

**MASTER WORK PLAN
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS CALENDAR**

Board or Commission	BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION
Calendar Year	2008
List all significant agenda items below. Include all pertinent items from the Council Study Issues Calendar.	
MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM/ISSUE
January 31	2008 BPAC Calendar Policy on Allocation of Street Space – Draft Report to Council Update of the City’s Handbook for Boards, Commissions and Committees (for information) City Project List Submitted for the Valley Transportation Plan 2035 (for information) FY 08-09 to FY 13-14 Curb Ramp Installation List (for information) FY 2008-09 AC Overlay/Reconstruction List (for information) BPAC Active Items List
February 21	Updated 2008 BPAC Calendar Proposed Policy on the Allocation of Street Space Review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials Bike to Work Day Planning Utility Bill Stuffer Concepts Earth Day Health and Safety Fair Update of the City’s Handbook for Boards, Commissions and Committees (for information) Home Care Guide published by the County’s Public Health Department (for information) BPAC Active Items List Update
March 20	Updated 2008 BPAC Calendar Proposed Policy on the Allocation of Street Space Review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials Tasman/Fair Oaks Parking Issues – Draft Report to Council Santa Clara Countywide Bicycle Plan Earth Day Event Update (for information) BPAC Active Items List Update
April 17	Policy on Allocation of Street Space FY 08/09 Transportation Development Act Article 3 Funds Allocation Health and Safety Fair Bike to Work Day Earth Day Utility Bill Stuffer (for information) BPAC Active Items List Update

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM/ISSUE
May 15	Land Use and Transportation Element Update – Draft Report to Council Review of FY 08/09 Proposed Budget Earth Day, Health and Safety Fair, and Bike to Work Day debrief Global Sunnyvale - A Celebration of Cultures BPAC Active Items List Update
June 19	Appointment to the VTA Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Policy Supporting Connections to Regional Bicycle Facilities Procedures and level of details for preparation of BPAC Meeting Minutes FY 08/09 Budget (for information to respond to questions raised in the May 15 meeting) BPAC Active Items List Update
July 17	Election of Officers Annual review of the Code of Ethics and Conduct Annual review of the Boards and Commissions Council Policy Study and Budget Issues Development Board and Commission Members Orientation Spare the Air Fair Cycling Tours of the Moffett Park BPAC Active Items List Update
August 21	Policy Supporting Connections to Regional Bicycle Facilities – Draft RTC Study & Budget Issues Development Update of the Sunnyvale Handbook for Boards, Commissions and Committees (for information) BPAC Active Items List Update
September 18	Mary Avenue Extension – Final Environmental Impact Report and Project Approval Study and Budget Issues Finalization
October 16	Study and Budget Issues Ranking
November 20	
December 18	2009 Work Plan

**Policy Supporting Connections to Regional Bicycle Facilities
Draft RTC**

For the 2008 legislative calendar, the City Council ranked a study issue sponsored by the BPAC entitled Policy Supporting Connections to Regional Bicycle Facilities. As described in the BPAC-approved study issue paper, this study issue would consider policy alternatives for connections to regionally significant bicycle facilities such as the Stevens Creek Trail, the Mary Avenue/Route 280 Bicycle Footbridge, or VTA-designated Cross-County Bicycle Corridors. Policy alternatives to be considered could describe the level of effort or priority for designating connections, or constructing improvements to provide connections.

In initiating research for this study, staff surveyed existing policy related to regional bike facilities and concluded that the current City policy documents are relatively rich in policy either directly or indirectly associated with the proposed issue. Existing policies are comprehensive in a number of aspects including access, connections, finance, facility design, and coordination with outside agencies. Results of the staff research and conclusion were shared with the BPAC members during the meeting of June 19, 2008. BPAC generally concluded that there are no significant issues relating to the more global issue of regional bike facility connections, and that only the policy regarding to the Stevens Creek Trail should be revisited by the City Council.

Staff documented all information within the attached Draft RTC which is scheduled to go before Council on August 26, 2008. The draft RTC was reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission on August 13, 2008. The Parks and Recreation Commission concurred with the staff recommendation to make no revisions to existing City policy on regional bike facility connections. Feedback of the BPAC members during the August 21st meeting will be incorporated into the report. Staff recommends that the BPAC recommend Council approval of the staff and Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation contained in the draft RTC.



