

## 2013 Council Study Issue

## DPW 13-02 Replacing Double Yellow Roadway Striping Lines With Dashed Lines

**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?**

This issue would present design standards for the application of roadway centerline striping and consider establishing a policy or standard operating procedure for application of dashed yellow striping versus double yellow striping for roadway centerlines in Sunnyvale. Dashed yellow striping would legally and perceptually allow motorists to utilize opposite direction travel lanes (if clear of oncoming traffic) when passing bicyclists. This may improve motorists' confidence to provide sufficient clearance between a bicyclist and a passing motor vehicle. The study would also identify alternative approaches for retrofitting roads in order to consider varying levels of budget or operating impact, such as implementation as a single capital project, or implementation as part of regular striping or pavement maintenance cycles.

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

LT-5.4b, Install permanent and painted roadway markings.

**3. Origin of issue**

**Board or Commission** Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

**4. Staff effort required to conduct study** Minor

**Briefly explain the level of staff effort required**

Review of traffic control design standards, estimation of amount of striping to be replaced, development of budgetary and operating impacts of various implementation approaches.

**5. Multiple Year Project?** No            **Planned Completion Year** 2013

**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  
Commission

**Is a Council Study Session anticipated?** No

**7. Briefly explain if a budget modification will be required to study this issue**

**Amount of budget modification required** 0

**Explanation**

Study cost can be absorbed within the existing operating budget.

**8. Briefly explain potential costs of implementing study results, note estimated**

capital and operating costs, as well as estimated revenue/savings, include dollar amounts

Are there costs of implementation? Yes

**Explanation**

Changes to centerline striping would require preparation work such as grinding of striping. This could occur as a one time capital project, or could be implemented as a standard operating procedure as part of paving or striping maintenance schedules. Depending upon the approach, varying levels of budgetary impact could occur, with the greatest being a one time capital project and the least likely being as part of paving maintenance cycles, when striping is routinely refreshed as part of the pavement maintenance.

**9. Staff Recommendation**

**Staff Recommendation** Drop

**If 'Support', 'Drop' or 'Defer', explain**

Staff believes that replacement of double yellow striping with single yellow striping also may reduce confusion on the part of drivers who seek to pass bicyclists. However, this change would also allow motorists to pass other cars which could increase speeding and increase the risk of head-on collisions. Staff feels that adequate design standards for striping already exist and that deviating from accepted standards would subject the City to increased liability.

**Reviewed by**

*Kent Steffens*

**Department Director**

*10-5-12*

**Date**

**Approved by**

*[Signature]*

**City Manager**

*10-8-12*

**Date**