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3 **City of Davis**  
4 **Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC)**  
5 **Minutes**  
6 **DAVIS SENIOR CENTER, VALENTE ROOM (646 A Street)**  
7 **December 14, 2017**  
8 **5:30 p.m.**

9 Commission Members: Frances Andrews, Earl Bossard, Ryan Dodge, Todd Edelman, Daniel  
10 Fuchs (Vice Chair), Eric Gudz, George Hague, Mike Mitchell (Chair),  
11 Jon Watterson

12  
13 Council Liaisons: Brett Lee, Robb Davis (alternate)

14  
15 Absent: Commissioners Andrews, Bossard  
16 Councilmembers Lee, Davis

17  
18 Staff: Brian Mickelson, Assistant City Engineer / Transportation Manager  
19 Brian Abbanat, Senior Transportation Planner  
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22  
23 **1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

24 Meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

25  
26 **2. Oath of Office: Todd Edelman**

27 Todd Edelman was welcomed to the commission and sworn into office.

28  
29 **3. Approval of Agenda**

30 *Motion to approve agenda (Watterson, Gudz).*  
31 *Motion carries unanimously.*  
32

33 **4. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons**

34 John Evans, Police Corporal and traffic enforcement supervisor introduced himself to the  
35 commission.

36 Commissioner Gudz:

- 37
- 38 • Inquired about the status of the Civil Engineer vacancy.  
39 Brian Mickelson responded that the position was offered to a candidate, who ultimately  
40 declined. Position is again in active recruitment
  - 41 • Stated he'd like to see the equity component of the Traffic Enforcement Strategic Plan  
developed further.

- 42 • Invited the traffic enforcement supervisor to arrive at commission meetings with a more  
43 relaxed appearance, such as without law enforcement kit, citing Chief Pytel's example.  
44

45 Commissioner Watterson complimented staff and consultants on the Anderson Road  
46 Improvements Workshop #2 held on 11/29.  
47

48 Commissioner Edelman inquired why the Fourteenth/Villanova project was not following a  
49 similar process as Anderson Road and considering protected bicycling facilities.

50 Brian Abbanat responded that the project is considering protected bicycling facilities and  
51 two design concepts will be brought to the BTSSC (at a minimum).  
52

53 **A. H Street / Tunnel Phase 1 Project**

54 Brian Abbanat explained the challenges encountered with starting construction of this project.  
55 He described the lessons learned regarding outreach and traffic control/bicycle detours and  
56 processes the City has established to prevent a recurrence.  
57

58 **B. Bicycle / Pedestrian Program Update**

59 Jennifer Donofrio, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, described her activities over the past month,  
60 including:

- 61 • Bike Share  
62 • Lights in a Pinch program  
63 • Purchase of electric-assist surrey (quadricycle) for community use  
64 • Status of additional e-lockers at the train station  
65 • Status of Davis Pathfinder (wayfinding) project  
66 • Safe Routes to School Art Show  
67

68 **C. Council Liaison(s) Announcements**

69 No Council Liaison comments were made due to absence.  
70

71 **5. Public Comment**

72 Darrell Dickey stated he loves the idea of a dockless bike share system. Suggested a CRV-type  
73 system where anybody can return bikes to a desired location for a small reward.  
74

75 **6. Consent Calendar**

76 **A.** Draft Minutes: November 9, 2017

77 *Motion to approve with revisions (Gudz, Hague).*

78 *Motion carries unanimously.*

79 **B.** Transportation Implementation Plan: December Addendum

80 *Motion to approve (Fuchs, Gudz).*

81 *Motion carries unanimously.*  
82

83 **7. Regular Items**

84           **A. Plaza 2555 Located at 2555 Research Park Drive**

85 Ike Njoku, Planner/Historical Resources Manager, described the primary project features, and  
86 explained the development process as applicable to the project.

87  
88 Skip Mezger, developer representative, described the site plan and circulation plan.

89  
90 Brian Abbanat described staff recommendations regarding street frontage  
91 improvements/configuration on Cowell Blvd.

92  
93 Brian Mickelson explained the traffic dynamics occurring on Cowell Blvd and some of the  
94 options considered to reduce traffic speed and improve the intersection at Research Park Drive.

95  
96 Commissioner Hague stated he liked separated bike facility. Stated a need to manage additional  
97 bike traffic. Also suggested pavement ribbing in street to reduce speeds.

98  
99 Commissioners Watterson and Dodge inquired about a roundabout and mini-roundabout,  
100 respectively.

101           Brian Mickelson responded the geometry doesn't fit at this intersection.

102  
103           Public Comment

104 Darrell Dickey commented half the site is covered with car parking. Also stated that stop signs  
105 (such as at Cowell and Research Park Drive) are not for traffic calming, as drivers will accelerate  
106 even faster to make up for lost time caused by the stop sign. Streets need to be designed for slow  
107 speeds.

