

Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Traffic & Parking Commission Committee will conduct a Special Meeting, at the following time and place, and will address the agenda listed below:

CITY HALL 455 North Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210 Teleconference/Video Conference Meeting

Beverly Hills Liaison Meeting https://www.gotomeet.me/BHLiaison

You can also dial in by phone:

United States (Toll Free): 1-866-899-4679 or United States: 1-646-749-3117
Access Code: 660-810-077

Access Code. 660-610-077

Tuesday, August 25, 2020 9:00 AM

Pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 members of the Beverly Hills City Council and staff may participate in this meeting via a teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate in the teleconference/video conference by using this link: https://www.gotomeet.me/BHLiaison or by phone at 1-866-899-4679 or 1-646-749-3117, Access Code: 660-810-077. Written comments may be emailed to mayorandcitycouncil@beverlyhills.org and will be read at the meeting.

AGENDA

- Public Comment
 Members of the public will be given the opportunity to directly address the
 Committee on any item listed on the agenda.
- 2) Complete Streets Plan
 - a. Discussion of next steps.
- 3) Adjournment

George Chavez, City Manager

Posted: August 21, 2020

A DETAILED LIAISON AGENDA PACKET IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT WWW.BEVERLYHILLS.ORG



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MEMORANDUM

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

TO: City Council and Traffic and Parking Commission Liaison Committee

FROM: Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Assistant City Manager

Susan Healy Keene, AICP, Director of Community Development

Aaron Kunz, Deputy Director of Transportation

Jessie Holzer, Transportation Planner

DATE: August 25, 2020

SUBJECT: Complete Streets Plan

Introduction

This report provides an update on the status of the Draft Beverly Hills Complete Streets Plan.

The City released a Draft Complete Streets Plan for public review on Friday November 15, 2019. The Draft Plan was discussed at a Traffic and Parking Special Meeting/Open House on December 3, 2019. A second Open House was intended to be conducted in early 2020, but the meeting was not scheduled before the pandemic hit Beverly Hills.

The purpose of this City Council/Traffic and Parking Commission Liaison Committee meeting is to discuss options for restarting the process of finalizing a Complete Streets Plan prior to submission to City Council.

Background

As part of the fiscal year 2016/2017 City Council Priority Exercise, the City Council identified the preparation of a Bicycle Mobility Plan as the first step in developing a citywide mobility plan. On May 4, 2017, the City Council/Traffic and Parking Commission Liaison Committee (Vice Mayor Gold, Councilmember Friedman, Chair Seidel, and Commissioner Solnit) supported expanding the scope of the Bicycle Mobility Plan to a "complete streets" approach that includes a comprehensive analysis of pedestrian, bicycle, and street networks, and emerging transportation modes and technologies, such as autonomous vehicles. Since fiscal year 2018/2019, City Council has included "Complete Streets" as a priority in the budget process and it has been established in the City's adopted Capital Improvement Program.

Once adopted, the Beverly Hills Complete Streets Plan will provide a Council-approved work plan for transportation planning projects that will bring the City up to current industry-identified best practices to improve mobility for all people, help prepare for emerging technologies, prioritize first/last mile improvements to the Metro Purple Line stations, and increase grant funding eligibility. The Complete Streets Plan will provide the overall vision for transportation planning in the city, and guide the development of future detailed design plans and feasibility studies for project installation. The Complete Streets Plan is intended to be a long-range document providing the City's overall transportation policy guidance for 5-10 years.

Staff released the Draft Complete Streets Plan (Draft Plan) for public review on April 10, 2019 and accepted comments through May 17, 2019. On May 8, 2019 at a special evening meeting of the Traffic and Parking Commission to receive feedback on the Draft Plan, approximately 10 people attended and provided comments. Overall, the majority of speakers and plan reviewers from the

community were pleased that the City is developing a Complete Streets Plan, but said that the Draft Plan lacked project specifics.

At the May 8, 2019 special meeting, the Commission discussed that the Draft Plan provided a good guiding framework for how the City should conduct transportation planning in the future. They generally agreed with the speakers and emphasized that design details would be determined during the implementation phase of the project with neighborhood-level community input. The Commission voted 5-0 to recommend that the City Council adopt the Complete Streets Plan.

On June 12, 2019, staff presented this information to the City Council/Traffic and Parking Commission Liaison Committee (Vice Mayor Friedman, Councilmember Wunderlich, Chair Solnit, and Vice Chair Manaster). The Liaisons directed staff to provide more detail on implementation and project specifics before presenting the plan to City Council for adoption.

