



# City of Sunnyvale

## Meeting Minutes - Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

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Thursday, August 15, 2019

6:30 PM

West Conference Room and Council  
Chambers, City Hall, 456 W. Olive Ave.,  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

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Special Meeting: Study Session - 5 PM | Regular Meeting - 6:30 PM

### **5 P.M. SPECIAL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING(Study Session)**

- 1 Call to Order in the West Conference Room
- 2 Roll Call
- 3 Study Session

[19-0859](#)

Active Transportation Plan Working Session and Concept Improvements

- 4 Public Comment
- 5 Adjourn Special Meeting

### **6:30 P.M. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Mehlinger called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

#### **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Chair Mehlinger led the salute to the flag.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present 6 -** Chair Richard Mehlinger  
Vice Chair John Cordes  
Commissioner Dan Hafeman  
Commissioner Leia Mehlman  
Commissioner Timothy Oey  
Commissioner Scott Swail

Council member Gustav Larsson(absent)

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Alejandro Marti, member of the public, commented on how he would like the City to enforce the speed limit of 30 m.p.h. and have a tool for the public to report near-miss traffic conflicts.

Cliff Bargar, member of the public, commented on how he would like to see more bike lockers installed at the Sunnyvale Caltrain station. He would also like Evelyn bikeway added to the agenda and wants to see more bikeways across the City.

Commissioner Oey announced that he will be giving a public talk about his bike ride across the country that he did in the spring on Sunday 8/18/2019 at Sunnyvale Unitarian Universalist Church from 11a.m. - 12 p.m. More information can be found at [www.zerow.org](http://www.zerow.org).

Chair Mehlinger announced that there is one BPAC vacancy. Applications are due August 30. More information can be found on the City website.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1.A**      [19-0852](#)      Approve the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2019.

Approve the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2019 as amended.

The first amendment was made by Commissioner Hafeman who would like to have the status of the Homestead Road Full-Time Bike Lane Study included in the minutes. The second amendment was made by Commissioner Oey who recommended re-naming BPAC minutes and meeting audio file names to include the meeting name and date.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes 6 -**    Chair Mehlinger  
              Vice Chair Cordes  
              Commissioner Hafeman  
              Commissioner Mehلمان  
              Commissioner Oey  
              Commissioner Swail

**No 0**

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS**

2.        [19-0865](#)        Recommend to City Council to Provide Comments to Santa Clara County Roads and Airports on the County Expressway Bicycle Accommodation Guidelines (BAG)

Ralph Garcia, Senior Transportation Engineer, informed BPAC to give their feedback or comments they might have to City Council to include in a letter to the Santa Clara County Roads and Airports on the County Expressway Bicycle Accommodation Guidelines(BAG).

Cliff Bargar, member of the public, commented on riding his bike on Lawrence Expressway and how it is not an acceptable bike lane.

Kevin Jackson, member of the public, commented on the treatments in the report on the different categories of roads. Mr. Jackson suggested having buffered bike lanes where feasible. Mr. Jackson commented on the bikeway signing and marking and shared lane markings. Mr. Jackson commented on intersections and bicycle signals and adaptive signal timing.

David Simons, VTA BPAC Representative, recommended incorporating County policies and guidelines into VTA standards . There should only be one source of design guidelines for the County.

Vice Chair Cordes, suggested having the comment added to City Council of having the preferred treatment for principal arterial expressway be protected bike lanes not buffered bike lanes. Mr. Cordes agrees with Mr. Jackson about fixing the adaptive signal timing. Mr. Cordes suggested having the recommended treatment for minor arterial be buffered bike lanes not conventional bike lanes.

Commissioner Mehlman wanted clarification in the document on the difference between minor arterial and a principal arterial in terms of actual road specifications.

Vice Chair Cordes, motioned that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission ask the City Council to send a letter to the County requesting the following modifications to the Bicycle Accessory Guidelines:

- Recommend treatment on principal arterial expressways is protected bike lanes.
- Recommend treatment on principal arterial non-expressways is protected bike

lanes.

- Recommend treatment for minor arterial is buffered bike lanes.
- Recommend treatment for collector roads is buffered bike lanes.
- Recommend wherever there are shared lane marking include signage saying that bicycles may use the full lane.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes 6 -** Chair Mehlinger  
Vice Chair Cordes  
Commissioner Hafeman  
Commissioner Mehlman  
Commissioner Oey  
Commissioner Swail

**No 0**

Chair Mehlinger moved and Commissioner Mehlman seconded to add to their recommendations to City Council to ensure VTA and County guidelines are congruent. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes 6 -** Chair Mehlinger  
Vice Chair Cordes  
Commissioner Hafeman  
Commissioner Mehlman  
Commissioner Oey  
Commissioner Swail

**No 0**

**3.**      [19-0866](#)      Report and Discussion of Recent VTA BPAC Meeting

Dave Simons, VTA BPAC Representative, provides updates on recent VTA BPAC meeting.

Dave Simons, VTA BPAC Representative, gave the meeting summary report regarding the following topics:

- Caltrans District 4 presentation on personal mobility device analysis
- Issues with trees and root problems have been solved
- BPAC VTA was cancelled last month and there will be another meeting in September

**STANDING ITEM: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL STUDY ISSUES**

**4.      [19-0868](#)      BPAC 2020 Proposed Study Issues**

Ralph Garcia, Senior Transportation Engineer, explained the process of voting for Potential Study Issues to be placed on the Study Issue list.

Chair Mehlinger mentioned that there is only one approved Study Issue under the existing list which is the Improved Bicycle and Pedestrian access at Sunnyvale Caltrain station.

**5.      [19-0875](#)      El Camino Real Protected Bike Lanes (Potential Study Issue)**

Chair Mehlinger commented on the El Camino Real Protected Bike Lanes Potential Study Issue and proposed a vote to have Class 4 Protected Bike Lanes on Sunnyvale's stretch of El Camino Real as much as possible and to be added to the BPAC 2020 proposed Study Issue list.

Commissioner Oey commented that he would like to see this as part of the Active Transportation Plan.

Commissioner Hafeman commented on how important it is for the City to have El Camino Real Protected Bike Lanes.

Commissioner Hafeman moved and Commissioner Oey seconded the motion to include El Camino Real Protected Bike Lanes on the proposed Study Issue List.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes 6 -**    Chair Mehlinger  
             Vice Chair Cordes  
             Commissioner Hafeman  
             Commissioner Mehلمان  
             Commissioner Oey  
             Commissioner Swail

**No 0**

**6.      [19-0876](#)      Evelyn Avenue Protected Bike Lanes (Potential Study Issue)**

Chair Mehlinger proposed changing the name of the Evelyn Avenue Protected Bike Lane Potential Study Issue to Evelyn Avenue Trail and Bike Lane Study Issue.

Commissioner Mehlman commented on the easement requirements for the train tracks and that bushes are in that zone.

Chair Mehlinger addressed Commissioner Mehlman's concern and said that a right-of-way analysis would be part of the study issue.

Commissioner Oey commented that he thought that the Evelyn Avenue Trail and Bike Lane Potential Study Issue was a great idea.

Commissioner Hafeman commented on how the bike lane would be fairly close to the roadway and when riding at night it could be dangerous with the headlights from traffic and suggested some kind of barrier.

Commissioner Oey suggested having multi use bike and walking facilities making it a class 1 for bikes and pedestrians so there would be a very wide space for both.

Commissioner Oey moved and Commissioner Mehlman seconded the motion to include Evelyn Avenue Protected Bike Lanes on the Proposed Study Issue List.

