

MINUTES  
JOINT MEETING AND A SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION  
613 East Broadway, Council Chambers, City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Glendale, CA 91204  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024**  
6:00 P.M.

**6:05 p.m.** - Chairperson Shahbazian of the Planning Commission called to order the Special Meeting of the Planning Commission And The Sustainability Commission Of The City Of Glendale in the City Council Chambers, 613 East Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Glendale.

Planning Commissioners

Present: Chraghchian - Vice Chairperson  
          Lee - Commissioner  
          Minassian - Commissioner  
          Shahbazian - Chairperson  
Absent: Fuentes - Commissioner

Sustainability Division Commissioners

Present: Bazemore - Vice Chairperson  
          Bartosouf - Commissioner  
          Kartounian - Commissioner  
          Werner - Commissioner  
Absent: Pinkerton - Chairperson  
  
          Ispendjian - Ex-Officio  
          Welch - Ex-Officio

Community Development Department Staff

- Fred Zohrevand, Principal Mobility Planner
- Roger Kiesel, Senior Planner
- Arezoo Kamali, Planning Associate

Sustainability Division Staff

- David Jones – Sustainability Officer

Legal Department Staff

- Gillian van Muyden, Chief Assistant City Attorney
- Yvette Neukian, Principal Assistant City Attorney

2. **REPORT REGARDING POSTING OF AGENDA**

The agenda for this meeting was posted on Wednesday, February 29, 2024, on the Bulletin Board outside City Hall and on the City's web site.

3. **REPORTS INFORMATION**

**(a) LOCATION: CITYWIDE**

- **RECEIVE REPORT ON AND REVIEW OF PROPOSED BIKE NETWORK MAP AND PHASING OF THE BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

**CASE NUMBER: NOT APPLICABLE**

**APPLICANT: CITY OF GLENDALE**

**Project Description**

The City Council initiated the update of the Citywide Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP) in February 2022, with a vision to shape the next two decades of safe, convenient, and inviting biking infrastructure in Glendale. Engaging the public through an interactive online map and significant outreach events, inputs from the technical team, Project Development Team (PDT), Sustainability Commission (SC), and Transportation and Parking Commission (TPC) resulted the development of a well-connected citywide preliminary bicycle network.

In this report, staff presents an update on the progress of the BTP development, and respectfully requests further input and comments from the Planning Commission and from the Sustainability Commission on the Bike Network Map and City's implementation phasing. The overarching goal for this project is to establish an all-ages, all-abilities bicycle network for the entirety of Glendale.

**Environmental Determination**

Exempt from further CEQA Review, as the Planning Commission and Sustainability Commission will be receiving an informational report and providing feedback, and will not be taking any action to approve or adopt the aforementioned items; accordingly, the commonsense exemption applies because this item does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question

may have a significant effect on the environment CEQA Guidelines No. 15061 (b) (3).

#### STAFF

Staff Members Fred Zohrevand - Principal Planner, and Arezoo Kamali - Planning Associate, both individually presented the staff report and highlighted the main items of the staff report. They answered questions from the Planning and Sustainability Commissioners.

Staff member Fred Zohrevand stated that the Community Development Department staff recommends that the Planning Commission and the Sustainability Commission make recommendations to the City Council.

APPLICANT: City of Glendale

#### CONSULTING FIRM

Mr. Sam Frommer Of Buro Happold, made a lengthy presentation. He presented a PowerPoint on "Glendale Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP).

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

In Support: None.

In Opposition: None.

Interested Persons: None.

#### SPEAKING AT THE HEARING

In Support: No one.

In Opposition: No one.

Interested Persons: No one.

#### CALLERS

- Mr. Arthur
- Ms. Rachel
- Mr. M. Taylor
- Ms. P. Vincenti

### DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS

Planning and Sustainability Commissioners discussed the project and expressed the following concerns and made recommendations to the City Council for their consideration.

- Concerned about the lack of inclusivity for bicyclists with disabilities, elderly, and children.
- Cost Estimate for the construction, operations, and maintenance of the proposed project.
- Public outreach and involving public in discussions.
- Affect of "AI – Artificial Intelligence" and "self-driving" vehicles on this plan.
- Updating the City's "Circulation Element".
- Clarification on how bike activated traffic signals work and how they compare to pedestrian signals.
- Disagree with legalizing sidewalk riding in business districts.
- Motorized vehicles and e-mobility should be prohibited from using sidewalks.
- Lacking a safe place to ride in the street means, some people may ride on the sidewalk.
- Compromise should be made where sidewalk riding is allowable if there is no dedicated bike lane.
- All bicycles should have a license plate.
- Reducing speed limits and educating individuals of their rights and responsibilities of the road.
- Providing Bike parking in private and new buildings.
- Maintenance of bike lanes and reconfiguration.
- Co-ordinate with Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments.
- Map showing high and low volume streets.
- Upgrading some of the existing bike routes to "Bike Boulevards".
- Bike facility on Honolulu Avenue should continue west under the freeway to connect directly to La Tuna Canyon Road.
- Include Glendale Avenue and Chevy Chase Drive in Phase I in coordination with the 'CIP'.
- Determine geographic areas for the geographic equity map.
- Fault data in crash analysis.
- Regional or national standard for crash density and rates, and how does the City of Glendale compare.
- Is the crash methodology used, including the crash density, a national standard.
- Compared to the City of Los Angeles, City of Glendale has safer streets.

- Why in the crash analysis are they called Draft Safety Corridors.

Planning Commission Vote As Follows

Ayes: Chraghchian, Lee, Minassian, Shahbazian

Noes: None

Absent: Fuentes

Abstain: None

Sustainability Division Vote As Follows

Ayes: Bartrosouf, Kartounian, Werner, Bazemore

Noes: None

Absent: Pinkerton

Abstain: None

8. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT UPDATES: NONE.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Shahbazian of the Planning Commission adjourned the hearing at 9:00 p.m. All present were in favor.

  
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CHAIRPERSON – PLANNING COMMISSION

*Jennifer Pinkerton*

  
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CHAIRPERSON –SUSTAINABILITY COM MISSION

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