In response, staff reorganized the Draft Plan to include two standalone documents with the goal to organize the plan in a user-friendly way: (1) Draft Complete Streets Plan and Technical Appendices and (2) Draft Complete Streets Action Plan.

The Draft Plan consists of goals and polices to present the overall vision for transportation in Beverly Hills and to guide development of and support for complete streets implementation. Goals and policies, as well as infrastructure and programmatic recommendations, are organized by mode: Bicycling, walking, taking transit, and driving. Sample goals and policies include:

- **Bicycling:** Provide a holistic and connected bicycle network; expand bike parking
- Walking: Enhance sidewalks as public spaces; improve pedestrian safety
- Taking Transit: Improve the rider experience; provide first/last mile connections
- **Driving:** Harness the power of data and technology; reduce traffic congestion

Each of the four modal chapters include a summary of existing conditions and recommendations for projects that would help achieve the vision, goals, and policies. Examples of the types of project recommendations in each chapter are:

- **Bicycling:** Gather data, including community support, and produce engineering drawings for high priority bikeways; install more sidewalk racks and on-street bike corrals
- Walking: Develop streetscape plans to determine where specific pedestrian improvements should be located; implement grant-funded projects to expand walkability and educate the community
- **Taking Transit:** Create design standards for bus shelters; analyze options to provide first/last mile connections and amenities through a Mobility Hub at the Gale Staging Yard
- Driving: Use BHPD's new Crossroads software program, when available, to manage, track, and report on collisions across modes; analyze options for flexible curb and parking lanes

The Technical Appendices provide industry-identified best practices, emerging trends, summaries of public outreach efforts, and other information that informed plan development.

The Draft Plan is supplemented by a standalone Draft Complete Streets Action Plan (Action Plan) that prioritizes recommended and ongoing projects for implementation in the first six years after plan adoption. The example projects identified above are included in the Action Plan.

Discussion

On Friday November 1, 2019, staff provided the revised plan documents to the City Council/Traffic and Parking Commission Liaison Committee who confirmed their comments had been addressed and asked staff to organize a special meeting of the Traffic and Parking Commission to receive community input before presenting to City Council for adoption.

Staff scheduled the special meeting (Draft Plan Open House) for December 3, 2019 and released the Draft Plan and Action Plan for public review on Friday, November 15, 2019 via the project website: www.beverlyhills.org/completestreets. Hard copies were made available for review at the City Clerk's office, the Beverly Hills Public Library reference desk, and La Cienega and Roxbury Parks.

To help get the word out to the community, staff electronically notified the Complete Streets interest list (consisting of everyone who requested plan updates or attended an event), Traffic and Parking Commission interest list, all citywide Commissions, HOA managers, Southeast Task Force/Strategic Planning email list, Metro stakeholders email list, Chamber of Commerce, Conference and Visitors Bureau, and Beverly Hills Unified School District. In addition, staff distributed a press release, provided information to the Courier and the Weekly, and promoted on social media.

At the Traffic and Parking Commission Special Meeting/Draft Plan Open House, some community members expressed concerns of bicycle plan elements, particularly a table in the bicycle chapter that included potential loss of parking as one option for implementing bikeways in constrained areas (there have not been concerns expressed with the other mode recommendations).

Staff was directed to organize a second Draft Plan Open House in early 2020 to provide a forum for additional public input. Due to scheduling conflicts in early 2020, staff was not able to schedule a meeting before the pandemic hit Beverly Hills and City Hall closed to the public. Over the past month, the City Council and Traffic and Parking Commission have received 39 letters/calls in support of a bicycle network and the Complete Streets Plan. During discussion at the July Traffic and Parking Commission meeting, the Chair requested that a City Council/Traffic and Parking Commission Liaison meeting be held to discuss a path forward.

Next Steps

The goal is to provide a pathway for additional public input and prepare a finalized Draft Complete Streets Plan for presentation to City Council. Two possibilities are:

- 1. Redrafting portions of the Draft Plan followed by conducting an Open House. This option allows for the possibility of incorporating existing public input prior to further review; or
- 2. Scheduling an additional Open House prior to any revisions to the current Draft Plan, followed by consideration of potential revisions to incorporate public input.

After determining a path forward for responding to community concerns, staff proposes returning to the City Council/Traffic and Parking Commission Liaisons to confirm comments have been addressed and determine the next steps, such as presenting the Draft Plan back to the Traffic and Parking Commission, presenting the Draft Plan directly to City Council, etc.