



Councilmember Ben Bartlett

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CONSENT CALENDAR
 September 10th, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Councilmembers Ben Bartlett
 Subject: Pavement of Derby Street and Ward Street between Telegraph Ave and Shattuck Ave

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council refers consideration of the paving of Derby St. and Ward St. between Shattuck Ave and Telegraph Ave to the Public Works Commission in order to repair these deteriorating streets that serve as a part of a major commuter corridor which both individual drivers and buses use in their daily commute.

CURRENT SITUATION

Derby and Ward Streets are part of a major commuter corridor that serves both drivers and AC Transit. However, these streets are in horrible shape and are not currently scheduled to be paved, which puts both drivers and pedestrians at risk. In order to maintain traffic and street safety, the Council should refer to the Public Works Commission to consider the most appropriate way to address the quality of Ward and Derby Street between Telegraph and Shattuck, as part of its long term consideration of the Street Repaving Plan.

BACKGROUND

A 2012 report from the City Auditor concluded that the average Berkeley Street is in “at-risk condition¹, which not only threatens the safety of drivers, cyclists, and AC Transit buses but also the cost of street rehabilitation. A poll conducted by Berkeleyside found that Derby Street was one of the worst streets in Berkeley.² Many drivers, to avoid potholes, drive down the middle of Derby Street, which puts other drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians at risk. It is crucial to take the necessary steps in improving street pavement conditions in order to maintain traffic conditions and safety. Ward Street is in similarly bad condition, and repaving both will prevent traffic from the unrepaired street from rerouting to the newly paved one.

REVIEW OF EXISTING PLANS, PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND LAWS

The Council adopted and renewed the 5-Year Street Rehabilitation Plan, which intends to sustain and reconstruct City streets. This policy is determined to “maintain a safe

¹ <https://www.berkeleyside.com/2011/11/16/average-berkeley-street-is-in-at-risk-condition-many-are-worse>

² <https://www.berkeleyside.com/2018/12/12/the-10-worst-streets-in-berkeley-with-one-very-clear-winner>

surface conveyance system in the public right-of-way for vehicles, bicycles, transit, and pedestrians.”³

The Street Rehabilitation Plan strives to “identify and implement integrated solutions that address the multiple demands on the street infrastructure that are designed for safety, environmentally sustainable and economically efficient over the long run.”⁴ Its outline for the basic criteria for street rehabilitation includes street condition, cost-effectiveness amount of traffic, AC Transit bus or bicycle route, and coordination with both other City programs and utility company work.⁵ If the City is dedicated to creating a community with better traffic safety and safer street conditions, the Council should direct the consideration of street pavement of Derby Street and Ward Street from Telegraph to Shattuck Ave. to the Public Works Commission.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Staff time and cost associated with the construction of the crossing signal.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Consistent with City of Berkeley Environmental Goals.

CONTACT PERSON

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ARTICLES

<https://www.berkeleyside.com/2011/11/16/average-berkeley-street-is-in-at-risk-condition-many-are-worse>

<https://www.berkeleyside.com/2018/12/12/the-10-worst-streets-in-berkeley-with-one-very-clear-winner>

³ https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Public_Works/Sidewalks-Streets-Utility/Street_Rehabilitation_and_Repair_Policy_updated_March_2009.aspx

⁴ https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Public_Works/Sidewalks-Streets-Utility/Street_Rehabilitation_and_Repair_Policy_updated_March_2009.aspx

⁵ <https://www.cityofberkeley.info/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=48574>