

MINUTES OF THE COMPLETE STREETS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 01, 2021 AT 5:30 PM
HELD OVER RING CENTRAL CONFERENCE CALL

PRESENT: Nadim Maluf (Chair), Stacy Banerjee (Vice Chair), Suzanne Ambiel, Cynthia O'Yang, Suresh Venkatraman, Steve Katz, Tom Gschneider, Marisa Lee (Staff Liaison), Jonathan Weinberg (Council Liaison)

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Distell Drive, between El Camino and Marich Way, 18-wheeler trucks are parking on Distell Dr for several days in a row (three days or more) and leaving garbage behind. By the time they PD comes and tag them, it takes up to 6 days. Transportation is asked to install signs prohibiting cars higher than 6 ft to park (similar sign used in Mountain View streets).

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Approve Meeting Minutes of October 27th, 2021

Commissioner Banerjee moves to approve the minutes with the following edit. On the fourth bullet of 376 First Street item, add the following next to "... one way car ramp is not recommended:

... nor is vehicle queuing to wait the garage door to open on First street".

Upon motion by Commissioner Banerjee, seconded by Commissioner Suzanne Ambiel.

Vote:

YES: 7. NOES: 0. ABSTAIN:0. ABSENT:.. Passed 7-0

2. 376 First Street – New Fifteen Unit Multi-Family Residential Project

Recommend approval of Design Review Application D19-0009 for a new multi-family residential project. (Steve G.). Confirmation from applicant was received that bicycle parking spaces is increasing to Category 1, confirming proper visibility for the ramp to the parking garage with mirrors. This item is full-application and seeking Commission approval to move forward to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Discussions:

- Queuing of cars on First Street:

- The ramp is two-way now and a 16-ft car shown in plan will be completely off of First Street, and will be in the sidewalk partially depending on the length of the car. 18-ft is a typical car length in design. Currently plan shows 17'-6" and Mr. Bailly stated they can increase the length to 18ft. In addition, First Street has parking on both sides, and queuing will possibly not affect the traffic.
- Design typically includes 10-15 ft of red curb to allow the vehicle to queue for sidewalk pedestrian.
- The garage door technology will be FOB and "car coming" signage with LED lights will alert the pedestrian that a car is coming up the ramp.

Commissioner Banerjee moves to approve this project and recommend this to Planning Commission and the City Council, including the following amendments:

- Three recommendations that staff have made
- Inclusion of class-1 parking area for e-bikes and provide power outlet
- Planning Commission to Confirm no car queuing on First street
- Modify the plan to include a maximum of 15sec for garage door to open and minimum of 18ft from the curb to the door

Commissioner Steve Katz Seconded, and Commissioners Ambiel, O'Yang, and Venkatraman Opposed, & Commissioners Tom Gschneider and Nadim Maluf approved.

Vote:

YES: 4. NOES: 3. ABSTAIN:0. ABSENT:.. Passed 4-3

Comments from the Public:

- None

3. Complete Streets Master Plan – School Improvement Plans Phase 1 Signage & Striping Plans

Review and provide input on suggested near-term signage & striping plan improvements around school sites. A school-by-school walk through in the plans is presented.

The timeline for this project is to finalize these plans, design and implement them by the end of this fiscal year. The items that will require more community engagement can be picked up on the next fiscal year.

- Almond Elementary School / Los Altos High School
 - City staff will advance with the proposed STOPs at intersections listed
- Covington Elementary (no near-term improvement in Plans)
- Gardner Bullis Elementary School (in City of Los Altos Hills)
- Loyola Elementary School
 - Do we need to have separate discussion for Berry Ave regarding lots of change there?

- Montclair Elementary School (no near-term improvement in Plan since will be included in Summer 2022 Street Resurfacing)
- Oak Avenue Elementary School
- Santa Rita Elementary School
- Springer Elementary School (CSMP – School Improvement Plan, within City of Mountain View and no near-term improvements in Los Altos)
- Blach Middle School
- Egan Middle School
- Mountain View High School
- West Valley Elementary (outside of the City of Los Altos, but services south Los Altos Community)

Comment from the Commissioners:

- Almond Elementary School / Los Altos High School
 - Cycletrack on Almond and the intersections of Almond/San Antonio and Almond/Valencia will need further study
 - Almond and San Antonio, cars encroach on the bike path
 - Cars ignore the “no right turn” LED sign at San Antonio and Almond
 - Intersections of Almond/Valencia and Gordon/Alicia are chaotic and safety improvements at those locations shall be explored, including a trial run of vertical separations.
 - Concern that drop-off location at the front of LAHS adjacent to the cycletrack will encourage the bicyclists ride through Almond and will make very dangerous situation
 - It is recommended to add vertical K-71 Markers (white) on Almond Ave approaching the intersection with N San Antonio. Staff recommends this treatment because it is permeable and will allow bicyclists to enter or exit the cycletrack as needed. Proposed bollards are heavy-duty plastic and held down by ¾” bolts that are replaceable in case of failure and also removable in the future.
 - Add Low Profile Curbs or concrete blocks as shown (in the Presidio of San Francisco) on Valencia near Almond.
 - Reflectivity for visibility at nighttime are built into the rubber curb, and if a concrete curb is used, a white retroreflective thermoplastic stripe can be added at the edges to reflect at night.
- Montclair Elementary School
 - Signage and striping for improvements #8 (at Intersection of Deodara Dr & Arboretum Dr) and #9 (at Deodara Dr and Vineyard Dr) was discussed and stop signs on the first item is the preference of parents and the community. Regarding second item, VTA project includes the sidewalk construction along Vineyard Dr from Foothill Expressway to Deodara Dr.

- Commissioner Banerjee requested that some schools outside City Limits also be considered to accommodate equity. Staff responded the school list had already been finalized/approved for this project and it is not within the scope to amend it at this time.

Comments from the Public:

- Request to post the survey results for the public
- Keep the Stop sign on Santa Rita due to speeding cars on Los Altos Ave.
- Student from Egan Middle School specifies two issues regarding bicyclist safety:
 - Cars are often parked next to the cut in the curb designed for cyclists to get in and out of the bike cage on Portola near the gym, requested to mark it as red curb.
 - Vehicles are being encountered head-on and travelling the wrong way and requested to install vertical separation to avoid the cars passing the que.
- Resident of intersection of Berry Ave and Miramonte Ave highly recommends speed tables and elevated crosswalk for this intersection.
- Resident at corner of Almond/Valencia supports temporary solution and proposes temporary walkway, and installation of temporary plastic bollards so there will be no stopping during the school days.

4. Monthly Staff Report

- Putting out RFP for St Joseph Sidewalk Gap Closure Project. Pavement rehabilitation program will happen next year with striping improvements.
- We will not have any more meetings this year and this was combined November December meeting
- Next month the Hetch Hetchy Trail crossing project on two streets in Los Altos will be discussed.
- The resurfacing program is ongoing, and Fremont Ave is under construction.
- Campbell Ave is being striped this week as part of the resurfacing program.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Caltrain has opening on their Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee. Tomorrow CSC Commission will have first Planning meeting with the Planning Commission, joint meeting discussing two projects. Commission seeks feedback on how these meetings can be optimized in future.

Next week City will have new Mayor and Council Liaison may be changed.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Workplan Subcommittee was Stacy/Suresh and first meeting included adding some new things and next meeting will be 12/17.
 - With respect to workplan, the budget seems to be as expected and next year we will have larger budget for paving project which will be tied into our Complete Streets improvements.
- Issues around public parking in Los Altos and request for an item to be added to the agenda for joint meetings with Planning Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Maluf adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM