Minutes  
Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC)  
Davis Senior Center, Valente Room (646 A Street)  
May 9, 2019  
5:30 p.m.

Commission Members: Frances Andrews (Vice Chair), Todd Edelman, Eric Gudz (Chair), Jessica Jacobson, Mike Mitchell, Lyuba Vosheva

Council Liaisons: Brett Lee, Dan Carson (alternate)

Staff: Brian Mickelson, Assistant City Engineer / Transportation Manager  
Brian Abbanat, Senior Transportation Planner

Absent: Commissioner Andrews

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion (Mitchell, Edelman): Approve agenda.  
Motion carries, 5-0.

3. Brief Announcements from Staff and Liaisons

   A. Bike/Ped Program Update

Jennifer Donofrio, the City Bike and Pedestrian Coordinator shared that school district and City staff have selected a new crossing guard company, Safesite Guard Services. The agreements are with the City attorney for review. She also shared that her team just completed a 5-part bike education class at UC Davis. In addition, the team taught bike education classes at the Cannery and to the theatre group performing in the bike-themed school assemblies. This spring there were three bike rodeos. There were 110 participants at the North Davis Elementary rodeo on bike to school day. Jennifer shared that more people attended Loopalooza, on May 5th than ever before with over 500 participants. The Beauty, Bike and Brew pathway cleanup on May 4th was also very successful thanks to the partnership with Tree Davis. On Bike to School Day, 61% of Patwin students and 49% of Holmes Jr. High students rode their bikes to school. She talked about upcoming events including the bike to work block party and celebrate Davis. Also, she showed the commissioners the Getting Around Davis website and a UC Davis study that helmet use is increasing.
B. Council Liaison(s) Announcements

Mayor Lee commented on a neighborhood meeting held for the Mace Blvd project. Staff has assembled the comments from the meeting and the City wants to work towards an excellent design that works for bikes, peds, and cars.

Commissioners Gudz and Edelman inquired about the timeline and whether changes would return to the commission for review, respectively.

Mayor Lee responded that a 3-way stop at San Marino would be installed very soon and that design changes would be completed in a couple of months. He also stated that given the potential magnitude of some changes, it would be logical to bring them back to the BTSSC.

C. Other Staff Announcements

Commissioner Gudz announced Ryan Dodge’s resignation from the commission due to changing residence to Sacramento. They asked when the seat would be filled.

Mayor Lee responded probably before the July BTSSC meeting.

4. Public Comment

Rae De Silva expressed a concern about the pedestrian crossing at Anderson & Rutgers. Stated that pedestrians are crossing against the red light. Suggested a bicycle signal head and no turn on red for all users except bikes & peds. Also suggested a ped countdown display.

(speaker unknown) echoed Rae’s comments. Suggested putting a camera at light. Cars are running red lights. Also commented on safety issue at SW corner of Fifth & Pole Line. Requested a mirror like at the SE corner of Fifth & L Street.

Tanya Mannion, Cannery resident, expressed concerns about the J Street / Covell crossing. The wide corners allow cars to turn too fast around the corner, causing safety issue for pedestrians due to sightline distances. Asked if the green light can be delayed or if a no turn on red can be installed.

Brian Mickelson responded he added a six second leading interval for pedestrians to improve safety.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Draft Minutes: March 14, 2019

Motion (Mitchell, Vosheva): Approve minutes
Motion carries, 5-0.

6. Regular Items

A. Presentation from Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) on Regional Land Use and Transportation Topics

Greg Chew, SACOG Senior Planner, gave a presentation on SACOG’s role as the regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), including the SACOG Blueprint, which in the early
aughts established a regional consensus for how regional growth would occur over the next fifty years. Key topics included:

- Expected regional growth through 2050
- Outreach and public workshops
- Effects of growth patterns on vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
- Seven smart growth principles:
  - Transportation Choices
  - Compact Development
  - Mixed Land Uses
  - Housing Choices
  - Use Existing Assets
  - Conserve Natural Resources
  - Quality Design
- Land consumption, transportation mode share, and traffic congestion impacts of Baseline vs. Preferred scenarios
- Transportation Future
- Regional Housing Needs Allocation
- SACOG Funding Programs

Commissioner Edelman asked if funding streams for transportation improvements and transit are stable.

