

DATE: March 5, 2023

TO: Downtown Committee (DTC)

FROM: Brandon Whyte, Transportation Planner
Ria Lo, Transportation Manager

SUBJECT: **Active Transportation Plan – Downtown Analysis**

RECOMMENDATION

Provide feedback specific to the downtown area regarding bicycle and pedestrian issues to support the Active Transportation Plan.

BACKGROUND

The City of Mountain View’s Pedestrian Master Plan (PMP) was adopted on [January 28, 2014](#), and the Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP) was adopted on [November 17, 2015](#). On November 10, 2020, City Council directed staff to update the PMP and BTP in an integrated manner to align competing uses within public rights-of-way for key corridors within the City. Taking a more holistic approach to the development of an integrated Active Transportation Plan (ATP) allows for cohesive and efficient planning, ensuring quality transportation options for both modes of transportation. Council also directed staff to incorporate considerations related to green streets and habitat corridors arising from the Biodiversity Strategy.

On January 3, 2022, staff released a request for proposals (RFP) for all interested parties to provide professional services to aid in the production of the ATP. After a competitive selection process, NN Engineering was selected as the preferred consultant for ATP development. City Council authorized the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with NN Engineering, Inc. on [May 24, 2022](#), to complete the ATP project scope listed in Attachment 1.

In September of 2022, NN Engineering commenced the existing conditions review, including data gathering, review of resident requests, and analysis of City policies.

Throughout 2023, staff engaged with the public citywide regarding the ATP. Staff developed an online survey that was distributed via email, social media, lawn signs, posters, and messaging in City Hall, the Teen Center, and the Senior Center. The survey was open for over three months during the summer of 2023, with over 650 respondents. The survey sought input on the strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian improvement

across all parts of Mountain View. Analysis of input collected through this survey is currently underway and will be used to inform the upcoming policy and project recommendations.

During this process, it was decided to amend the ATP contract and include a more focused look at the downtown core of the City. With the closure of Castro to motor vehicles and the prohibition of bicycling through the 100 and 300 blocks of Castro, it was clear that special attention was needed to identify connected and comfortable cycling routes through downtown that did not include the Castro Pedestrian Mall.

In Fall 2023, staff began work on the Downtown Analysis of the ATP. The first stage of this process is listening to the needs and concerns of the general public and businesses that make up the downtown area.

DISCUSSION

Staff seeks DTC feedback on the following questions:

- How can we make walking and biking better in the downtown area?
- How do you feel about the North/South routes for biking and why?
 - Franklin
 - Bryant
 - Hope
 - View
 - Others
- How do you feel about East/West routes for biking and why?
 - Evelyn
 - Villa
 - Dana
 - Mercy
 - California
 - Others
- Anything else you want to let us know about walking and biking in downtown?

NEXT STEPS:

Staff will return to the DTC to provide an update on the downtown analysis and the wider ATP. Additionally, staff will provide an open house in the downtown area for residents to provide specific feedback on all project and policy recommendations for the downtown and wider Mountain View.