Chair Mehlinger motioned to accept the friendly amendment to change the name of the Study Issue to Evelyn Avenue Multi Use Trail and to include analysis of a single Class 1 mixed use trail as well as a Class 4 with separated bike facilities.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes 6 -** Chair Mehlinger  
Vice Chair Cordes  
Commissioner Hafeman  
Commissioner Mehlman  
Commissioner Oey  
Commissioner Swail

**No 0**

7. [19-0877](#) Protected Bike Lane Standards (Potential Study Issue)

Chair Mehlinger explained that the Protected Bike Lane Standards(Potential Study

Issue) is to develop standards for Class 4 protected bike lanes.

Commissioner Mehlman suggested looking at other cities standards for Class 4 protected bike lane standards as an example.

Ralph Garcia, Senior Transportation Engineer informed the BPAC commission that there are Class 4 protected bike lane standards from Caltrans that the City follows. In addition, the City references guidelines from multiple agencies including the National Association of City Transportation Officials(NACTO).

Chair Mehlinger withdrew the proposed Protected Bike Lane Standards(Potential Study Issue) due to the City having standards for Class 4 bike facilities.

### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS & COMMENTS**

#### **-Commissioner Comments**

Vice Chair Cordes commented on the following:

- Vice Chair Cordes submitted 2 study issue proposals to staff for sponsorship. One has to do with "Do Not Block the Bike Lane Campaign Success in Gilroy" and the other is to adopt narrow streets to create room for buffered and protected bike lanes.
- A 3rd Study Issue will be submitted which proposes the City to improve on their traffic construction diversion requirements.
- Request for staff to find out what takes precedence, a precise plan or a Citywide Bicycle plan.
- Asked staff to find out if the City could add a list of City-sponsored development projects to the Sunnyvale Developments Projects website similar to the Private Development Projects list.

Chair Mehlinger commented on the following:

- Urged staff to fix a cover that is missing on the asphalt on North Evelyn in the bike lane.
- Requested staff to send an email to Public Safety and Dispatch to remind them that only certain types of vehicles can block the bike lanes.
- Shorten the Active Transportation Plan webpage address to [Sunnyvale.ca.gov/ATP](http://Sunnyvale.ca.gov/ATP).
- Provide an update on the Bay Trail closure and detour.

Mr. Garcia addressed the questions and will follow up with responses. Mr. Garcia

stated that there will be one lane closed on the Bay Trail and that there will be a temporary 2-way pedestrian and bike lane installed during construction.

Commissioner Hafeman commented on the following:

- Double wide trucks blocking the sidewalks from a driveway.

Vice Chair Cordes addressed Commissioner Hafeman's comment and stated non-emergency dispatch should be called if it is noticed that a vehicle is blocking the sidewalks from the driveway.

#### **-Staff Comments**

Ralph Garcia, Senior Transportation Engineer, commented on the following:

- Vision Zero Plan was approved by City Council on July 30, 2019 with some modifications. Once the modifications have been implemented the final plan will be uploaded to the City website in a few weeks.
- Active Transportation Plan Walking and Biking tours. Mr. Garcia thanked the BPAC commissioners that attended. There will be an online survey shortly.
- There will be a community workshop and technical advisory group for the Roadway Safety Plan. Commissioner Mehlman is the BPAC representative for that group.
- Dennis Ng was introduced as the new Transportation and Traffic Manager.

Dennis Ng, Transportation and Traffic Manager thanked the BPAC commissioners for their service that they are providing and for their enthusiasm they bring for the Bicycle and Pedestrian community.

#### **INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS**

[19-0870](#) BPAC 2019 Annual Work Plan

Chair Mehlinger stated that the Study Issue sponsorship will be in October.

Vice Chair Cordes inquired about the Downtown Specific Plan and if it will be on the next agenda.

[19-0871](#) Active Items List - August 2019

Vice Chair Cordes asked to get updates on Steven Creek Trail, Bernardo Caltrain

Undercrossing, East-West Channel Trail and Maude Avenue Bike Lanes on the Active Items List.

Chair Mehlinger asked to add discussion of the Caltrain Grade Separation on Sunnyvale Avenue to the Active Items list.

[19-0872](#)

Do Not Block the Bike Lane Campaign Success in Gilroy

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Mehlinger adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.