

14-0768

Lawrence Expressway Grade Separations Study - Consideration of Conceptual Alternative

Staff Contact: Manuel Pineda, (408) 730-7426,
mpineda@sunnyvale.ca.gov

Manuel Pineda, Assistant Director of the Public Works Department, presented the staff report.

Vice Chair Olevson commented on the conceptualization depicting cyclists having to exit onto some intersecting streets from the fast lane on the expressway, to which Mr. Pineda responded that the design stage will address this issue in more detail.

Comm. Durham discussed with Mr. Pineda future County demarcation of separate bike facilities, and confirmed the current cost estimate, the projected construction period and that the project will likely have to be phased.

Chair Melton opened the public hearing, and upon seeing no speakers for this item, closed the public hearing.

Vice Chair Olevson moved to recommend that the City Council endorse the Recommended Final Concept for Lawrence Expressway Grade Separations for inclusion in the County Expressway Plan.

Comm. Rheume seconded.

Vice Chair Olevson said that as a former businessman having to constantly worry about financing, he feels great trepidation about approving a concept before conceptually knowing how much it will cost. He added that we need to move this along so that funding sources and final designs can be worked on and approved with the proper support from the various Cities and other jurisdictions involved, and that he is comfortable moving ahead with the concept.

Comm. Rheume said it sounds like the step to begin getting funding so he thinks it is the right thing to do.

Comm. Durham said he will be supporting the motion, but that he thinks things will change sooner than assumed with the advent of self-driving cars, which may make this planning moot, but that we cannot wait as a jurisdiction to hope that traffic patterns and issues for future vehicles will come to pass.

Chair Melton supporting motion, and that what stands out is that the County of

Santa Clara is doing a phenomenal job of community outreach. He said he sits on the Lawrence Station Area Plan Community Advisory Group and has heard the County make this presentation, and that they get a gold star in terms of moving this project forward.

MOTION: Vice Chair Olevson moved to recommend that City Council endorse the Recommended Final Concept for Lawrence Expressway Grade Separations for inclusion in the County Expressway Plan. Comm. Rheaume seconded. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Chair Melton
Vice Chair Olevson
Commissioner Durham
Commissioner Rheaume

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Harrison
Commissioner Klein
Commissioner Simons