



## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES**

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, December 7, 2023

---

### **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023, 7:00 PM**

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

Present: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng, Vigil-McClanahan, Von Nydeggen

Absent: None

Staff Present: Justin Fried, Transportation and Sustainability Manager  
Allison Carrillo PE, Associate Engineer  
James Cirelli, Associate Engineer  
Mark Hurley, Public Works Director  
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.

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jonathan Knight requested traffic calming measures for the 900 block of Santa Fe Avenue as soon as possible.

Ken Jung requested staff prioritize traffic calming measures for the 900 block of Santa Fe.

Steve and Joan Allekotte requested staff install a four-way stop at the intersection of Brighton Avenue and Cornell Avenue.

Chair Chomsky noted eight citizens are present to support Mr. Knight's request but choose not to address the Transportation Commission (TC).

Commissioner McCroskey explained that he had to recuse himself from any discussion of the 900 block of Santa Fe, because his residence is located within 500 feet of the block.

Fried reported staff would present concepts for the 900 block of Santa Fe to residents in the first quarter of 2024. Once the sewer project on Brighton Avenue is complete, traffic calming measures there can proceed.

#### **3. PRESENTATION**

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

Fried reported data for October 2023.



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, December 7, 2023

---

### The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Staff will inquire if information is available on the type of traffic violations that receive reported citations.

## 4. CONSENT CALENDAR

### 4-1. Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2023.

**Recommendation:** That the Transportation Commission approve the meeting minutes for the special meeting of October 26, 2023.

Javandel/McCroskey: Moved to approve the consent calendar.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng, Vigil-McClanahan,  
Von Nydeggen

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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

**5-1. Citywide Streetlighting Evaluation** – Consultants will present a summary of public feedback on lighting, draft Streetlighting Guidelines, and near-term lighting priority recommendations as part of the citywide streetlighting evaluation.

**Recommendation:** That the Commission recommend:

1. That staff incorporate the Streetlighting Guidelines and near-term lighting priority recommendations into the Streetlighting Evaluation to be presented to City Council; and
2. That the City Council approve the Streetlighting Guidelines and near-term lighting priority recommendations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is Categorically Exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301 “Existing Facilities” and Section 15304 “Minor Alterations to Land” of the CEQA Guidelines.

Dane Sanders, Clanton & Associates, presented an update regarding the Streetlighting Evaluation Project.

### The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Tree interference was observed from the roadway.
- Streetlights will not have a controlled dimming system.



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, December 7, 2023

---

- Within blocks, there are many opportunities to install new lights between existing lights.
- Where a tree completely obscures a light, the easiest remedy is to remove the light and install new ones on existing poles to each side.
- Once a project is identified, the Urban Forester will be consulted.
- Recommendations will include lighting for intersections and bike lanes, and pedestrian lighting and other improvements will be part of the cost analysis.
- Funding and implementation of projects will be determined during the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process.

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

- Appreciation for the thoroughness of the evaluation.
- The TC and staff need to consider tree interference for sidewalk lighting as well as roadways.
- The near-term priority recommendations are acceptable, but weighing the mid-term and long-term recommendations is difficult without knowing the costs.
- A suggestion for staff to consider solar-powered streetlights where appropriate.

Javandel/Vigil-McClanahan: Moved to recommend 1) staff incorporate the Streetlighting Guidelines and near-term lighting priority recommendations into the Streetlighting Evaluation to be presented to City Council; and 2) the City Council approve the Streetlighting Guidelines and near-term lighting priority recommendations.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng, Vigil-McClanahan,  
Von Nydeggen

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**5-2. Transportation Commission 2023 Status Update Report** – Staff will present a draft 2023 Status Update Report for Commission review.

**Recommendation:** That the Commission approve the Transportation Commission 2023 Status Update Report for submittal to City Council

Fried presented the draft Status Update Report.

### **The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- The Status Update Report is an effort to streamline the work plan process and to associate an Advisory Body's work with the City Council Strategic Plan.
- New housing at the El Cerrito BART station will probably have little impact on Albany traffic. Also, El Cerrito is doing some active transportation planning for that project.



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, December 7, 2023

---

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

- The items marked as in progress along with upcoming items indicate a robust work plan for the coming year.
- Increasing mode shift away from gas-powered vehicles appears to fall under the Strategic Plan's climate action and adaptation goals and could be addressed by providing facilities through the Active Transportation Plan (ATP).

McCroskey/Javandel: Moved to approve the Transportation Commission 2023 Status Update Report as revised during the meeting and to authorize staff to submit it to the City Council.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng, Vigil-McClanahan,  
Von Nydeggen

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**5-3. Active Transportation Plan Update Draft Request for Proposals** – Staff will present a draft Request for Proposals for a consultant to prepare an update to the Albany Active Transportation Plan.

**Recommendation:** That the Commission select a representative to participate on the selection committee and provide comments to staff on the draft Request for Proposals

Fried presented the staff report.

### **The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- Regarding safety considerations, City Council discussed the use of near miss data, cell phone data and other resources to inform travel behaviors, and public comment about particular locations and perceptions of safety.

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

- Perhaps, the ATP update can reflect the intersections that receive the most complaints from the public.
- The Citywide Streetlighting Evaluation should be included in recent planning efforts under *Background*.
- Many details of the methodology of collecting data for the Local Safety Roadway Plan (LSRP) need to be overcome.
- A proposal to add near miss data to the Request for Proposals (RFP).
- The RFP does not address the climate action and adaptation goal of mode switching.
- Albany has one private high school and one private middle and high school.
- A preference not to prescribe data collection.



## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, December 7, 2023

---

- The City needs a matrix of bicycle routes so that bicyclists have a choice of routes.
- The City needs an explicit map of low-stress bicycle routes.
- A desire to obtain data from Albany Unified School District (AUSD) regarding students' modes of travel to and from school.

Javandel/Barnes: Moved to appoint Commissioners McCroskey and Vigil-McClanahan to serve on the selection committee.

Ayes: Barnes, Chomsky, Javandel, McCroskey, Peng, Vigil-McClanahan,  
Von Nydeggen

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**5-4. Summary of 2021 and 2022 Vehicle Injury Collision Data** – Staff will present a summary of 2021 and 2022 vehicle injury collision data.

**Recommendation:** For discussion only

Fried presented collision data.

**The Commission requested the following clarifications:**

- Provisional data for 2023 may be available in April or May 2024.
- A few intersections have been identified as issues and are being addressed with projects; offset intersections need additional treatment to improve safety.

**The Commission made the following comments:**

- The data indicates Buchanan is safer for bicyclists since completion of the bike path.
- Hopefully, the Marin bike lanes have resulted in the low number of severe and fatal collisions.
- A preference to review the data in-depth after the 2023 numbers have been released.
- Investigating the primary collision factors in Albany and Alameda County will help the TC prioritize improvements.
- Albany residents and the City Council opposed the loss of traffic lanes on San Pablo Avenue; although, Alameda County plans may still look to install bicycle facilities on San Pablo.

## 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fried reported the public comment period for AC Transit service scenarios closes on December 13, 2023.



## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION – MINUTES**

City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA  
Thursday, December 7, 2023

---

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

Commissioner McCroskey requested an item regarding the intersection of Brighton and Cornell Avenues.

### **8. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, January 25, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**

### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:31 PM