



Minutes
Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC)
January 14, 2021
5:30 p.m.

Commission Members: Joe Bolte, Austin Brown, Timothy Csontos (Chair), Lizzy Hare, Jessica Jacobson (Vice Chair), Brook Ostrom (alternate), Ayush Patel, David Soule

Council Liaison: Josh Chapman

Staff: Brian Abbanat, Senior Transportation Planner

Absences: None

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Welcome New Commissioners and Oath of Office

Brian Abbanat welcomed Commissioners Brown and Ostrom. Commissioners Ostrom and Brown recited their Oaths of Office and in shared some information about themselves.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion (Bolte, Patel): Approve agenda

Motion carries unanimously

4. Brief Announcements from Staff and Liaisons

A. Bike/Ped Program Update

Jennifer Donofrio gave an update on the Bicycle / Pedestrian program including:

- An overview of the program areas, for new commissioners
- League of American Bicyclists certification, report card

B. Council Liaison(s) Announcements

Josh Chapman introduced himself to the commission. Excited to work with this commission, get to know commissioners.

C. Other Staff Announcements

No additional staff comments

5. Public Comment

Robert Woolley, voiced opposition to parking restrictions in September 2020. Disagrees with setting up small, personalized districts in residential neighborhoods. Requests BTSSC to reverse decision and properly notify adjacent residents.

6. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of Minutes: December 10, 2020

Motion (Bolte, Jacobson): Approve minutes

Motion carries unanimously

7. Regular Items

A. Presentation from Yolo County Transportation District on Draft Comprehensive Operational Assessment

Jose Perez, Deputy Director of Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD) gave a presentation on the Comprehensive Operational Assessment, also known as YoloGo. YCTD is not sure if assumptions leading into the COA are still appropriate given pandemic and potential changes long term changes in transit rider behavior. As a result, are conducting a re-assessment with community outreach occurring now. Emphasized COA is not carved in stone and not intended to be followed blindly. Expects changes and deviations from recommendations. Performance metrics will be used for service changes over time. Discussed proposed service changes for Davis.

Commissioner Brown inquired about 42A/B realignment Alternative 2 and Fifth Street being a student rider corridor. Also asked about timing alignment of transfers with other service providers.

Jose Perez responded that Yolobus has an arrangement with UCD/Unitrans allowing undergraduates to ride Yolobus for free with undergraduate ID. They expect a significant increase in ridership. YCTD is coordinating with Unitrans for cross-promotion and looking at technological improvements where they can provide real-time information on both sites for shared stops and shared routes. Regarding transfers, YCTD works closely with SacRT, have regular communication/coordination for schedule timing with light rail.

Commissioner Hare asked about metrics for reassessing route changes. Fears route reductions would result in a downward spiral, particularly for commuters. What would trigger re-evaluation?

Jose Perez responded YCTD is still developing metrics, but will likely be based on riders/hr, riders/route, cost/trip. Other priorities are also considered including air quality, quality of life for riders. YCTD is not certain yet what the new commute will look like. Public agency employers are not expecting 100% return to office. So they are expecting a decrease in commuter demand. They do not want to run empty buses and are thus reallocating resources from Covid into better ROI such as Route 42A/B expansion. If ridership returns to pre-covid levels, then resources could be reallocated to discontinued routes. Will look at performance of all the changes and make necessary modifications. But need to give public time to settle into service changes.

Commissioner Bolte commented he has been attending YCTD meetings for the past year, pushing to increase service on 42. Sees this as a positive development. Streamlining through Fifth Street should increase ridership quite a bit. South Davis will not receive intercity service. On the whole, this is a net positive. Will be hard to evaluate effects, because Covid arrived in the middle of the process. Plan is intended to be revenue neutral. It will be necessary to increase intercity transit to achieve climate goals.

Council member Chapman asked about outreach/education to south Davis since the service is being cancelled and whether alternative public transportation exists for those residents.

Jose Perez responded YCTD did extensive outreach to existing riders and public in general during the process. Just went live with public outreach now. Could not conduct neighborhood-level outreach due to resources, but did conduct heavily advertised workshops. Regarding alternative public transportation, Jose responded there are no alternatives (*staff note: the 42 A/B serves the Mace Blvd, El Macero Drive, El Cemonte Dr., and Chiles Rd loop, which would be eliminated. Unitrans service is unaffected*).

Councilmember Chapman emphasized need for outreach to affected users. Point-of-service outreach.

Commissioner Jacobson asked how YCTD monitors effectiveness of connections.

Jose Perez responded their focus is existing riders and their travel patterns. For 42A/B riders, primary destination is downtown Sacramento, so connection timings are prioritized at that location. YCTD always accept input from riders. Through the YoloGo process, they have not received any complaints or change requests for connection timings. They routinely review comments/questions with partner agencies.

B. Proposed Traffic Calming Improvements: Sycamore Lane at Drake Drive

Joseph Garcia-Long introduced the project. One of the highest ranked locations for traffic calming.

Commissioners asked questions about:

- Bus turning radius
- Bicycle safety through intersection sharing lane
- Consistency of critical speeds on the corridor
- Collision history

Commissioner Patel confirmed visibility issues from Drake onto Sycamore. Night time is easier because you can see headlights. Appreciates different suggestions. Quick-build mini-roundabout is a less costly alternative.

Commissioner Bolte commented that traffic control is important here. Supports version presented so far. Stated his familiarity with the area and knows about visibility issues. Agrees with comments about sharrows. Should aim toward 15 mph design standard rather than 25 mph. There is no reason for cars to drive that fast.

Commissioner Csontos reiterated a theme about data. Would be great to understand more about the corridor.

Motion (Bolte, Patel): Commission supports traffic control at the location with a 15 mph design speed.

Motion carries unanimously.

C. Establishment of Subcommittees

Commissioner Csontos introduced the item, providing background about the desire to establish subcommittees to move through items a little bit faster.

Brian Abbanat added additional context, explaining the purpose of each subcommittee and how City staff imagines them being beneficial.

Motion (DS, JJ): Establish subcommittees

Motion carries unanimously.

Committee assignments:

Subcommittee	Assignments
Transportation Capital Projects	Joe Bolte, Brook Ostrom
Land Use and Development	Lizzy Hare, David Soule
Safety, Parking, and Operations	Tim Csontos, Brook Ostrom
Planning, Policy, and Mobility	Joe Bolte, Jessical Jacobson, Ayush Patel

Motion (Patel, Lizzy): Dissolve ARC

Motion carries unanimously

8. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Long Range Calendar (subject to change)

• Discussion of items in “TBD” section

The commission discussed items to schedule, remove, or add to the TBD section.

B. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Bolte commented that on January 4th, Davis resident Ernest Seifert was killed in a hit-and-run. The commission observed a moment of silence.

C. Subcommittee Reports / Reports On Meetings Attended / Inter-jurisdictional Bodies / Inter-Commission Liaisons / etc.

Commissioner Brown commented that the Yolo Climate Compact meets once a month. The topics are not always transportation related, but is happy to continue attending and report back to BTSSC.

9. Adjourn

Motion (Patel, Soule): Adjourn

Motion carries unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.