Draft for Parks and Recreation Commission Review
on August 13, 2008
and Bicycle and Pedestrian
Advisory Commission on August 21, 2008.

Council Meeting: August 26, 2008

**SUBJECT: Policy Supporting Connections to Regional Bicycle
Facilities - Study Issue**

REPORT IN BRIEF

For year 2008, the City Council ranked a study issue sponsored by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) entitled Policy Supporting Connections to Regional Bicycle Facilities (Study issue paper, Attachment A). This study would consider policy alternatives for connections to regionally significant bicycle facilities such as the Stevens Creek Trail, the Mary Avenue/Route 280 Bicycle Footbridge, or the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) designated Cross-County Bicycle Corridors. Policy alternatives to be considered could describe the level of effort or priority for designating connections, or constructing improvements to provide connections.

In initiating research for this study, staff surveyed existing policy related to regional bike facilities. Current City policy documents are relatively rich in policy either directly or indirectly associated with the proposed issue. Staff believes that there is no need to adopt further policy, or modify existing policies in order to achieve the intent of the 2008 study issue. The BPAC discussed the adequacy of existing policies and concurred that there are not significant issues relating to the more global issue of regional bike facility connections that are not addressed by the current policy documents.

However, the BPAC believes that one specific area of policy with regard to the Stevens Creek Trail should be revisited by the City Council. A recently-prepared alternatives study by the City of Los Altos includes a trail alignment alternative that would extend partially into Sunnyvale, which is in conflict with previously adopted policy on the Stevens Creek Trail. The BPAC believes the City should consider modifying policy and support this trail alternative. The BPAC minutes of the June 19, 2008 meeting are attached (Attachment B). Current policy was the result of extensive study and community outreach in the early 1990's. Staff believes revisiting this issue in detail is beyond the scope of the approved study issue. Should the City Council desire to revisit Stevens Creek Trail policy, staff recommends this be considered for study as part of the 2009 Study Issue process.

This issue was also reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission at their meetings of July 9, 2008 and August 13, 2008 (Attachment C). The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends support of Alternative 1, Make no revisions to existing City policy on regional bike facility connections. Commissioners indicated that existing policy seems adequate, and members supported City efforts to expand the bicycle trail network. Commissioners noted that the City is currently planning to consider a Stevens Creek Trail connection at such time that it is appropriate to coordinate with the City of Mountain View's plans. Commissioners also expressed concern that any trail construction adjacent to Sunnyvale residential areas could be disruptive to residents.

BACKGROUND

In initiating research for this study, staff surveyed existing policy related to regional bike facilities. Current City policy documents are relatively rich in policy either directly or indirectly associated with the proposed issue. Existing policies are comprehensive in a number of aspects including access, connections, finance, facility design, and coordination with outside agencies. The Existing Policy section of this report presents related policy.

EXISTING POLICY

GENERAL PLAN LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

R1.9.1

Support state and regional efforts to provide High Occupant Vehicle (HOV) lanes, ridesharing, mass transit service, bicycling, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).

C3.5.4

Maximize the provision of bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

N1.3.2

Study the adequacy/deficiency of bicycle and pedestrian access and circulation within neighborhoods.

N1.3.3

Design streets, pedestrian paths, and bicycle paths to link neighborhoods with services.

N1.14.2

Ensure the provision of bicycle support facilities at all major public use locations.

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE PLAN

Statement of Purpose:

Sunnyvale shall encourage the use of bicycles for transportation and recreation, to minimize air pollution, reduce energy consumption and traffic congestion, and to improve the health and fitness of citizens of all ages.

Objectives:

1. Enhance Sunnyvale's livability by supporting bicycling through planning, engineering, education, encouragement and enforcement.
2. Ensure that a bicyclist of average ability can travel safely on all Sunnyvale streets, and can reach any Sunnyvale destination by a reasonably direct route.
3. Support bicycling as a travel mode on an equal basis with motorized mobility options.

Policy BP.A3

Expand Sunnyvale's network of off-street bicycle paths for recreation and utility cycling by facilitating bicycle access to the Baylands and along flood control channels.

