

DRAFT

City Council Letter from CSC in advance of annual joint meeting

April 27, 2022

Honorable Los Altos Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Councilmembers,

The Complete Streets Commission looks forward to reviewing our workplan with you during our annual joint session currently scheduled for May 3, 2022. The Complete Streets Commission believes it is in alignment with the City Council regarding the advancement of complete streets initiatives in the City.

In advance of our joint session, the Complete Streets Commission would like to reiterate its own priorities for your review. These are the same priorities we shared with you in a letter earlier this year:

- 1. Plan and implement safe multi-modal transportation solutions that align community needs with city priorities.** This includes focusing on the implementation of the Complete Streets Master Plan and aligning it with the Annual Pavement Maintenance Program to build safe multi-modal streets, and implementing school route improvements. The commission also supports advancing Safe Routes to School Education and Encouragement Programs under development by the City. In addition, the commission would like to enhance the city's traffic calming program.
- 2. Manage long-term cumulative impacts from public and private development projects, and regional traffic.** This includes identifying and implementing technologies to monitor and identify traffic trends, measure and mitigate traffic impacts. The commission has recently completed the transportation analysis checklist and encourages the city council to adopt a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Policy. For development projects, the commission would like to work toward more transportation-related objective standards, streamline project review, review the existing Traffic Impact Fee (TIF) program, and address streetscape needs.
- 3. Achieve effective transportation-related community engagement with residents.** This includes developing effective outreach strategies to promote a higher public participation in transportation projects, and integration with the city-school issues subcommittees.
- 4. Pursue and secure adequate grant funding for safe, connected and sustainable complete streets projects.** The commission would like to support the city's efforts to identify and apply for grant-funding opportunities to implement the Complete Streets Master Plan, and the transportation components of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

For each of these four priorities, we have detailed specific goals with underlying projects and programs that are outlined in the attached Work Plan document along with our tentative meeting calendar for this year. Since sharing our draft workplan with you earlier this year, we have updated our tentative meeting agenda topics. This is a multi-year plan, which our commission will review and update annually.

We have a robust, engaged commission contributing complementary skills and varying perspectives. We are thankful to work with a talented transportation team. We continue to be concerned that the City is asking too much of too few on the transportation team and seek your support to remain focused on relevant priorities, and to use/fund consultants/vendors for defined projects.

In addition to outlining our workplan, we would like to raise a few important items for your consideration:

- Our goal is to have the full council adopt the Complete Streets Master Plan in May. The commission would like to start implementation of the plan including quick-build signage and striping improvements along school routes. The commission requests an update during our joint meeting on possible funding levels for existing and future CIP projects, and the council's consistent commitment to support implementation of the plan.
- The commission urges the city to implement more transportation-related objective standards, take more aggressive action-orientated steps to mitigate the long-term cumulative impact of traffic, and give timely consideration of transportation needs for the forthcoming Housing Element.
- With the current influx of increased transportation funding from federal and state sources, as well as regional/county funding, the commission seeks a proactive and strategic grant application strategy for transportation projects in the city. To be effective, this city strategy will need the focused and expert attention of staffing/vendor resources.

The commission would welcome your feedback, input, or questions. We will be reviewing the content of this letter with you during our annual joint session currently scheduled for May 3, 2022.

Stacy Banerjee
Los Altos -- Complete Streets Commission, Chair