TRANSPORTATION and INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, September 17th, 2026, 6:15 pm

North Berkeley Senior Center
Aspen Room
1901 Hearst Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94709
And via Zoom

A. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. **Call to order**
   6:17 pm: Vice Chair Leung called the meeting to order.

   6:17 pm: Five members of the public present.

2. **Roll call**
   6:18 pm:

Commissioners Present:	Marina Budimir, Amanda Dillon (sworn in at 6:32 pm), Barry Fike, Naveen Gattu, Adrian Leung, Liza Lutzker
Staff Present:	Mark Helmbrecht, Candise Almendral, Noah Budnick, Roger Miller, Liza McNulty (via Zoom)

3. **Public comment on items not on the agenda**
   6:19 pm: One public comment.

   6:20 pm: Seven members of the public present.

4. **Approval of minutes from the August 20th, 2026 meeting**
   6:22 pm: Commissioners reviewed minutes from their August 20th, 2026 meeting

   6:24 pm: It was Moved /Seconded (Gattu / Budimir) to amend the minutes to reflect the following: “Allston Street was closed to traffic and the City survived.”

   6:26 pm: Vote:
   Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
   Noes: None
   Abstain: None
   Absent: None
   Excused: Walton, Zaro
   Recused: None

   6:26 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

6:26 pm Action: It was Moved /Seconded (Lutzker / Fike) to approve the amended minutes from the August 20th, 2026 commission meeting.

6:27 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

6:27 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

5. **Approval and Order of Agenda**
6:27 pm: No comments.

6:27 pm: Eight members of the public present.

6. **Update on administration and staff**
6:27 pm Action: Transportation Division Manager Mark Helmbrecht provided staffing updates: The Transportation Division has hired an Associate Transportation Engineer, who will start December 7th; the hiring process for the Parking Services Manager position is being finalized; recruitment for the vacated Parking Meter Supervisor position will begin afterwards.

6:29 pm: Commissioners asked the following question: When will the new HAWK traffic signals at Shattuck & Russell and Prince & Martin Luther King Jr. Way be activated?

6:32 pm: Secretary Helmbrecht swore in the new member of the Transportation Infrastructure Commission, Amanda Dillon.

6:33 pm: Seven members of the public present.

6:34 pm: The Transportation Infrastructure Commissioners welcomed and introduced themselves to Commissioner Dillon.

7. Announcements
6:38 pm: No announcements.

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. **Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department grant application: Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Safe Routes to Transportation & Bay Trail Cycle 2 grant program**

6:40 pm: Parks, Recreation and Waterfront staff Liza McNulty presented on the requirements set forth by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Complete Streets Policy (Metropolitan Transportation Commission Resolution 4493, May 2022) and requested that the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission, in its capacity as the City of Berkeley Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), review the MTC Complete Streets Checklist for the City's Berkeley Pier-Ferry Project: Landside Active Transportation Construction Project grant application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Safe Routes to Transit and Bay Trail (SR2TSB) Cycle 2 grant program and pass a motion supporting staff's determination of compliance with the MTC Complete Streets Policy.

6:49 pm: Commissioners asked the following clarifying questions: What is the "laydown" area; has the grant been submitted; is the cycle-track new infrastructure; where will it be placed; what is the non-construction spending; is there an update on Hs Lordships; how many cars will the parking lot accommodate; will the parking capacity change; will parking still be available?

6:55 pm: Three public comments.

7:00 pm: Commissioners commented on their excitement and support for the project and numerous summer camps in the area, which will make the project great for children.

Commissioners asked the following clarifying questions: Is there an estimated cost for the project; what is the funding amount of the grant; what is dredging? Commissioners noted the work being performed is preparatory work for opening the pier to electric ferries and asked if this project will trigger the green infrastructure requirements.

7:05 pm: Six members of the public present.

7:14 pm: Commissioners asked additional clarifying questions and made the following comments: What is the plan for bike parking; will there be secure bike cages; the checklist refers to "accidents"; can that word be changed. Commissioners discussed the preventable nature of traffic crashes, why they do not use the word "accident" and made reference to the book, "There Are No Accidents." Commissioners asked an additional clarifying question: Is this program part of the University Avenue high-injury street network?

7:14 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Gattu / Fike) to Support the City Manager and the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department's statement of compliance that the Berkeley Pier-Ferry Project: Landside Active Transportation Construction Project meets the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Complete Streets Policy (MTC adopted Resolution 4493) for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Safe Routes to Transit and Bay Trail (SR2TSB) Cycle 2 grant program, in the Commission's capacity as the City of Berkeley Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) with the amendment to change the wording from "accident" to "crash" in the department's statement of compliance.

7:14 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

7:15 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

2. **Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC) member nomination**

7:15 pm: Commissioners voted on nominations for up to one member to serve on the SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC). As stated in Measure FF (2024), the City shall create a SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee of seven members. The committee will oversee Measure FF expenditures and progress reports, ensure compliance, evaluate tax impact and meet periodically. Measure FF states that the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission may appoint up to two of those members. At the March 27, 2025, Commission meeting, commissioners appointed two members. On August 18, 2026, one of those members resigned from the Commission and, thus, from the oversight committee, leaving a vacant appointment.