Action BP.A3.c

Evaluate the feasibility of connecting the Calabazas Creek path across Highway 237 and Tasman Drive.

Action BP.A3.d

Facilitate discussion between agencies involved with the Bay Trail to select and discuss alignments and amenities for segments within and adjacent to Sunnyvale.

Action BP.A3.f

Work with the ABAG Bay Trail Project to encourage the provision of a paved trail segment between the north end of Calabazas Creek and the future north terminus of the Guadalupe River Trail at Gold Street in Alviso.

Action BP.A3.h

Coordinate with the City of Mountain View on the design of connections to Sunnyvale streets from its segments of the Stevens Creek Trail south of El Camino Real.

Policy BP.B4

Ensure that the City's new and existing bikeways conform to the latest county, regional, state and federal design standards and guidance.

Action BP.B4.a

Design and maintain the City's bikeways and shared roadway facilities to standards contained in the most recent Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and state MUTCD Supplement, Caltrans Standard Plans, and VTA Bicycle Technical Guidelines.

Action BP.B4.b

Consider bicycle route signage on routes through neighborhoods, incorporating destination names and directional arrows, and also distances where appropriate.

Policy BP.B7

Support county, regional, state and federal policy that supports bicycling.

Action BP.B7.a

Support efforts to establish stable levels of funding for bicycle projects and programs at the county, regional, state and federal level.

Action BP.B7.b

Support bicycle friendly transportation policy at all levels of government including the California Department of Transportation.

GENERAL PLAN OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ELEMENT

2.2.A.8

Support the acquisition or joint use through agreements with partners of suitable sites to enhance Sunnyvale's wide open spaces and recreation facilities based on community need and through such strategies as conversion of sites to open space from developed use of land, and landbanking.

2.2.A.9

Refrain from engaging in the development of open space and/or recreational facilities without prior assurance that ongoing maintenance needs will be addressed.

2.2.A.10

Facilitate and encourage pedestrian traffic in public recreational open spaces and utilize the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's Pedestrian Technical Design guidelines whenever appropriate and feasible.

2.2.A.11

Support the acquisition of existing open space within the City limits as long as financially feasible.

2.2.C Regional Approach

The City embraces a regional approach to providing and preserving open space and providing open space and recreational services, facilities and amenities for the broader community. It is the City's policy, therefore, to:

2.2.C.1

Support activities and legislation that will provide additional local, county, and regional park acquisition, development, and maintenance and recreational opportunities.

2.2.C.2

Support public and private efforts in and around Sunnyvale to acquire, develop and maintain open space and recreation facilities and services for public use.

2.2.C.4

Support a regional trail system by coordinating with adjacent jurisdictions to facilitate trail connections wherever possible. (See also City of Sunnyvale Bicycle Plan.)

2.2.C.5

Determine that a regional trail connection within the Stevens Creek corridor in Sunnyvale is not feasible and should not be constructed along the Stevens Creek corridor on the Sunnyvale side (within City Limits).

Coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions on determining potential surface street trail alignments between the City of Mountain View and the City of Cupertino to ensure a regional trail connection. (This does not preclude consideration of creating Sunnyvale access points to the Mountain View Stevens Creek Trail Segment 2, Reach 4, between Heatherstone and Fremont Avenues.)

2.2.E.9

Allow in-line skating, bicycles and skateboarding on hard-surface sidewalks and pathways throughout the park system, as long as the skateboarders, cyclists and in-line skaters do not pose a hazard to themselves or other forms of traffic such as pedestrians or joggers.

MOFFETT PARK SPECIFIC PLAN

CIR - 2

Provide for improved bicycle and pedestrian mobility within the Specific Plan area.

DISCUSSION

After presenting existing policy to the BPAC, the BPAC concurs that current City policy is comprehensive and supportive of connections to regional bicycle facilities, with the exception of current policy on the Stevens Creek Trail. The BPAC believes that existing policy opposing construction of a trail on the Sunnyvale side of Stevens Creek (Council policy 2.2.C.5 above) should be revisited to take into account a new study produced by the City of Los Altos that includes a trail alternative on the Sunnyvale side of the Creek.

