

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
RESOLUTION NO.
SERIES 2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
TEMPORARILY DESIGNATING FOR EXCLUSIVE USE BUS-ONLY LANES ALONG
CHARLESTON ROAD, FROM LANDINGS DRIVE TO SHORELINE BOULEVARD,
PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE SECTION 21655.5

WHEREAS, the North Bayshore Precise Plan, adopted in 2014 and amended in 2017, designates portions of Charleston Road as a Transit Boulevard, establishing transit as a high-priority mode for this street and to support fast and reliable transit service (Charleston Transit Boulevard); and

WHEREAS, the Charleston Transit Boulevard, which includes a planned configuration for a dedicated bus lane in each direction of travel along Charleston Road, from Landings Drive to Shoreline Boulevard, amongst additional improvements, including protected bikeways, improved pedestrian facilities, and certain intersection improvements, is in the design phase; however, construction is not funded, and it is unknown when construction will begin; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, traffic congestion was reduced due to Shelter-in-Place and business operation restrictions imposed to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, as employers in the North Bayshore Area begin to bring employees back on-site as business operations return to normal post-COVID-19, and, in anticipation of the completion of the Charleston Transit Boulevard, the temporary use of one lane in each direction of travel along Charleston Road, from Landings Drive to Shoreline Boulevard, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for bus-only high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) use will assist with traffic congestion management; and

WHEREAS, the provision of temporary HOV bus-only lanes along Charleston Road entails conversion of existing lanes to HOV lanes through the installation of signage and pavement markings and does not entail expansion of or additional automobile lanes; and

WHEREAS, California Vehicle Code Section 21655.5 authorizes local authorities, with respect to highways under their jurisdiction, to permit exclusive or preferential use of highway lanes for HOVs; and

WHEREAS, an engineering estimate of the effect of the exclusive-use lanes on safety, congestion, and highway capacity has been completed and determined that conversion of two existing lanes to bus-only along Charleston Road does not result in any anticipated adverse safety impacts; may help manage a potential increase in congestion by encouraging more employees to use transit instead of single-occupancy vehicles; and may increase the person-carrying capacity of the roadway even though the number of vehicles eligible to use the bus-only lanes will be reduced; and

WHEREAS, the temporary HOV bus-only lanes along Charleston Road are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15301, Existing Facilities, which categorically exempts operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities, including transit improvements such as bus lanes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mountain View that pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 21655.5, one travel lane, Lane No. 2, in each direction of travel along Charleston Road, from Landings Drive to Shoreline Boulevard, is hereby temporarily designated as a bus-only lane for exclusive use for HOVs meeting the definition of a "bus," as defined in the California Vehicle Code Section 233. This temporary designation shall be 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and shall commence upon initial use of the HOV bus-only lanes and terminate one year thereafter. Notwithstanding, the Public Works Director is hereby delegated authority, in the Public Works Director's discretion, to temporarily suspend or terminate the bus-only lane as needed to address congestion management and public health and safety concerns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Traffic Engineer shall cause to be installed and maintained signs and other traffic control devices to designate the exclusive lanes.

DSC/EP/1/RESO
939-06-22-21r