



Kate Harrison
Councilmember, District 4

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 25, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Harrison
Subject: Referral to the June 2023 Budget Process for \$100,000 in Traffic Safety Upgrades for the MLK and Haste Intersection

RECOMMENDATION

Referral to the June 2023 Budget Process for \$100,000 in traffic safety improvements at MLK and Haste.

CURRENT SITUATION, EFFECTS, AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The MLK and Haste intersection is just blocks from Berkeley High School and Washington Elementary, and has been the subject of a number of traffic safety incidents, including a recent injury crash involving a senior.

MLK is a major thoroughfare for the Downtown and the broader City, and lack of safety features at this particular intersection, like MLK and Addison, is of particular concern for District 4 residents. According to residents, it appears that there is no arm that extends over MLK for northbound drivers to see, as there are at all other intersections for northbound drivers between Ashby and University.

This intersection serves as an important corridor for seniors, elementary, middle, high school and college students, shoppers, and inhabitants of existing and new housing.

Public Works staff are in the process of obtaining a copy of the recent collision report to investigate the cause of the collision, and to review the bike, pedestrian, and Vision Zero plans to see what upgrades may be planned for this intersection. Staff are also actively working on quick build safety projects on MLK in District 3.

This item will be updated with more specific information and figures in the coming weeks.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

\$100,000 for traffic safety improvements at the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Way and Haste Street.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Transportation accounts for a substantial portion of Berkeley's total emissions. The City is committed to increasing the modal share of walking and biking to reduce vehicle miles traveled through safety improvements.

CONTACT PERSON

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