

MINUTES OF THE COMPLETE STREETS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019 AT 7:00 PM AT THE LOS ALTOS YOUTH
CENTER, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA

PRESENT: Nadim Maluf (Chair), Suzanne Ambiel (Vice Chair), Stacy Banerjee, Randy Kriegh,
Bob Jones, Herprit Mahal, Jaime O. Rodriguez (Interim Staff Liaison)

ABSENT: Paul Van Hoorickx

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Four speakers addressed concern for pedestrian safety at the intersection of El Monte Avenue and Covington Road. Congestion from commute hour and drivers not stopping at red light to make a right turn has turned crossing of this intersection dangerous for children walking to and from school. The speaker composed a proposal for the city and would like this issue to be discussed during the next CSC meeting.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Minutes

Approval of meeting minutes from February 27th meeting will be deferred for future meeting.

Upon motion by Commissioner Banerjee, seconded by Commissioner Kriegh, the Commission approved the minutes of regular meeting on March 27th, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: 5. NOES: 0. ABSTAIN: 1. ABSENT: 1. Passed 5-0

2. Cuesta Drive – Arboleda Drive Traffic Calming Project

Interim Staff Liaison Jaime Rodriguez and Consultants from Alta Planning Carlos Valadao presented the item for discussion. The presentation included the following information:

- Refined concept plan updated from previous meeting.
- Residential Silent Survey of Approval
 - Survey mailer was sent out to all residents and homeowners that live on Cuesta Drive, Arboleda Drive, and Campbell Avenue within the project area. City staff seeks to 66.66% approval rate of the proposed plan to proceed.
- Findings from traffic study:
 - Before and after Level of Service (LOS) analysis at each intersection
 - All-way Stop analysis at selected intersection
 - Average Daily Traffic (ADT) volumes
 - 85th percentile speeds
- Truck route signage to guide trucks to use El Camino Real instead of Cuesta Drive.

Staff recommended approval of the refined plan lines to be finalized for City Council consideration.

Commissioner Comments and Questions with answers from Staff:

- What is the benefit of placing a raised crosswalk at the intersection with stop signs? - It is beneficial when the vehicles do not comply with stop signs.
- How were the traffic counts used to determine the improvements at Cuesta Drive and Springer Road? - Traffic volume and turning movement counts collected were inputted to traffic modeling software. The generated models were used to determine if the proposed changes have a significant effect to queueing at intersection.
- What will happen without the 66% support? – The survey results will be categorized by streets. If Cuesta Drive passes and Arboleda Drive does not, the Cuesta Drive improvements will be proposed to Council and Arboleda Drive improvements will not.
- Is it the 66% support for the survey results returned? Or 66% of all parcels? – Typically, 66% of all parcels.
- If the Cuesta Drive improvement was implemented and Arboleda Drive improvement were not implemented, how much of the volume would shift onto Arboleda Drive? – We can expect about 10-15% increase in traffic volume for Arboleda Drive.
- In the same situation, can the Arboleda Drive residents rethink the decision to not support and have the improvements implemented after seeing the volume increase? – Typically, the city waits two years until the project is revisited.
- Is the truck route issue addressed city-wide? Or just on Cuesta Drive? – The city is looking at Cuesta Drive specifically as a starting point and will continue to address this issue for the whole City.
- Green skip for bikes along three intersections is proposed, are these approved? - Application of green skips were determined through engineering judgement and do not need formal approval.
- Any consideration for edge of pavement treatment or widening? – There will be surface treatment done before the installation of humps and tables. During this time, edge of pavement can be evaluated for possible improvements.
- Has City staff reached out to the Police Department and Fire Department? – Staff reached out to Police Department but not to the Fire Department as of now.
- Why are curb extensions proposed at corners of Cuesta Drive & Arboleda Drive? – Tighter turn radius can help reduce speed as vehicles will have to make a sharper turn.
- When can we expect a speed survey after the improvements? – about 6-8 months after the installation of improvements.
- What is the projected timeline of the project? – Time for approval by Council and finalizing design should lead to construction as early as 2020.
- Bike lane possibility? – This is only a possibility if we can have uniform width throughout Cuesta Drive and narrow the travel lane.

Comments from Audience:

- Concern for the survey response rate.
- Concern for truck traffic on Cuesta Drive. Trucks are observed traveling in both directions.
- Truck route should be addressed city-wide.
- Request for attention on adjacent streets.
- Springer intersection is very slow, additional stop signs will make it even slower.
- Concern for speed hump noise on Arboleda Drive.
- Too many stop signs on Campbell Avenue within in a short distance.
- How was the 250-ft distance determined for humps/table distance?
- Can the speed table/humps be moved to address driveway concerns?

The public showed general support for the project and showed concern to parts of the project such as spillover potential, added queue time from stops signs, noise, and truck route issue.

Commission Comments and Discussion:

- City Council should be informed about the existing policies involved with the project.
- Need for enforcement after the project.
- Request for before and after data for truck volume.
- Consideration for safe routes to school
- Project lacks attention to bicyclists
- Consider extension of survey deadline
- Concern for Campbell Avenue's stop signs placed too close to each other

Motion set by Vice Chair Ambiel, to approve the refined concept plan for Cuesta Drive – Arboleda Drive Traffic Calming Plan with a friendly amendment to include provision of follow-up traffic study after the project completion. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kreigh with the following vote: AYES: 6. NOES: 0. ABSTAIN: 0. ABSENT: 1. Passed 6-0

3. Complete Streets Master Plan Study

Interim Staff Liaison Jaime Rodriguez presented the item to the Commission. City staff seeks approval from the Commission to recommend the City Council to include the Complete Streets Master Plan Study to be included in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Update. This will allow the city to select a consultant to conduct a complete streets studies at specific points of the city that may need improvement for pedestrian, bicyclist, and transit.

Commission Questions and Answers:

- Does the City have enough staff to run this project? – City will have the Transportation Services Manager and Assistant Engineer on board in the next few months, which should help the staffing for this project.

- If this plan were to be approved, will it take away staffing resources away from future projects like Cuesta Drive project? – This master plan study will be done by consultants, should not take away large portion of city staff resource.
- How long will this plan take to develop? – about 12 corridor studies will take around a year to a year and a half.

Public Comments:

- Updating the master plan is a good idea for the whole City.
- City should take action on known issues instead of taking a step back and coming up with problematic areas for the whole city.

Commission Comments and Discussion:

- Concern that this may not reach to execution of the project
- May be a better idea to instead find projects just like Cuesta Drive one at a time.
- Good idea, it will help start future projects.
- A good starting point for projects, but we will need to know how this will be executed.

Motion set by Vice Chair Ambiel, seconded by Commissioner Banerjee, the Commission approved to forward the resolution for Complete Streets Master Plan to Council by the following vote: AYES: 5. NOES: 1. ABSTAIN: 0. ABSENT: 1. Passed 5-1

4. Bike to Work Day

City staff received recommendation from the Commission with the preparation for Bike to work day on May 9th.

5. Complete Streets Commission Work Plan

Subcommittee to meet with City Staff and discuss.

6. VTA BPAC Representative

Commission will revisit the item in May. Commission seeks recommendation for the BPAC representative.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. Monthly Staff Report

- City staff requested input from the Commission for potential change to W Edith Avenue striping for bike lanes.
- Staff liaison provided clarification to commission regarding email request from the community.
- New Commissioner training will be coordinated through City staff.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Pick two to three Cuesta Drive-like neighborhoods to address.
- Cumulative Traffic Study.
- Measure B traffic update.
- Item from Planning Division.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Nadim adjourned the meeting at 10:30 PM