

City of Sacramento
Active Transportation Commission Report
915 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
www.cityofsacramento.org

File ID: 2024-01454

8/15/2024

Discussion Item 4.

Street Design Standards Amendment

File ID: 2024-01454

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Review and provide comment on the Street Design Standards Amendment project.

Contact: Jennifer Donlon Wyant, Transportation Planning Manager, (916) 808-5913, jdonlonwyant@cityofsacramento.org; Casandra Cortez, Transportation Planner, (916) 808-6725, cncortez@cityofsacramento.org; Department of Public Works

Presenter: Casandra Cortez, Transportation Planner, (916) 808-6725, cncortez@cityofsacramento.org, Department of Public Works

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

Description/Analysis

Issue Detail: The Street Design Standards are a portion of the City's Design and Procedures Manual - Section 15: Street Design Standards. The City of Sacramento's existing Street Design Standards are the basis for design decisions regarding city streets such as travel lane widths, bikeway types and widths, sidewalk widths, and more.

The Street Design Standards Amendment project will amend Section 15 of the City's Design and Procedures Manual to provide designs for improving transportation safety, meeting the City's climate goals, and expanding our urban canopy. The project objectives are to identify designs to reduce driver speeds, designs to improve safety for those walking and bicycling, designs to provide low stress bikeways to and through intersections, designs to ensure turning drivers see those walking and bicycling, designs to accommodate sidewalk widths that align with the City's goal for walking, designs to support efficient transit operations, and designs to expand the urban tree canopy. This effort will not review signal timing operations or drainage.

City staff and the consultant team hosted a Community Roundtable on June 14, 2024, and invited organizations focused on active transportation, local businesses, developers, climate, and the urban

canopy to inform project values and design needs. The project team also hosted a Community Meeting as a public forum on June 27, 2024, to gather feedback and input to inform project values and design needs.

The project team is asking for Commissioners input on values and needs for this effort.

Policy Considerations: The recommendation in this report is in accordance with the following policies from the Sacramento 2040 General Plan:

M-1.4 Designing to Move People. In planning, designing, and managing the transportation system, the City shall prioritize person throughput to shift trips to more efficient travel modes and upgrade the performance of limited street space

M-1.5 Street Design Standards. The City shall maintain street design and operations standards that prioritize comfort and travel time for walking, bicycling, and transit, while managing vehicle speeds and traffic volumes, updating them as best practices evolve.

M-1.18 Bicycling Safety. When designing projects, the City shall prioritize designs that strengthen the protection of people bicycling such as improvements that increase visibility of bicyclists, increase bikeway widths, raise bikeways, design safer intersection crossings and turns, and separate bikeways from driving traffic wherever feasible.

M-1.19 Walking Safety. When designing projects, the City shall prioritize designs that encourage walking and improve walking safety best practice designs and considerations for efficiencies in walking.

M-3.2 Street Design. The City shall ensure street design and potential redesign opportunities for existing streets minimize driver speed as appropriate within residential neighborhoods and incorporate street trees wherever possible without compromising connectivity for emergency access or people bicycling, walking, and using mobility devices.

M-4.1 Application of Safety. The City shall design, plan, and operate streets using complete streets principles to ensure the safety and mobility of all users.

M-4.2 Safer Driving Speeds. The City shall work to maximize the safety of the transportation network by designing streets for lower driving speeds and enforcing speed limits in an unbiased manner as well as promoting safer driving behavior.

The recommendation in this report is in accordance with the below policies from the Vision Zero Action Plan (2018):

2.1 Update City Street design standards to reflect complete streets and designs reflective of crash reduction factors.

Economic Impacts: There may be additional costs to developments from providing improved designs for safety, comfortability, and access for people walking, biking, rolling, or riding transit.

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): This action is not a project that is subject to CEQA because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): This action is not a project that is subject to NEPA because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Sustainability: The Street Design Standards Amendment will provide designs to promote safety, access, and comfortability for people walking, biking, rolling, or taking transit. Additionally, this effort will support the expansion of the **tree**urban canopy.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: The Street Design Standards Amendment will provide designs to support safety, access, and comfortability for people walking, biking, rolling, or taking transit. The project objectives include designs to reduce driver speeds, improve safety for those walking and biking, and expand the urban tree canopy.

Financial Considerations: None.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): None.