



Terry Taplin
Councilmember District 2

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL for Supplemental Packet 3

Meeting Date: November 14, 2023

Item Number: 1

Item Description: Alameda County Transportation Commission San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Program: Safety Enhancement and Parallel Bike Improvements Projects

Submitted by: Councilmember Taplin, Councilmember Kesarwani, Councilmember Humbert

“Good of the City” Analysis:

The analysis below must demonstrate how accepting this supplement/revision is for the “good of the City” and outweighs the lack of time for citizen review or evaluation by the Council.

The amended resolution has been revised to correct typographical errors and remove specific examples of traffic calming mitigations that are still being planned as part of the Parker-Addison Mobility and Safety Improvements Project, to enable greater flexibility for improved safety measures and robust community input during this phase of the project.

Adopt Resolution with the following additions:

1. Reaffirm the City’s commitment to the Vision Zero Action Plan;
2. Authorize the City Manager to direct staff to implement traffic calming measures on parallel bike routes as consistent as possible with the City of Oakland’s Neighborhood Bike Route (NBR) design standards.

3. Authorize the City Manager to integrate Project work to the extent feasible with traffic calming improvements in adjacent and intersecting projects (e.g. Parker-Addison Mobility and Safety Improvements Project).

CURRENT SITUATION / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City of Berkeley is currently experiencing increased traffic collisions, according to data from the Berkeley Police Department: the third quarter of 2023 saw a 9% increase in injury collisions and a 125% increase in bike collisions over the previous quarter.¹ On Halloween, a seven year-old child was struck by an unidentified motorist and sent to the hospital with a broken leg.² However, the City's Public Works Department is currently strained under a severe staffing shortage, which has indefinitely delayed many critical traffic calming projects.³ This undermines Berkeley's Vision Zero Action Plan, which states that "no one should lose their life or suffer a life-altering injury when traveling in our city."

The Alameda CTC San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Program's Safety Enhancement and Parallel Bike Improvements Projects offer an unprecedented opportunity to advance major traffic calming improvements that are consistent with the City's adopted plans, including its Climate Action Plan (2020), Bicycle Plan (2017), Pedestrian Plan (2020), and aforementioned Vision Zero Action Plan (2019), in spite of significant financial and administrative shortfalls at the municipal level.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution

¹ Berkeley Police Transparency Hub: <https://bpd-transparency-initiative-berkeleypd.hub.arcgis.com/pages/traffic-safety>. Accessed Nov 9, 2023.

² Raguso, E. (2023, Oct. 31). Halloween hit-and-run sends boy to hospital with broken leg. *Berkeley Scanner*. <https://www.berkeleyscanner.com/2023/11/01/traffic-safety/berkeley-hit-run-driver-strikes-boy-trick-treating-halloween/>

³ Williams-Ridley, D. (2023, Oct. 5). Update on Public Works Transportation Division's Staffing and Work Priorities. *Berkeley City Manager Off Agenda Memo*. <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2023-10-05%20Update%20on%20Public%20Works%20Transportation%20Division%27s%20Staffing%20and%20Work%20Priorities.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

SAN PABLO AVENUE MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR PROGRAM: SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS
AND PARALLEL BIKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Program is a central program to achieving the goals and strategies adopted in the 2020 Countywide Transportation Plan; and

WHEREAS, San Pablo Avenue is on the countywide High-injury Network and is identified in the City's 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan as a high-injury street. San Pablo Avenue has the third highest incidence of injury collisions in Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Berkeley reaffirms its commitment to the City's Vision Zero Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, promoting environmentally beneficial alternatives to driving, including bicycling, walking, and taking transit, supports the goals of the City's Climate Action Plan and City's Strategic Plan and may also lead to improved public health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the San Pablo Avenue corridor is an Equity Priority Community and a Priority Development Area, which is planned for growth and increased density; improved multimodal options are needed to accommodate growth and better serve residents that may rely on alternatives to driving; and

WHEREAS, in order to enhance safety for all travel modes and to improve comfort and quality of trips for all users, Alameda County Transportation Commission staff have developed conceptual designs for the Safety Enhancements Project and the Parallel Bike Improvements Project, and Staff have developed a conceptual design for the Addison Bike Boulevard Connector; and

WHEREAS, if this item is approved, Alameda County Transportation Commission would implement the Addison Street Bike Boulevard Connector as part of the Safety Enhancements Project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the conceptual designs for the San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Program: Safety Enhancements and Parallel Bike Improvements projects and the Addison Street Bike Boulevard Connector within the City of Berkeley are approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to direct Staff to partner with the Alameda County Transportation Commission on final design and implementation of these projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to direct Staff to implement traffic calming measures on parallel bike routes as consistent as possible with adjacent jurisdictions, such as the City of Oakland's Neighborhood Bike Route (NBR) design standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to integrate Project work to the extent feasible with traffic calming improvements in adjacent and intersecting projects (e.g. Parker-Addison Mobility and Safety Improvements Project); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to direct staff to grant permits for construction activities within City right-of-way, contingent on City staff approval of final construction drawings and specifications from Alameda County Transportation Commission.