



MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION COMMITTEE (TCC)

GoToWebinar
Thursday, October 22, 2020, 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Kathleen Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

ROLL CALL:

TCC MEMBERS

Kathleen Rodriguez	Present
Hillary Blackerby	Present
David Hodges	Excused
Eve Sanford	Present
Susan Horne	Present
Andres Malovos	Present
David Collom	Present

Attendees

CITY STAFF PRESENT :

Rob Dayton, Transportation Planning and Downtown Parking Manager
Jessica Grant, Supervising Transportation Planner
Jason Harris, Economic Development Manager
Laura Ynez, Supervising Engineer
Derrick Bailey, Principal Traffic Engineer
Michelle Bedard, Associate Transportation Planner
Mindy Jackson, Administrative Specialist

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: NONE

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

CONSENT CALENDAR:

2. **Approval of Minutes from the June 25, 2020, TCC Meeting, where a TCC quorum was present:**

MOTION: Susan Horne moved to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2020, meeting and a second was received by Hillary Blackerby.
Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Jessica Grant announced the resignation of David Hodges whose term ends on December 31, 2020. She thanked him for his service and contributions to the committee and City.

REPORTS

3. **Visioning the Future of Downtown State Street** (Location on video: 11:10)

Recommendation: That the Committee receive a presentation and discuss and provide the State Street Subcommittee with the future contributions and community outcomes of a redesigned State Street.

Jason Harris, the City's Economic Development Manager, spoke on the State Street Subcommittee. A sub-committee established by Council that is made up of three Council members that to oversee the future of State Street Visioning process.

Mr. Dayton gave a brief presentation on the history of State Street from past to present and showed examples of plazas around the world and how they are being used.

The Committee was asked to comment on each of the following questions.

1. What do you believe is the reason for redesigning State Street Downtown at this time?
2. If State Street is redesigned Downtown, describe what is going on when you visit. What are you experiencing?
3. What role does a redesigned State Street play in the vitality of Downtown? What is your goal for State Street?

Eve Sanford

- 1.) We've already started collecting data points of what our community wants to see. Moving from temporary to being more finished. Support the business community and revitalize the space. Space for artists to perform. Supporting artists in our community will in turn make people more comfortable. Support transportation in the space so that people of all abilities can move through this space.
- 2.) Being able to move through the space since this is an important part of our transportation grid. Being able to move through the space safely. If you have mobility challenges, accessibility needs should be considered. Make it beautiful and a place that you want to be in. Have designated space for different kinds of travel.
- 3.) The urban design and feel of the space can make or break places. Make State Street a place that you want to be is important to support business and creating culture in Santa Barbara. Plan to accommodate for middle-income and lower-income housing. Accessible for biking, walking, and for people with accessibility needs. Affordable housing prioritized. Getting rid of the City's no sitting ordinance so people can once again sit and enjoy events and activities. The AUD program includes State Street and is interested in increasing the affordability required on the AUD projects from 10% to 20%.

Andres Malovos

- 1.) Agree with Eve on first point.
- 2.) It's turning into more of an experience. You are experiencing coffee, dinner, breakfasts, festivals and parades. An arts and cultural experience. A hub of the culture of Santa Barbara and dining experience where the commercial side has been declining.
- 3.) Use De La Vina and Anacapa as other alternative streets to commute on the City. Bike parking and vehicle parking for those who want to go get a cup of coffee, etc. He largely agrees with what has been said about housing and parking and bicycle transportation on State Street. He would like to see the opening of State Street to pedestrian traffic and yet still have parades and festivities as nonpermanent features.

David Collom

- 1.) An opportunity to bring back the experience to community. More of a residential focus while still catering to tourists. More residential development and a place where exciting things happen.
- 2.) Encouraging the art and music culture and dining. Focus on alternative transportation methods. Bike Share. Opening up more space to buses and biking after the pandemic ends.
- 3.) Making downtown State Street a destination center for residents.