  Greg Chew responded affirmatively, in general.

Anthony Palmere commented that transit has not kept up with where the regional was hoping to go fifteen years ago.

Diane Swann commented on the role of intra-city bicycle commuting.

Mike Mitchell inquired about the outreach process and whether self-selected participants truly represented support for the seven smart growth principles.

  Greg Chew responded affirmatively that SACOG followed up with scientifically valid polls which yielded similar results. However, he stated that each jurisdiction is responsible for supporting the Blueprint in the context of their community.

Commissioner Gudz stated they were surprised about the doubling of growth and whether the region has supplied annual housing needed to keep up with demand.

  Greg Chew responded that the region has generally not kept up with demand, particularly in the lower and middle income housing categories.

Commissioner Gudz asked about VMT metrics over Level of Service (LOS) for transportation impacts.

  Greg Chew responded that the SACOG Board likes the concept of VMT over LOS. However, he acknowledged that roll-out of development projects is a little more difficult to do at the local level, due to neighborhood resistance.
Commissioner Gudz expressed surprise of >80% single occupant vehicle use (SOV) even in the preferred scenario, which will still result in significant greenhouse gas emissions increases. They asked what are the barriers to alternative transportation modes.

Greg Chew responded that everything starts with land use and the reality that regional land use patterns result in most people not living close to where they need to go and at densities which transit cannot effectively serve. It’s hard to change transportation once land use is already laid out.

Commissioner Edelman commented that non-motorized trips appear inflated because he doesn’t see a cohesive bike/ped/transit network.

Greg Chew responded that transit is really hard to do and even the best systems need substantial subsidies. Sacramento region does not have the land use density to make transit work. However, some corridors are performing better, such as Stockton Blvd, but those are the exception.

B. Transportation Implementation Plan Call for Projects

Brian Abbanat gave an overview of the annual TIP update and opportunity for commissioners to sponsor projects through the call for projects. A deadline was given for the end of the week of June 3rd for proposals, for inclusion in next month’s packet.

7. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Long Range Calendar (subject to change)

The following items were added to the Long Range Calendar by consensus:

- General Plan Transportation Element
- UC Davis Transportation Demand Management Plan
- Review of progress toward public comments received over the past few years

B. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Vosheva announced she attended the 4/25 Unitrans Advisory Committee meeting. Key meeting topics were:

- Announcement of successful student fee referendum
- Proposed route changes

Commissioner Gudz:

- Stated an intent to look into the Lake Blvd parking situation at Portage Bay. Encouraged the resident who previously spoke at the commission to gather support from her neighborhood.
- Stated at the last Downtown Plan Advisory Committee (DPAC) meeting, tensions were high among some members regarding land use intensification. The Downtown Plan Update will rise to the surface soon for the BTSSC.

Commissioner Edelman:
Commented that L Street striping lane widths appear right on target.
Inquired if blinking red light at Eighth & L street (four-way stop) is working well and if it can continue.

C. Subcommittee Reports / Reports On Meetings Attended / Inter-jurisdictional Bodies / Inter-Commission Liaisons / etc.

Commissioner Edelman commented the Parking Optimization subcommittee is looking into interest among property owners to adopt the new bike parking standards for existing uses.

i. Appoint replacement commission representative to Downtown Plan Advisory Committee (DPAC).

Commissioner Vosheva and Gudz were selected as primary and alternate replacements, respectively, for former commissioner Dodge.

Adjourn

Motion (Vosheva, Edelman): Adjourn Meeting
Motion carries, 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.