

**City of Davis
Transportation Commission
Final Meeting Minutes
Community Chambers, 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis CA 95616
Monday, October 13, 2025
6:00 P.M.**

Commission Members: Nick Bates, James Giller, Mark Huising, Brett Lee, Brook Ostrom (Chair), Eric Thronson

Commission Members Absent: Raymond Pascual

ASUCD Members: Jeremy Endeavor, Henry Lopez Rosenbach, Kelly May

Staff: Public Works Engineering & Transportation Director
Ryan Chapman, Senior Transportation Planner
Jennifer Donofrio and Active Transportation
Coordinator Cory Frost

1. Call to Order & Roll Call. Chair Ostrom called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

J. Giller arrived at 6:01pm.

2. Approval of Agenda.

B. Lee: Asked if there would be another opportunity to dig further into the Short-Range Transit Plan.

Senior Transportation Planner Jennifer Donofrio: Confirmed that there could be an additional Unitrans workshop in December.

M. Huising moved, seconded by B. Lee to approve the agenda as listed below.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Bates, Giller, Huising, Lee, Ostrom, Thronson

NOES: None

ABSENT: Pascual

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Council Liaisons.

M. Huising: Provided an update on Senate Bill 720.

B. Lee: Shared information and emphasized the value of the Bike Index program.

Senior Transportation Planner Jennifer Donofrio: Subcommittees have been approved by City Council and an update on Fifth Street Turning Restrictions Project.



4. Public Comment

None.

5. Consent Calendar

A. September 8, 2025 Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

B. Lee made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, M. Huising seconded.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Giller, Huising, Lee, Ostrom, Thronson

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: Bates

6. Regular Items

A. City of Davis and Unitrans Short-Range Transit Plan proposed Unitrans route and schedule changes

Joey Goldman from Kearns & West: Gave a presentation covering the Unitrans Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP). The presentation included an overview of current operating conditions, the goals of the SRTP, proposed service changes, community outreach efforts, and the next steps in the planning process.

Commissioners and ASUCD Representatives asked follow-up questions regarding potential impacts on routes serving Davis Joint Unified School District (DJUSD) students, changes related to Yolobus Route 42, and the rationale behind the proposed removal of the B Line.

Unitrans General Manager Jeff Flynn: Clarified that no changes are currently proposed to routes serving DJUSD schools.

Ron Kilcoyne from Transportation Management & Design: Explained that the proposed changes aim to reduce service overlap with Yolobus, better coordinate arrival and departure times between Unitrans and Yolobus, and improve overall schedule reliability.

Public Comment:

Trish Price: Reminded the Commission of the ongoing challenges faced by Tremont Green residents in accessing bus service, an issue previously raised in an earlier meeting.

B. Ostrom: Closed the public comment period.



Commissioners discussed potential alternatives, including extending every third S Line trip to Tremont Green and reallocating bus maintenance funds to support the extension. Commissioners' discussion also included bus stop conditions and bus and bike conflicts.

B. Ostrom: Proposed pausing the discussion for now, with the intention to revisit and explore the topic in more depth at the December meeting.

B. Village Farms Davis Development Project- Transportation Features and Conditions

Public Works Engineering & Transportation Director Ryan Chapman: Introduced the item, clarifying that the commission is not being asked to approve anything—only to discuss the transportation impacts of the project.

John Gard from Fehr & Peers: Presentation on the Village Farms Davis project, covering proposed land uses, access points, bike/ped/transit amenities, and key findings from the Transportation Impact Study (TIS) and Local Transportation Analysis (LTA).

Rochelle Swanson from the Village Farms Development Team: Overview and update of the project.

Brian Foster from the Village Farms Development Team: F St and Pole Line Rd grade-separated crossings are required project elements and important for completing the Davis Bike Loop.

Commissioners asked about the status grade-separated crossings, project phasing, projects in the Caltrans right-of-way, and details of the transportation demand modeling.

Public Comment:

Mary Ann Hernandez: Increased traffic and greenhouse gas emissions, doubting transit use but supporting the grade-separated crossings.

Susan Rainier: Fire safety concerns related to ingress/egress, criticized the project timeline, questioned who would fund improvements, and opposed the added car trips.

Marjorie Longo: Cut-through traffic in Wildhorse and concerns about emergency response times north of the channel.



David McGlocklin: Traffic impacts and unclear project funding.

Trish Price: Questioned why intersections south of Covell Blvd weren't addressed, criticized designs at Covell & L and Covell & J, and recommended eliminating left turns from Oak Tree Plaza.

Elizabeth Ray: Similar project was rejected in 2005 and predicted this one would fail too. She felt the process was rushed, traffic impacts underestimated, and the financial burden shifted to the City.

Dapo Okupe: Asked why 2023 data was used, requested conceptual drawings of the crossings, and noted the developer doesn't own all parcels involved.

Jim Flanagan: Urged due diligence, criticized the perceived rush to the ballot, expressed concern over cost responsibility, emissions at Covell & Pole Line, and cut-through traffic. Questioned the transparency of feasibility studies.