The City Council received an information report on the City's involvement with the Stevens Creek Trail at its May 6, 2008 meeting (RTC 08-143). The Stevens Creek Trail is a partially realized concept for a bicycle and pedestrian route along the Stevens Creek corridor. The trail corridor, originally proposed by

County of Santa Clara trail planners in 1961, stretches from San Francisco Bay in Mountain View to the mountains around Stevens Creek Reservoir in Cupertino. Hiking trails around Stevens Creek Reservoir at the south end of the corridor, are maintained by the County of Santa Clara and the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District. The City of Mountain View has constructed a paved bicycle and pedestrian path at the northern end of the corridor, from Shoreline Park south, to El Camino Real

Mountain View has completed detailed planning for extending the trail further south through their City to a terminus at Mountain View High School. Mountain View recently completed a trail extension to El Camino Real, and is midway through the design of an extension from El Camino Real to Sleeper Avenue (See Attachment D – Mountain View Stevens Creek Trail Map.)

Mountain View has this extension funded for construction in Fiscal Year 2008/09. Mountain View is also funding the design of a further trail extension from Sleeper Avenue east across Highway 85 to Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way. The City of Mountain View anticipates design completion in 2009, but construction of this project is not yet funded.

A final trail extension from Dale Avenue/Heatherstone south to Mountain View High School is planned, but not yet funded. The most recent timeframe estimate received from Mountain View staff for possible construction initiation is 2015, although this could change if the Mountain View City Council advances funding.

From Dale Avenue/Heatherstone south to Fremont Avenue, the Creek itself forms the border between Mountain View and Sunnyvale. South from Fremont Avenue, the city limits of Los Altos and Sunnyvale are at the Creek. Sunnyvale established policy on the Stevens Creek Trail in 1994. The City considered a trail alignment along the Creek within the Sunnyvale City limits. Due to resident opposition and physical and technical obstacles to trail construction, the City Council determined that a trail alignment along the Creek in Sunnyvale was not feasible, and directed staff to coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions on determining potential surface street trail alignments between the City of Mountain View and the City of Cupertino to ensure a regional trail connection.

Los Altos recently published a draft trail alignment feasibility study. This study proposes five alignment alternatives utilizing City streets to connect Mountain View and Cupertino trail alignments (Attachment E). Four alternatives feature Mountain View city streets to reach Los Altos; one alternative proposes a trail extension along the Creek to Fremont Avenue. This alternative would feature trail construction along the Creek in Sunnyvale. The Los Altos proposal for a trail segment along the Creek in Sunnyvale is contrary to Sunnyvale's

established policy, and staff has communicated this to Los Altos staff. Staff believes that the proposed alternative involves community and technical concerns identical or similar to those previously raised when existing policy was established.

Since establishment of the City's policy on the Trail in 1994, staff has met with Mountain View and Cupertino as appropriate to monitor progress on developing the trail, and most recently participated in coordination meetings with Los Altos on their trail planning study. Also, in response to a Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) suggestion to consider a connection from Sunnyvale streets to Mountain View's planned trail corridor, the City Council included an unfunded future trail connection project in the Resource Allocation Plan. This project is proposed to be initiated in 2016, which coincides with Mountain View staff's estimated timing for construction of the last Mountain View trail segment.

Sunnyvale has established policy regarding the Stevens Creek Trail and is actively planning for a trail access from Sunnyvale streets consistent with City policy. While a specific access point has not been identified, one possible location that has been suggested is from Remington Court at the west end of Remington Drive.

The City is actively coordinating with neighboring jurisdictions, consistent with City policy. Staff will continue with this direction and adjust Sunnyvale's planning for Stevens Creek Trail access accordingly.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, in the Council Chambers lobby, in the Office of the City Clerk, at the Library, Senior Center, Community Center, and Department of Public Safety; posting the agenda and report on the City's Web site; and making the report available at the Library and the Office of the City Clerk.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Make no revisions to existing City policy on regional bike facility connections.
2. Propose study of Stevens Creek Trail policy as a potential 2009 Study Issue.
3. Modify or combine existing City policy on regional bike facility connections.
4. Revise City policy on the Stevens Creek Trail, specifically Council policy 2.2.C.5.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend Alternative 1: Make no revisions to existing City policy on regional bike facility connections.

