

Proposed 2010 Council Study Issue

DPW10-06 Plan Line Study to Accommodate Bicyclists and Pedestrians

Lead Department	Public Works		
Element or Sub-element	Land Use and Transportation Element, and Bicycle Plan		
New or Previous	New		
Status	Pending	History	1 year ago Dropped 2 years ago Dropped

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

According to the Bicycle Opportunities Study, the City of Sunnyvale has a number of street segments where the public right of way (ROW) is too narrow to accommodate adequate bicycle lanes and sidewalks, even though adjoining street segments have sufficient width. The abrupt narrowing of the ROW creates hazards and inconvenience for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. The acquisition of ROW to provide continuity for bicycle and pedestrian facilities is in most cases cost prohibitive. This study issue to allow the City to obtain the necessary ROW by conditioning approval of development permits for the private properties adjoining the narrow segments upon dedication of additional ROW to the City, if there is a nexus between the development and the use of the public ROW. A plan line study would provide that nexus in conformance with state and federal law, thereby allowing acquisition of the needed ROW additions at minimal costs to the city. The dedication would only occur when the property owner applies for significant City development permits. In the absence of a plan line study, the City can not legally condition development approvals upon dedication of land.

The following road segments are candidates for a plan line study:

- Mathilda Avenue between Maude and Ahwanee
- Pastoria Avenue between El Camino real and Olive avenue
- Wolfe Road between Fremont avenue and Maria Lane
- Mary Avenue between central Expressway and Maude Avenue
- Maude avenue between Pastoria Avenue and Wolfe Road
- Fair Oaks Avenue between Maude Avenue and Ahwanee Avenue
- Fair Oaks Avenue between Faor Oaks way and Weddell drive
- Ahwanee Drive between Mathilda Avenue and Lawrence Expressway

The study would have two phases. Phase 1 would determine the need for additional ROW. If so, the study would identify affected parcels, land uses, the extent of dedication needed. Phase 1 would also prioritize the street segments by need based on the degree of inconvenience and hazard on ROW users caused by the existing inadequate ROW, and potential impacts to adjoining land owners. Based on the results of the Phase 1 study, the City Council would decide whether to proceed with the plan line process for any specific street segments, which is considered a policy issue.

Should the City Council decide to proceed with Phase 2 for any specific street segment, Phase 2 would be implemented by street segment, based on prioritization established by the council and availability of funding. This phase would examine issue such as utility relocation, tree removal, median modification, street reconstruction, mapping of affected properties, possible creation of non-conforming parcels, public outreach, and environmental impacts.

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

BP.B2.a, City of Sunnyvale Bike Plan – Provide for bicyclists as part of roadway resurfacing and maintenance, road widening, new developments and property redevelopment. Notify City Council if providing for bicycles appears to be infeasible.

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** 2011

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, Planning Commission
- Is a Council Study Session anticipated?** No
- What is the public participation process?**
Public hearings of the BPAC and Planning Commissions, and of City Council.

6. Cost of Study

- Operating Budget Program covering costs**
115 Transportation Operations
- Project Budget covering costs**
- Budget modification \$ amount needed for study**
\$400,000.00
- Explain below what the additional funding will be used for**
The funding would be used for engineering and planning services.

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

- Capital expenditure range** \$501K or more
- Operating expenditure range** None
- New revenues/savings range** None
- Explain impact briefly**
The project could result in plan lines for a number of street segments in order to widen the roadway to provide for Class II bicycle lanes and pedestrian sidewalks. Costs that could be associated with this project if it is approved would be related to expenses associated with right-of-way acquisition, construction, and utility relocation.

8. Staff Recommendation

Staff Recommendation Against Study

If 'For Study' or 'Against Study', explain
This study represents a considerable expense for a product that would not be put to use for many years. Staff believes that widening the candidate streets for bike lanes is a very long range proposition that will require much vetting in the community before projects are pursued. Community outreach and environmental processes should take place prior to detailed engineering and institution of requirements for land dedication. There is no funding identified at this time for initiating community and environmental processes and no timeline for initiating same. Construction of any project likely would not occur for many years, if at all, and could be subject to considerable change from what this study issue would identify in the near term.

9. Estimated consultant hours for completion of the study issue

1000

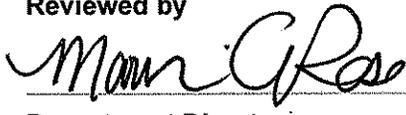
Managers	Role	Manager	Hours	
Lead	Witthaus, Jack	Mgr CY1:	125	Mgr CY2: 40
		Staff CY1:	200	Staff CY2: 100
Support	Kahn, David	Mgr CY1:	20	Mgr CY2: 20
		Staff CY1:	40	Staff CY2: 40
Support	Rogge, Mark	Mgr CY1:	40	Mgr CY2: 40
		Staff CY1:	100	Staff CY2: 100
Support	Ryan, Trudi	Mgr CY1:	20	Mgr CY2: 20
		Staff CY1:	40	Staff CY2: 40

Total Hours CY1: 585

Total Hours CY2: 400

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

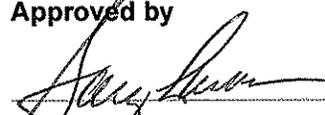


Department Director

10/15/09

Date

Approved by



City Manager

10-15-09

Date

Addendum

A. Board / Commission Recommendation

Issue Created Too Late for B/C Ranking

Board or Commission	Rank	Rank 1 year ago	Rank 2 years ago
Arts Commission			
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee	1	1	1
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)
Start Date (blank)
Work Plan Review Date (blank)
Study Session Date (blank)
RTC Date (blank)
Actual Complete Date (blank)
Staff Contact