



MEETING MINUTES
ATHERTON TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Tuesday, May 12, 2020
6:00 PM – Regular Meeting
This meeting virtually

This meeting is compliant with the Governor’s Executive Order N-25-20 issued on March 4, 2020 and Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020, allowing for deviation of teleconference rules required by the Brown Act. The purpose of this is to provide the safest environment for staff and the public while allowing for public participation. The meeting will be held by tele or video conferencing. The public may participate via: Zoom Meeting.

<p>Join Zoom Meeting:</p> <p>One tap mobile +16699009128,,9068867857#,,1#,824524# US (San Jose)</p> <p>Dial by your location +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)</p> <p>Meeting ID: 906-886-7857</p> <p>Weblink: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9068867857?pwd=TWJWNGVvdG1zSmxmeHU3MERJeWRldz09</p> <p>Password: 824524</p>	<p>Remote Public Comments:</p> <p>Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting. The following email and text line will be monitored during the meeting and public comments received will be read into the record.</p> <p>Email: jwade@ci.atherton.ca.us</p>
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1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL** (5 minutes)
Committee Members: Carol Collins, Joseph Davis, Steve Meller, Sriram Iyer (Vice Chair), Gary Lauder (Chair)
Councilmember Liaison: Michael Lempres
Staff: Chief of Police Steven McCulley, Sergeant Anthony Kockler, PW Director Robert Ovadia

- The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.
- Commander Wade attended in place of Chief McCulley.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** Public comment for items not on the agenda (10 minutes)

- There were no public comments.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** January 14, 2020 meeting minutes

- The minutes were approved as submitted without discussion.

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4. REGULAR AGENDA
OLD BUSINESS

Town-wide Local Traffic Flow/Long Range Planning Solutions Study

Staff will provide an update on the status of the Town-wide Local Traffic Flow/Long Range Planning Solutions Study. The Transportation Committee may provide feedback regarding potential questions for consideration in the public outreach phase which is anticipated to begin in Spring 2020.

- PW Director Ovadia discussed this item.
- Due to the Covid-19 quarantine, the initiation of the public outreach effort has been deferred.
- Items available online include a project website, a draft survey, and a map for public input.
- Questions and answers were held between the Transportation Committee members and PW Director Ovadia.
- No public outreach effort dates have been identified.
- PW Director Ovadia went over the website for the Transportation Committee members.
- There was discussion on whether or not to start the public outreach effort during the Covid-19 quarantine.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review and discuss traffic safety improvements for Watkins Avenue between El Camino Real and Middlefield Road

- Commander Wade discussed this item.
- The traffic safety improvements include the following: 1) move the current radar sign on eastbound Watkins Avenue closer to the park entrance, 2) add a solar-powered radar sign on westbound Watkins Avenue, 3) upgrade the current crosswalk markings with yellow paint in the ladder design, 4) add a 25 mph sign on eastbound Watkins Avenue east of McCormick Avenue, and 5) place reflective diamonds on top of the speed limit signs.
- PW Director Ovadia discussed the above improvement recommendations.
- PW Director Ovadia did not believe the reflective diamonds could be added to the top of the speed limit signs.

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b. Review and discuss traffic signage improvements near Las Lomas Elementary School, including Alameda de las Pulgas at Camino al Lago

- PW Director Ovadia discussed this item.
- PW Director showed aerial maps and drawings of the intersection of Alameda de las Pulgas and Camino Al Lago.
- PW Director Ovadia discussed a couple of complaints which were received for this intersection.
- PW Director showed some short-term signage improvement ideas for this intersection.
- PW Director said the long-term improvement would be to move the mid-block traffic signal to the intersection of Alameda de las Pulgas and Camino Al Lago.
- Joyce Massaro, an employee of the Las Lomas School District, discussed an auto vs. bicycle collision at the intersection in county jurisdiction. She also stated the neighbor across the street from Las Lomas School agreed with the short-term improvements.
- Jon Venverloh, a volunteer of the Las Lomas School District School Board, said the school district wanted to engage with the Town of Atherton and the Menlo Park Fire District to improve safety at the intersection of Alameda de las Pulgas and Camino Al Lago.
- PW Director Ovadia said this item would be taken to the City Council in June for approval, with installation of the short-term signage taking place before the start of the new school year.
- A discussion took place about the placement of the signs, and the possible remedies if opposition was made by local residents.
- The Transportation Committee recommended forwarding the short-term signage solutions to the City Council for approval.

c. Identification and potential recommendation of intersections for further investigation where minor improvements could be made to enhance mobility, such as enabling a segregated right turn lane as was done at El Camino Real/Atherton Avenue/Fair Oaks Lane

- Committee Chair Lauder discussed this item.
- Committee Chair Lauder said Watkins Avenue and El Camino Real, Emilie Avenue and Valparaiso Avenue, Elena Avenue and Valparaiso Avenue, Park Lane and Valparaiso Avenue, Santiago Avenue and Valparaiso Avenue, Camino Por Los Arboles and Valparaiso Avenue, and the intersections along El Camino Real would be good candidates for the above mentioned improvements.
- Committee Chair Lauder discussed “eminent domain” and possible negotiations between the Town of Atherton and individual property owners for roadway improvements.

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- PW Director Ovadia discussed some of his preliminary findings in regards to this item, especially regarding westbound Watkins Avenue and El Camino Real.
- PW Director said he would need a list of intersections to investigate, which would need to be taken to the City Council for approval.
- Committee Vice-Chair Iyer recommended the intersection of Watkins Avenue and Middlefield Road be investigated.
- Discussion was held between the Transportation Committee members about this idea and the different ways to proceed forward.
- The Transportation Committee recommended the City Council authorize PW Director Ovadia to investigate certain intersections, such as Watkins Avenue and El Camino Real, Elena Avenue and Valparaiso Avenue, Emilie Avenue and Valparaiso Avenue, Atherton Avenue and El Camino Real, Fair Oaks Lane and El Camino Real, and Selby Lane and El Camino Real for segregated right turn lanes, and make improvements as needed depending on the cost of such improvements.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Police Traffic Unit (10 minutes)

Kockler, A.

- a. Monthly report for January 2020
- b. Monthly report for February 2020
- c. Monthly report for March 2020
- d. Monthly report for April 2020

These items discuss the monthly traffic reports for January, February, March and April of 2020.

- The lack of collisions in March and April due to the Covid-19 quarantine was discussed.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Committee Chair Lauder recommended a roundabout at the intersection of Alameda de las Pulgas and Atherton Avenue be placed on a future agenda.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- There were no public comments.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE Tuesday, July 14, 2020

10. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. Anthony Kockler

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