

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** December 12, 2019  
**TO:** Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission  
**FROM:** Ginger Hashimoto, Management Analyst  
**SUBJECT:** Amtrak Access and Connections Study

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### **Recommendation**

1. Receive a status update on the Amtrak Access and Connections Study including an informational presentation by the consultant on preliminary findings
2. Provide feedback to be incorporated into the final study

### **Background and Analysis**

In October 2017, the City submitted an application to the California Department of Transportation's Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program to examine access and connection issues related to the Davis Amtrak Station. In December 2017, the State awarded the City \$250,000 to fund a comprehensive study. In May 2018, the City released a request for proposals seeking consultant services. In June 2018, the City entered into an agreement with Fehr and Peers.

### **Study Overview**

Serving over 10 percent of the total Capitol Corridor ridership, the Davis Amtrak Station is one of the busiest stations in the region. Despite its popularity, the Station is fraught with challenges. Parking surveys show the lot fills well before the arrival of the first train and remains full until the late afternoon. Surveys also suggest that bicycle parking is regularly at or near capacity. Additionally, the current depot lacks modern amenities and safety features.

Given these challenges, the study will seek to identify opportunities to increase ridership, improve multimodal accessibility, and enhance station safety. In addition, the study will examine the potential benefits of implementing such changes including relieving congestion on local roadways, reducing vehicle miles traveled, and stimulating economic activity downtown.

### **Commission Review**

Using these goals as its framework, Fehr and Peers has endeavored in a months-long process to better understand the current usage of the station. Activities completed include administering an online and in-person user survey, collecting driveway count data, completing an existing conditions analysis, coordinating with the Downtown Specific Plan consultant team to ensure alignment, as well as convening three pop-up workshops, one community workshop, one community presentation, and two stakeholder advisory committee meetings.

Tonight, the Commission will receive an informational presentation from Fehr and Peers on preliminary findings and ideas for improvement. Staff is seeking the Commission's feedback on the preliminary concepts presented. Fehr and Peers will incorporate relevant feedback into the final study, which staff tentatively plans to share with Council in late February.

For more information, please refer to the project website:

<https://www.cityofdavis.org/city-hall/city-manager-s-office/davis-amtrak-access-and-connections-study>