A survey of existing City policy has determined that the City has a comprehensive policy on regional bike facilities. With respect to Stevens Creek Trail policy, this issue was studied extensively in 1994 resulting in current policy. Staff believes that current City policy supports future access for Sunnyvale residents while addressing technical and citizen concerns. No modification is necessary, and revisiting Stevens Creek Trail policy at this time is beyond the scope of the current study issue.

Reviewed by:

Marvin A. Rose, Director, Public Works

Prepared by: Jack Witthaus, Transportation and Traffic Manager

Reviewed by:

David Lewis, Director, Parks and Recreation

Approved by:

Amy Chan

City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Study Issue Paper
- B. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission Minutes
- C. Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes
- D. Stevens Creek Trail Map
- E. Los Altos Stevens Creek Trail Feasibility Study Alternatives

Proposed New Council Study Issue

ATTACHMEN A

Number DPW 08
Status Pending
Calendar Year 2008
New or Previous New
Title Policy Supporting Connections to Regional Bike Facilities
Lead Department Public Works
Element or SubElement Land Use and Transportation

1. What are the key elements of the issue? What precipitated it?

This study issue would consider policy alternatives for connections to regionally significant bicycle facilities such as the Stevens Creek Trail, the Mary Avenue/Route 280 Bicycle Footbridge, or VTA-designated Cross-County Bicycle Corridors. Policy alternatives to be considered could describe the level of effort or priority for designating connections or constructing improvements to provide connections.

2. How does this relate to the General Plan or existing City Policy?

Land Use and Transportation Element R1.2, Support coordinated regional transportation system planning and improvements.

3. Origin of issue

Council Member(s)
 General Plan
 City Staff
 Public
 Board or Commission Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

4. Multiple Year Project? Yes Planned Completion Year 2009

5. Expected participation involved in the study issue process?

Does Council need to approve a work plan? No
 Does this issue require review by a Board/Commission? Yes
 If so, which?
 Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission
 Is a Council Study Session anticipated? No
 What is the public participation process?
 BPAC and Parks and Rec Commission public hearing, Council public hearing

6. Cost of Study

Operating Budget Program covering costs

115 Transportation and Traffic

Project Budget covering costs

Budget modification \$ amount needed for study

Explain below what the additional funding will be used for

7. Potential fiscal impact to implement recommendations in the Study approved by Council

Capital expenditure range \$101K - \$500K

Operating expenditure range None

New revenues/savings range None

Explain impact briefly

This policy could lead to the development and adoption of new capital projects to provide or enhance bike facility connections in Sunnyvale to regional facilities such as the Stevens Creek Trail or VTA Cross County bicycle corridors.

8. Staff Recommendation

Staff Recommendation None

If 'For Study' or 'Against Study', explain

9. Estimated consultant hours for completion of the study issue

Managers

Role	Manager	Hours	
Lead	Witthaus, Jack	Mgr CY1: 80	Mgr CY2: 0
		Staff CY1: 0	Staff CY2: 0

Total Hours CY1: 80

Total Hours CY2: 0

Note: If staff's recommendation is 'For Study' or 'Against Study', the Director should note the relative importance of this Study to other major projects that the Department is currently working on or that are soon to begin, and the impact on existing services/priorities.

Reviewed by

Maurice A. Rose

Department Director

10/18/07

Date

Approved by

Greg Ahern

City Manager

10/18/07

Date

Addendum

A. Board / Commission Recommendation

Issue Created Too Late for B/C Ranking

Board or Commission	Rank Rank 1 year ago	Rank Rank 2 years ago
Arts Commission		
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee	2	
Board of Building Code Appeals		
Board of Library Trustees		
Child Care Advisory Board		
Heritage Preservation Commission		
Housing and Human Services Commission		
Parks and Recreation Commission		
Personnel Board		
Planning Commission		
Board or Commission ranking comments		

B. Council

Council Rank (no rank yet)
Work Plan Review Date (blank)
Study Session Date (blank)
RTC Date (blank)
Actual Complete Date (blank)
Staff Contact