108  
109 Homayoon Barekat inquired 1) if a traffic study was conducted for this project, and 2) if Caltrans  
110 was contacted about the possibility of a soundwall.

111  
112 Rachel Reeves, Green Terrace neighborhood resident, stated anything that can be done to slow  
113 cars is needed. Also encouraged pro-rated rents for residents who don't bring cars.

114  
115           Commission Discussion

116 Commissioner Hague stated the project's success will be defined by how the circulation is  
117 addressed. Supports all-way stop at Cowell & Research Park Drive and relocation of Unitrans  
118 stop to east side of Research Park Drive.

119  
120 Commissioner Gudz stated this project could be a pilot candidate for the new traffic calming  
121 project in development. Supports bike lane separation.

122  
123 Commissioner Watterson stated the bike path connectivity to the multi-use path at Albany as  
124 well as a mid-block crossing to the Playfields Park bike path is critical. Supports bus-pull out and  
125 bulb-outs for crosswalks.

126  
127 Commissioner Edelman stated 1) project should include more housing and less parking, 2) car  
128 share should be close to residential units, 3) should do a mini-roundabout at Research Park Drive

129 instead of separated bike lanes, 4) project should include cargo bikes that can be shared by  
130 residents.

131  
132 Commissioner Mitchell expressed support for applicant's second design concept and the staff  
133 recommendation. Need to find a way to slow down traffic. Feels mini-roundabouts are being  
134 dismissed pretty fast.

135 Brian Mickelson responded that a roundabout depends on compatible traffic volumes at  
136 all legs of the intersection. Since roundabouts rely on traffic gaps to enter into the  
137 intersection, accessing Cowell Blvd from Research Park Drive could worsen due to  
138 existing Cowell Blvd peak traffic volumes.

139  
140 Commissioner Mitchell recommended uncoupling parking costs from beds, concurred with the  
141 need for a mid-block crossing to Playfields Park path.

142  
143 Commissioner Watterson suggested preparing for future electric bike charging capabilities.

#### 144 **B. Nishi Development Project**

145  
146 Ash Feeny introduced the project. Stated significant revisions from past iteration of project  
147 include 1) reduction of commercial space to 25,000 square feet, 2) 2800 beds in 700 apartment  
148 units, 3) parking ratio of approximately .5 spaces per bedroom.

149  
150 Ash Feeny reviewed the site plan and provided an overview of the process. Stated the project  
151 will return to the commission when the final site plan is complete and has received Measure R  
152 voter approval.

#### 153 Public Comment

154  
155 Tim Ruff, project developer, stated they are trying to address concerns expressed by the  
156 community during the last Measure R vote. Stated removal of at-grade crossing at Old Davis  
157 Road is why Union Pacific Railroad has been cooperative regarding an undercrossing to UCD.

#### 158 Commission Discussion

159  
160 Commissioner Dodge asked why there is any car parking at all. Says he supports no car parking  
161 and that parking will induce the traffic that the community fears.

162  
163 Commissioner Edelman stated that 700 spaces is still a lot of parking. Car share or rental facility  
164 can substitute for parking. Residence halls can't have cars. Access to cars is what is important,  
165 not ownership.

166  
167 Commissioner Watterson stated we have an opportunity to do something innovative. Why go  
168 through the usual route regarding parking. Suggested considering remote parking. Supports  
169 emergency access through Olive Drive. Should consider higher bike parking ratio.

170  
171 Commissioner Gudz stated the project should strive for innovation, boldness. Need to connect  
172 Unitrans to Olive Drive for feasible service to disadvantaged community. Autonomous vehicles  
173 are 10 years away, which will seriously disrupt transportation. Project is smart for residential and

174 commercial uses to share parking. Recommended reaching out to UCD-ITS and air quality  
175 experts on campus.

176  
177 Commissioner Mitchell inquired if UCD has agreed to the undercrossing.

178 Tim Ruff responded they are working on an MOU now.

179  
180 Commissioner Mitchell stated he was glad to see vehicular access from Olive Drive off the table,  
181 but Olive Drive should be built-out for transit and emergency vehicles. Undercrossing should be  
182 terraced to reduce slopes for bicycles. Decouple parking from units, and charge a lot. Limit  
183 access to vehicles within satellite parking facility. Envisions a cycle track on Olive Drive to  
184 Lincoln 40 project.

185  
186 **8. Commission and Staff Communications**

187 **A. Long Range Calendar (subject to change)**

188 Commissioner Edelman suggested Safe Routes to School and discussion of Waze on City traffic.

189  
190 **B. Subcommittee Reports / Reports On Meetings Attended / Inter-jurisdictional Bodies /**  
191 **Inter-Commission Liaisons / etc.**

192  
193 Reports deferred to next meeting.

194  
195 **9. Adjourn**

196 *Motion to adjourn (Dodge, Gudz)*

197 *Motion carries unanimously at 9:07 p.m.*

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