

**Draft Minutes
Special Meeting
Transportation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, June 21, 2023**

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Alameda City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Avenue, Council Chambers
The City allows members of the public to participate in person or remotely via Zoom. For information to assist with Zoom participation, please click: <https://www.alamedaca.gov/zoom>.

Zoom Attendees: 26

Legistar Link (Agenda and Video):

<https://alameda.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=1102123&GUID=98E1D86B-5187-47CE-AC3D-5E6CBA1C0921&Options=info|&Search=>

1. Roll Call

Present: Chair Soules, Vice Chair Yuen and Commissioners Johnson, Nachtigall, and Suthanthira.
Absent: Commissioners Kohlstrand and Weitze

2. Agenda Changes

None.

3. 2023-3175 - Staff Communications

Lisa Foster, Senior Transportation Coordinator, made several announcements (*0:53), which are available in detail at:

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6254582&GUID=2D288BB1-E657-4BD3-B1BE-8BA84CC0420E&FullText=1>.

4. Announcements / Public Comments

None.

5. Consent Calendar

5A. 2023 – 3176 - Draft Minutes - Transportation Commission Meeting - Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Minutes can be found:

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6254583&GUID=5B8AE77C-49F8-42EA-A66D-FDFBCCF07F56&FullText=1>.

Commissioner Suthanthira made a motion to approve the consent calendar and Board Member Nachtigall seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0.

6. Regular Agenda Items

6A. 2023-3178 - Recommendation to Endorse a Preferred Design Concept for the Grand Street Safety Improvement Project for a continuous Two-Way Bikeway from Shore Line Drive to Clement Avenue.

Andrew Thomas, Planning Building & Transportation Director, introduced this item and gave a presentation (*5:32). The staff report and attachments can be found at:

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6254584&GUID=4446D00B-F66E-49AE-BC8E-AAE8862B4EF4&FullText=1>.

Commissioner clarifying questions start at the 27:06 minute mark.

Public Comment for 6A

Jon Spangler (*39:09) is a safe bicycling teacher and long-time Alameda resident. He did not approve of Alternative 1 because when bikes are not treated as traffic and are therefore coming from unexpected directions, accidents were more likely. Left-turning cars would not expect them. He liked alternative 2 because bikes would not be crossing streets from the wrong side. He thought the roundabout at Otis and Grand would solve the transition from 2-way to 1-way bike lanes.

Carol Gottstein (*42:37) thought that alternative 1 was dangerous and agreed with Speaker Spangler. She said it puts too much strain on the east side of Grand Street and reduced parking. She would be unable to get to her car because she has to stand in a bike lane to get in and load her car, which would be exacerbated by the reduced width of the parking lane.

John Brennan, (*45:47) said he was speaking on behalf of a group of Grand Street residents. He said they supported Alternatives 1 and 2, and liked the continuous 2-lane bikeway, though there was disagreement between alternatives 1 and 2. They wanted lighted crosswalks and four-way stops at San Jose and Clinton. Then, speaking on behalf of himself and his family, he supported Alternative 2 because it didn't have bike traffic coming from unexpected directions.

Cyndy Johnson *via Zoom*, Bike Walk Alameda, (*48:47) supported Alternative 1 because it was a good balance. She also supported using local funds for Segment B because it would mean immediate action. If not Alternative A, she supported the council-approved plan.

Steve Gorman *via Zoom* (*50:46) supported Alternative 1 because it would preserve parking and promote safety. He was concerned about a narrow street in Alternative 2 because it could make it hard for firetrucks and other trucks to travel. He was okay with the longer timeline because it would have beneficial long-term effects.

Alex Spher *via Zoom* (*53:20) supported Alternative 1 and 2, but preferred Alternative 2 because it had normal traffic directions and movement.

Joshua Han *via Zoom* (*55:13) supported Alternative 1 because it would mean that Segment B happened quickly.

Action for 6A

Commissioner discussion started at the 56:15 minute mark of the video.

Vice Chair Yuen made a motion (*57:47) to endorse to the City Council the approval of the staff recommendation for the Design Concept for Alternative 1. Chair Soules seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0 with additional comments added about including education and pedestrians' improvements.

7. Commission Communications

Commissioner Suthanthira discussed (*1:07:06) her concerns about the lack of connection for Bay Farm to the Main Island. She wanted to see improved connections to the bridges.

8. Adjournment

Chair Soules adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

*shows minute mark in video to hear comments in full.