

2011 Council Study Issue

DPW 11-07 Adopt a Policy to Utilize the VTA Bicycle Technical Guidelines

Lead Department Public Works

History 1 year ago None 2 years ago None

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

The BPAC members would like to ensure implementing a higher standard for bicycle facilities rather than often proceeding with the minimum standard. The VTA Bicycle Technical Guidelines is a comprehensive "best practices" manual for bicycle facilities on public streets and at private development. For example, it recommends for six-foot wide bike lane which is wider than the state minimum standard of five feet. The document also presents standards for the type and amount of bicycle parking. BPAC members noted that existing facilities would be grandfathered in until roads are scheduled for reconstruction/resurfacing work. The BPAC members also would like to ensure deploying the VTA Guidelines when making decisions about bicycle facilities on public streets and private development.

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

Land use and Transportation Element C3.5 - Maximize the provision of bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

3. Origin of issue

Board or Commission Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

4. Staff effort required to conduct study Minor

5. Multiple Year Project? No **Planned Completion Year** 2011

6. 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

7. Briefly explain cost of study, including consultant hours, impacted budget program, required budget modifications, etc. and amounts if known.

The VTA Bicycle Technical Guidelines contains elements that are not consistent with established federal and state standards. This study would assess the dissimilarities and make a recommendation on policy changes. The study would be prepared by staff and costs would be absorbed by existing operating budgets.

8. Briefly explain potential fiscal impact of implementing study results (consider capital and operating costs, as well as potential revenue).

Project could result in new bike improvements of an unknown, potentially significant fiscal impact. For example, requiring wider bicycle lanes could have significant fiscal impacts when it would require roadway widening. Other standards would need to be assessed but could have unknown

fiscal impacts of a similar nature.

9. Staff Recommendation

Staff Recommendation Against Study

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

There is no current need for conducting this study issue. It is the City's practice to reference the VTA Bicycle Technical Guidelines when reviewing development applications for private sites. With regard to bicycle facilities within the public right-of-way, there is typically conflicting demands for a limited space. Staff typically establishes wider bike lanes when the pavement width permits and reference the VTA Technical Guidelines as a best practice for other bicycling issues.

Reviewed by

Marc A. Rao 11/9/2010

Department Director

Date

Approved by

[Signature] 11/9/10

City Manager

Date