Hiram Jackson: Shifting demographics and noted that previous traffic-related project rejections didn't prevent later congestion. He highlighted that many DJUSD students come from outside Davis.

Rena Nayyar: Underestimated car trips, inadequate transit planning, and incomplete EIR and feasibility studies.

John Keller: Project encourages more driving and noted DJUSD has long known about declining local enrollment.

Katherine Keller: Voiced agreement with others' concerns about traffic.

Katie Dooley-Hendrick: Emphasized the projects importance for public schools and city connectivity, and expressed confidence it would attract residents.

Eileen Samitz: Project timeline, called for 100% developer-funded improvements, and demanded written commitments—citing past delays at the Nishi site and concerns over neighborhood cut-through traffic.

David Sandino: Asked commissioners to consider alternative options to those currently proposed.

B. Ostrom closed the public comment period.



B. Ostrom: Suggested the Commission draft a list of recommendations for City Council, similar to other commissions, due to the project's size. He stressed the importance of feasibility studies and firm commitments, raised concerns about cut-through traffic in the Green Meadows neighborhood, and requested follow-up on a public comment regarding 2023 data. He also proposed written commitments for grade-separated crossings, use of the Cannery roundabout for improved access, and stronger neighborhood connectivity.

M. Huising: Expressed concern that the project encourages car dependency, conflicting with CAAP goals. He advocated designing for the traffic we want—not the traffic we have—highlighted the need for safer bike and pedestrian infrastructure, and criticized the lack of emphasis on e-bikes in the project documents. His recommendations included connected neighborhoods (especially for bikes and emergency access), a grade-separated path to Oak Tree Plaza, protected bike lanes (particularly on Covell), eliminating sharrows on Birch Lane, prioritizing bike infrastructure over parking, eliminating parking on one side of the internal streets, and ensuring bike lanes are located outside the door zone.

E. Thronson: Emphasized that project commitments must be in writing to be enforceable. He raised wildfire-related ingress/egress concerns and stressed the need for connected developments to ensure viable transit service.

B. Lee: Supported requiring developers to either build or fund infrastructure improvements through escrow. He noted that past projects in Davis have overcome public skepticism and expressed concern that building housing outside Davis leads to more car commuters.

J. Giller: Viewed the project as another suburban-style development likely to generate significant car traffic. He appreciated the placement of higher-density housing near transit but noted a lack of proposed amenities and questioned whether the transportation improvements would resolve intersection LOS issues.

Public Works Engineering & Transportation Director Ryan Chapman: the EIR used 2024 data, which remains current. He noted that I-80 construction could skew newer data and explained that CEQA requirements limit the scope of bike safety language—otherwise, they would focus more on rider comfort.

Principal Planner Dara Dungworth: confirmed that multiple housing alternatives were evaluated during the CEQA process.



Senior Transportation Planner Jennifer Donofrio helped compile commissioner ideas, which included a grade-separated path to Oak Tree Plaza, fire and transit access to the Cannery, more protected bike lanes on Covell, no sharrows on Birch Lane, prioritizing bike lanes over parking, and keeping bikes out of the door zone.

C. Willowgrove Project- Transportation Features and Conditions

As the meeting extended past 8:00 PM, a vote was required to continue. E. Thronson motioned to proceed; B. Lee seconded.

AYES:	Bates, Giller, Huising, Lee, Ostrom, Thronson
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Pascual

Public Works Engineering & Transportation Director Ryan Chapman: Introduced the topic and reintroduced John Gard from Fehr & Peers.

John Gard from Fehr & Peers: Presented on the Willowgrove project, summarizing proposed land uses, access points, bike/pedestrian/transit amenities, and key findings from the Transportation Impact Study (TIS) and Local Transportation Analysis (LTA).

Vanessa Errecarte and Bre Moebius from the Willowgrove Development Team: Introduced the team, presented the tentative map, key project features, traffic calming measures, pedestrian and cycling pathways, safe routes to school, transit services, and level-of-service expectations.

Public Comment:

Trish Price: Consider feedback from the Village Farms project as relevant to Willowgrove.

Katie Dooley-Hendrick: Expressed support for the project, emphasizing its early stage and the opportunity to shape it with young families in mind. She also noted the role of anti-growth attitudes in contributing to current issues in Davis.

B. Ostrom: Closed the public comment period.

Commissioners discussed the trip generation model, bike-focused design, parking, fire access, neighborhood circulation, micromobility hub, and the proposed at-grade Harper crossing.



- B. Ostrom: Concluded with a summary of the commission's recommendations, including exploring e-bike use for internal circulation, determining that e-bike charging stations are unnecessary, planning circulation with future development in mind, and ensuring the safety of at-grade crossings on Covell.
7. Task Calendar: Upcoming Meeting Dates and/or Potential Agenda Items
- Public Works Engineering & Transportation Director Ryan Chapman: Shared the task calendar and upcoming agenda items including a Short-Range Transit Plan workshop scheduled for December.
- M. Huising moved, B. Lee seconded.
AYES: Bates, Giller, Huising, Lee, Ostrom, Thronson
NOES: None
ABSENT: Pascual
8. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:20pm.