

**MEMORANDUM**

Public Works Department

DATE: June 24, 2020

TO: Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

FROM: Ria Hutabarat Lo, Transportation Manager

SUBJECT: Update on COVID-19 Emergency Response and B/PAC Inputs on Next Steps for Community Resiliency

BACKGROUND

Council, City staff, and community members are actively working to limit the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Mountain View businesses and residents and implement strategies to enhance community resiliency. The City's [COVID-19 News and Information website](#) includes a timeline and links to information about some of these actions. The City's response on a number of pedestrian/bicycle issues raised by the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) is provided in Attachment 1. Further updates on pedestrian and bicycle issues are listed below.

Pedestrian Push Buttons

In early May 2020, City staff conducted field observations and adjusted pedestrian push buttons to pedestrian recall mode (where the pedestrian signal is automatically triggered without touching the button) at 23 intersections between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. The list of intersections are as follows:

- Castro Street at Church Street, and Mercy Street, California Street, Dana Street, and Villa Street;
- Evelyn Avenue at Hope Street and Bush Street;



- Dana Street at Calderon Avenue;
- North Shoreline Boulevard at Montecito Avenue;
- California Street at San Antonio Road, Pacchetti Way, Showers Drive, Ortega Avenue, Rengstorff Avenue, Escuela Avenue, and Mariposa Avenue;
- Rengstorff Avenue at Latham Street and Stanford Avenue;
- San Antonio Road at Fayette Drive;
- Grant Road at North Drive/Eunice Avenue and Bentley Square; and
- Cuesta Drive at Miramonte Avenue and Montalto Drive.

Staff also produced and posted fliers at each location to inform users of the changed arrangements. Additionally, the change was communicated via various social media platforms.

Castro Street Outdoor Dining

In order to support the recovery of downtown businesses, City staff has been working on implementation of an open street arrangement on Castro Street, between Evelyn Avenue and Mercy Street, following the County's announcement on June 1, 2020 that restaurants were able to open for outdoor dining and take-out service only. In order to make the parking and traffic control changes associated with this effort, staff brought a resolution to [Council on June 9, 2020](#).

Following Council approval of the parking and street closure resolution, staff worked to implement the street closure, in a collaborative effort that involved staff from Transportation, Economic Development, Traffic Engineering, Code Enforcement, Planning, Fire, Police, Parks, Street Operations, City Attorney's Office, and City Manager's Office. Staff also worked with the Mountain View Whisman School District and Shoreline Amphitheatre to borrow equipment and negotiated with businesses on maintenance and indemnification items.



Figure 1: On-Street Dining in Tampa, Florida (left) and Indianapolis, Indiana (right)

The new arrangement will close the street to motor vehicles until the end of September 2020, in order to open up roadway space for restaurant seating and pedestrian circulation consistent with social distancing requirements (Figure 1).

Other Efforts

City staff has been implementing various housing efforts (rent relief, Safe Parking lots, and services for the unstably housed) to help people remain in the community and within walking or biking distance of schools, employment, and services.

In addition, the Public Works Department continues to review applications, provide inspections, and advance capital and planning projects throughout the shelter-in-place.

QUESTIONS

Mayor Margaret Abe-Koga will attend the June 24, 2020 meeting to hear B/PAC input on the City's path to resiliency as it recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. B/PAC members will be asked to share their thoughts on the following questions:

1. What challenges and opportunities do you see for our community?
2. Where could we focus our collective efforts in the months and years ahead?

RL/1/PWK/947-06-24-20M

Attachment: 1. City Staff Response to SVBC Letter