Susan Horne

- 1.) Because it was in trouble and we need a better community and commercial space.
- 2.) A promenade or like a European Plaza. People walking, maybe a shuttle or some nearby transportation. Art outdoors, dining, music, play areas, a lot of good places to sit, and open spaces for events that would be very adaptable. Permanent tiered seating as seen in New York. Downtown San Luis Obispo has this on a small scale. She would like to see affordable housing and places for all incomes.
- 3.) A public space that draws the community. For eating, shopping, seeing friends, enjoying entertainment, art and music. Housing nearby but maybe not all facing State Street. Consider the noise impact for residents.

Hillary Blackerby

- 1.) It is time. We as a community are moving away from being car centric and focusing more on experiences. The types of people and how they get to experience it. Redesign it for locals and tourists too. Especially for locals.
- 2.) Mobility is important. There a lot of different modes of travel that can be used. Has concerns for those who have mobility issues to have access. People of all ages having fun. A place where locals from all over the community want to come and feel welcome and safe. Secure bike parking with no hitching posts. Public art that can change and not be there just once a year. Music that is both formal and informal, and other kinds of performances. Experiencing a district concept. Section it in ways to make it more interesting. Being downtown and being a Santa Barbara resident, a proud member of the public and civic participant. A public space that it is open to all and not privatized. Even if they don't spend a single dime they are allowed to be there. Each mode of travel should have its own dedicated space and reduce conflicts between modes. When it's not clear where you supposed to be, that is when problems happen. Think of Vision Zero and safety.
- 3.) An outdoor living space for people will enhance the vitality. A place where there a lot of different kind of people living there. A place were small businesses can afford the retail space. More public restrooms.

Kathleen Rodriguez

- 1.) Economic Revitalization
- 2.) Art, music, shopping, restaurants. She would especially like to see housing. Architect Stefanos Polyzoides was mentioned and his architectural and urban planning projects. There can be apartment dwellings in the buildings that exist. Pull buildings back to have balconies. A feeling that it is a really alive city. Not just a social place for the nighttime, but a town center that you feel something is happening every time of day.
- 3.) It creates a central place for commerce or socialization. She is concerned about bicyclist and skateboarders and the closeness to pedestrians. Would like to see people and have bike parking at the corners.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

4. **Draft 5-Year Public Works Streets Transportation Capital Improvement Program Funding Summary and Draft Fiscal Years 2022-2023 Streets Capital Improvement Program Budget**
(Location on video 1:18:55)

Recommendation: That the Committee receive an overview and provide comments on the draft Public Works Streets and Transportation Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2022-2026, and draft Streets Capital Improvement Program Budget for Fiscal Years 2022-2023.

Jessica Grant gave the presentation.

Chair Rodriguez said that it is wonderful to see projects completed after receiving funding.

Hillary Blackerby said that it is great to see things get finished from a long list of projects and to see that more are now programmed to be funded.

Susan Horne and Chair Rodriguez commented that this was the best presentation they have heard on this subject. They liked the way it was organized and summarized. Susan Horne asked if the pandemic would have an impact because of less being received in sales tax revenue.

Jessica Grant responded that online shopping has picked up and we are not expecting a big hit to sales tax revenue.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PROGRAM UPDATES: (Location on video: (1:52:40))

1. Bike Share Pilot Program Implementation– Council was given an update this past Tuesday. Per Council direction, Bike Share can move forward with temporary installations of bike share docking stations. The first phase will include installations on State Street and at the Waterfront pending Coastal Development Permit approval for locations in the Coastal Zone.
2. Westside Community Paseos – Design updates were presented to residents via a two night webinar. Staff is receiving feedback before going to design review.

For more information, visit the link below:

<https://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/pw/engineering/publicimprovements/westsideconnections/default.asp>

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM

The video recording of this meeting can be found at the City of Santa Barbara's website at: <https://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/brdcomm/nz/tcc/video.asp>