltrans is amenable.
- Support for placing signal poles in the median or away from the edge of the bulbout at Marin.
- The proposal does not appear to remove the conflict between vehicles turning from Clay onto northbound San Pablo. A two-way cycle track on the north side of Clay between San Pablo and Adams would increase the feeling of safety.
- Hope that the dedicated bike lane along San Pablo in Oakland will be extended into Albany.
- Appreciation for the upgrade of the HAWK signal at Kains and Marin.
- Changing the traffic flow so that westbound vehicles can turn right onto Kains would improve access to the YMCA.
- There appear to be opportunities to remove on-street parking along San Pablo at Washington.
- The proposed improvements at Washington seem to fall short of expectations.
- Staff has heard the Transportation Commission's (Commission) comments regarding revisions to the final project design that will facilitate future City projects.
- Support for a temporary demonstration of a two-way cycle track on the sidewalk at Washington Avenue. Caltrans is not likely to approve a demonstration. This has not been noticed for public engagement.

Javandel/Peng: Moved to recommend that the City Council 1) approve the conceptual design for the San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Program: Safety Enhancement and Parallel Bike Improvements within the City of Albany and 2) direct City staff to work with the Alameda County Transportation Commission on final design and implementation of these projects including coordination of potential future City projects.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng

Noes: None



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, May 25, 2023

---

Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**5-2. Update to Guidelines for Restricting Street Parking Near Intersections** – Staff will present a proposed update to City guidelines for restricting street parking near intersections with potential changes in the process for implementation of intersection street parking restrictions.

**Recommendation:** That the Commission recommend to City Council approval of the proposed Council Policy for Restricting Street Parking Near Intersections.

Fried presented the staff report.

**The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- Staff has not proposed an appeal process, but an individual or business could appeal to the City Council.
- Implementation of the policy could be included in notices for maintenance and construction projects, but notices do not provide a detailed project design.
- Notices provide contact information for staff.
- Staff could adjust a red curb if the adjustment falls within the parameters.
- Staff could agendaize an item for Commission consideration if implementation of the policy at a specific intersection required it.

**The Commission made the following comments:**

- The policy is a straightforward safety improvement.
- The proposed policy sets forth clear parameters for parking.
- The solution to parking demand is not to compromise pedestrian safety but to alter parking management.
- If there isn't a situation where the Commission would deviate from the policy, then the proposed policy is appropriate.

McCroskey/Peng: Moved to recommend that the City Council approve the proposed Council Policy for Restricting Street Parking Near Intersections.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, May 25, 2023

---

**5-3. 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 analysis prepared annually intended to measure progress towards achieving the goals of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

**Recommendation:** For discussion only.

Plouse presented the staff report.

**The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- A shift to the use of electric vehicles (EV) only would significantly reduce emissions even if vehicle miles traveled do not decrease.
- Consumption-based emissions for the City of Albany would be much higher if emissions from goods produced elsewhere were included; however, emissions from goods produced elsewhere cannot be tracked on an annual basis.
- Current trends support the ability to achieve the goals of 25% reduction in miles traveled by passenger vehicles, 98% of passenger vehicles being electric, and 90% of commercial vehicles being electric by 2045.
- When calculating vehicle miles traveled (VMT), vehicle trips within Albany are attributed 100% to Albany, trips ending or beginning in Albany are attributed 50% to Albany, and trips passing through but not stopping in Albany are not attributed to Albany.

**The Commission made the following comments:**

- Active transportation is an important component of attaining goals.
- It is important for the Commission to continue supporting active transportation.

## 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fried reported the Commission will soon expand to seven members. The Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission will hear a presentation regarding the street tree inventory on June 8, 2023.

**The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- Staff is releasing a public survey in advance of the formal planning process for the street tree management plan.
- Applications for the new Commission seats should probably be submitted prior to May 31, 2023.
- If the Council appoints two new Commissioners on June 5, 2023, the Commission will have seven members at its June meeting.



## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES**

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, May 25, 2023

---

Commissioner McCroskey announced May is Bike to Work and Bike to Anywhere Month. The Albany Strollers & Rollers held a Bike to Work event on May 18, 2023.

### **7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Fried advised that an item to form a subcommittee regarding strategies to reduce transportation emissions would be scheduled.

### **8. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, June 22, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:52 p.m.