7:15 pm: Commissioner Budimir nominated herself to serve on the oversight committee.

7:26 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Leung / Lutzker) to accept the nomination of Commissioner Budimir to serve on the SSCOC.

7:26 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

7:26 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

7:27 pm: Commissioner Lutzker nominated Commissioner Gattu to serve on the oversight committee.

7:27 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Leung / Lutzker) to accept the nomination of Commissioner Gattu to serve on the SSCOC.

7:27 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

7:27 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

7:28 pm: Vice Chair Leung closed nominations for members of the Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC).

3. **Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC) member election**
   7:28 pm: Commissioners acted on nominations to the Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee.

7:35 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Fike / Lutzker) to appoint Commissioner Gattu to represent the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission on the Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee.

7:35 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

7:36 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

7:36 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Lutzker / Fike) to appoint Commissioner Budimir to serve as an alternate representative to the Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee, pending confirmation from the City Clerk's office.

7:36 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

7:36 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

4. **Discussion of bikeway treatments and the paving program**
7:37 pm: Commissioners discussed how the adopted Bicycle Plan treatments are coordinated with the annual Street Rehabilitation program and made the following comments: Commissioners requested a presentation from staff detailing additional specifics on the bikeway treatments on street paving that will occur next year and how the bike plan will be applied to the paving plan for Virginia, Woolsey, Russell, and Rose streets; the Bike Plan details on bike boulevards and paving were noted; Commissioners discussed the current design of traffic circles and agendizing traffic safety concerns for bicyclists and pedestrians around traffic circles.

Commissioners asked the following clarifying questions: How does the City's budget affect the bikeway treatments and paving program; can the Commission meet on plans in the future that do not incorporate all the recommendations from the various City plans or deliver everything on budget?

7:57 pm: Two public comments.

8:00 pm: Five members of the public present.

8:00 pm: Commissioners asked an additional question and made the following comment: Can there be regular updates to the commission on street design? Research is strongly encouraged on fire departments that conduct ride-along tests.

C. INFORMATION ITEMS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Temporary Ad Hoc Committee verbal reports, assignments, creation or dissolution

8:16 pm: Commissioners addressed the following: The Construction Mitigation Subcommittee will start soon; the necessity for addressing the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)) and accessibility concerns; researching the City's requirements for developers to repave the city streets when disturbing them; the need to create a Pedestrian Plan committee.

Commissioners asked the following clarifying questions: Will the Pedestrian Plan committee be consulted on the Pedestrian Plan update scope of work; how do you make it inviting for pedestrians to walk or roll; what are the best methods for closing off streets?

8:24 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Gattu / Lutzker) to create a Pedestrian Plan Update Temporary Ad Hoc Committee.

8:24 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

8:24 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

8:25 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Gattu / Lutzker) to appoint Commissioners Gattu and Budimir to serve on the Pedestrian Plan Update Temporary Ad Hoc Committee.

8:25 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

8:25 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

8:25 pm: Four members of the public present.

2. Transportation & Infrastructure Commission Work Plan

8:26 pm: Commission Lutzker recommended that the Commission should take the Bike Plan update off its work plan and end the Bike Plan Update Temporary Ad Hoc Committee.

D. COMMUNICATIONS

8:28 pm: No communications.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8:29 pm: Traffic circles, safety data on traffic circles; traffic circles compared to diverters; speed bumps; how safe are traffic circles compared to speed bumps and diverters; staff collecting and reviewing useful data (including gathering data from the Berkeley Police Department); Commissioner Zaro will be graduating soon and moving to Philadelphia and the Commission will need to agendize the new chair vote.

F. ADJOURNMENT

8:44 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Gattu / Fike) to adjourn the meeting.

8:44 pm: Vote:
Ayes: Budimir, Dillon, Fike, Gattu, Leung, Lutzker
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
Excused: Walton, Zaro
Recused: None

8:44 pm: Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

Transportation and Infrastructure Commission
Thursday, September 17th, 2026

The next meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 6:15 pm, at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709.

Administrative Procedures from the City of Berkeley Commissioners' & Board Members' Manual, 2025 Edition, pages 62-63 regarding minutes:

Although the Brown Act does not require minutes, except for closed sessions, the Commissioners' Manual does require minutes of commission meetings. When required, minutes are limited to action minutes only. The draft minutes must be converted to PDF and posted on the City's website within seven days after the meeting. Minutes are unofficial until approved by the commission.

The secretary shall keep an accurate record of the commission's proceedings and transactions. The secretary shall provide action minutes similar to those provided to the Council by the City Clerk. Action minutes list the date, time, and place of the meetings; the staff in attendance; the commissioners present and absent; and a clear and concise description of final actions taken. Approved motions are indicated by "moved, seconded, and carried" and include a breakdown of the vote. The vote breakdown includes the commissioners voting yes, no, abstain, absent, recused, and reason for recusal. Reasons for making a motion, debate, content of public comments, and audience reaction are not to be included.

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