



## Board and Commission Study Issue Form

The Study Issues process is designed to assist City Council with setting priorities for the coming calendar year. Board and commission members have two roles in this process:

1. To advise Council regarding the identification of policy issues to study, within their relevant area of authority;
2. To advise Council on those issues Council has decided to study.

The study issues process should focus on considering a new or revised ordinance, new or expanded service delivery program, changes to existing Council Policy, or amendments to the General Plan. The Study Issues Form is designed to focus board and commissioner members' ideas on potential policy study issues, and provide the opportunity for staff feedback and guidance in a transparent process. *Board members or commissioners may only fill out a form for study issue ideas within their purview.*

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**Date Submitted to Staff Liaison:**

**Board/ Commission:** Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

**Submitted by:** Sharlene Liu

**Study Issue Working Title:**

Sweeping Protected Bike Lanes

1. What are the key elements of the issue? What precipitated this study?

What precipitated the study?

Protected bike lanes, or Class 4 bike lanes, have vertical barriers separating the car lane from the bike lane. They are necessary for safety along busy high-speed roadways. The Sunnyvale Active Transportation Plan calls for 17.1 miles of Class 4 bike lanes to be built, some of them high priority. However, the City has not yet implemented Class 4 bike lanes because the City has not determined how to clean them. The vertical barriers of Class 4 bike lanes preclude regular street sweepers from fitting inside to sweep them.

What are the key elements of the issue?

This study issue will explore various methods for cleaning Class 4 bike lanes and propose a solution for Sunnyvale. The study issue will consider VTA recommendations for cleaning Class 4 bike lanes and other cities' approaches. Examples of potential solutions are narrow gauge sweepers, human-powered sweepers, and leaf blowers to blow debris into the car lane for a regular street sweeper to consume. The study issue will compare the various methods based on cost and staff time to clean the bike lanes. It will look at short-term solutions and long-term solutions.

## 2. Staff Summary of Scope and/or Comments: [Staff Use Only]

### **Summary of Scope:**

The Study will include a review of the maintenance options for the various designs of Class IV Separated Bikeway and protected intersection crossing, including street cleaning equipment/limitations, replacement requirements, equipment needs, staffing needs, etc. Furthermore, the Study will review the best practices from published guidelines and other neighboring jurisdictions. The Study will include a cost estimate for staff time and equipment needs to maintain the protected facilities. The Study will also evaluate the maintenance impacts to other City operations, such as the City's storm drain system maintenance by the Environmental Service Department, the repaving and maintenance of bicycle facility by the Department of Public Works, etc.

### **Staff Comments:**

The City recently implemented curb extension improvements using a quick-build methodology by installing flexible poles and curbing system at various locations within the City per the recommendations in the Active Transportation Plan and Vision Zero Plan. The quick-build implementation is a pilot program for staff to evaluate the maintenance process, and equipment and staffing needs at these improvement locations.