



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

17-0111

Agenda Date: 2/17/2017

2017 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

DPW 17-12

TITLE Evaluate the Development of a Class I Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail along Evelyn Avenue adjacent to the Caltrain Railroad Tracks, Between Sunnyvale and Mountain View

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Public Works

Support Department(s): N/A

Sponsor(s):

Councilmembers: Klein, Melton, Larsson

History:

1 year ago: N/A

2 years ago: N/A

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What are the key elements of the study?

The study will evaluate the proposed implementation of a Class I Bicycle Trail along Evelyn Avenue adjacent to the Caltrain Railroad tracks that will connect Downtown Sunnyvale with Mountain View. Removal of the existing Class II Bicycle Lanes on Evelyn Avenue and restriping of the roadway will be needed to accommodate the proposed Class I Bicycle Trail.

What precipitated this study?

The study was proposed by Councilmember Klein and co-sponsored by Vice Mayor Larsson and Councilmember Melton during the annual public hearing on January 10, 2017. Councilmember Klein discussed this as an opportunity to create a pedestrian and bike friendly connection between Downtown Sunnyvale and Downtown Mountain View and connect two Caltrain Stations.

Planned Completion Year: 2019

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost): Major

Amount of funding above current budget required: \$100,000

Funding Source: Will seek budget supplement

Explanation of Cost:

The cost associated with the study is for consultant services. The study, in coordination with the City of Mountain View and Caltrain, would examine the feasibility of the proposed Class I Bicycle Trail and develop a concept or concepts for implementation. It would include an assessment of right-of-way, signal modification, access, constraints, and conceptual cost estimates. The Study would also need to consider the Bernardo Undercrossing currently under preliminary design. Community outreach would also be required.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Unknown. Study would include assessment of potential costs.

EXPECTED PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS

Council-approved work plan: No

Council Study Session: No

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Position: Support

Explanation: DPW staff could also utilize the results of the study for future bicycle and pedestrian facility planning. If the Class I Bicycle Trail is feasible, it will be included in the next update of the Sunnyvale Bicycle Plan to begin in FY 2017/2018. Once it is included in the Sunnyvale Bicycle Plan, it will be eligible for grant funding.

If feasible the project could greatly increase the connectivity between Downtown Sunnyvale and Mountain View and improve access to the future Bernardo Undercrossing. However, coordination for this project would require that both cities prioritize and fund the project in order for it to achieve the desired build out. In conversation with city officials from Mountain View, we have learned this is not currently identified as a priority project in their 2015 Bike Plan. Their City Council would need to similarly identify this concept as a priority for further implementation during their own priority setting process, fund the preliminary assessment studies, develop funding strategies for the build out of their portion of the project, and prioritize it amongst its near 200 other capital projects.

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