

City of Albany



TO: ALBANY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: JUSTIN FRIED, TRANSPORTATION AND SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN – DRAFT PLAN DOCUMENT

AGENDA DATE: MAY 28, 2026

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission recommend that City Council adopt the 2026 Active Transportation Plan.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) is to encourage biking and walking through supportive policies and infrastructure investments that enhance safety and improve key routes. The ATP serves as the City's guiding document for active transportation and is required for eligibility for regional transportation funding, including Alameda County Measure B (2000), Measure BB (2014), and Vehicle Registration Fee programs.

Albany's most recent ATP update kicked off in July 2024. Since then, staff and the consultant team have worked to ensure the project delivers on the items stipulated in the project scope of work, incorporates sufficient public engagement opportunities, and addresses complex issues such as the future design of Solano Avenue. Below is a timeline of project milestones to date:

- **October 24, 2024:** City staff and project consultants hosted a community open house at the Albany Community Center to discuss project goals and existing conditions.
- **December 5, 2024:** Transportation Commission received a presentation on the plan goals and existing conditions analysis, including feedback from community engagement to date.
- **February 18, 2025:** City Council received a presentation on the draft goals and existing conditions analysis prepared for the Active Transportation Plan, and provided direction to staff on analysis to prepare before presenting a Council discussion of the role of Solano Avenue in the future active transportation network.
- **February 27, 2025:** Transportation Commission received a presentation on National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Guidelines on facility selection

for All Ages and Abilities and their incorporation into regional and county plans and policies.

- **May-June 2025:** City staff engaged with Albany Unified School District principals, parents, and students through a series of engagement meetings.
- **May 5, 2025:** City Council received a presentation on parking and cost analysis for potential bicycle facilities on Solano Avenue and provided direction to staff to further develop an alternative that reorganizes parking to one side parallel and the other side 60-degree angle parking with approximately 11 feet of right-of-way provided to an uphill cycle track (referenced as Alternative 1 in the discussion) as part of the Active Transportation Plan update.
- **May 20, 2025:** City staff and project consultants hosted a community open house as part of a larger Citywide Planning Expo at the Albany Community Center to discuss the draft citywide pedestrian and bicycle networks.
- **June 26, 2025:** Transportation Commission received an update on the Active Transportation Plan development and draft citywide pedestrian and bicycle networks.
- **October 20, 2025:** City Council received a presentation on draft active transportation networks and provided direction to staff.
- **December 4, 2025:** Transportation Commission received analysis of Solano Avenue Bicycle Facilities concept and recommended that City Council add Solano Avenue to the cycling network in the Active Transportation plan and continue to plan for an uphill protected bikeway on Solano Avenue.
- **January 22, 2026:** City staff and project consultants hosted a community open house as part of a larger Citywide Planning Expo at the Albany Community Center to discuss active transportation project and program priorities.
- **February 26, 2026:** Transportation Commission reviewed draft project and program priorities and recommended that City Council approve the project and program prioritization inclusive of changes recommended by the Commission.
- **April 20, 2026:** City Council received a presentation on draft project and program priorities and provided direction to staff.

DISCUSSION

The content for the 2026 Active Transportation Plan was developed across three phases of the planning process, detailed in Chapter 2 of the document. Chapters 1 and 3 were developed in the first phase of planning, developing the plan goals and analysis of existing conditions. The second phase developed the proposed network which is described in Chapter 5 of the document. The third phase of planning developed policy, program, and project recommendations detailed in Chapter 4 and Appendix B and established the priorities for implementation contained in Chapter 7. Appendix A details stakeholder engagement across the three phases of plan development.

The Transportation Commission has reviewed much of the content in the document through the three phases of planning; however, there have been changes following Commission and City Council feedback and additional development of the plan.

These include:

- In Chapter 3 Existing Conditions Review, the addition of bicycle parking and pedestrian network gaps maps and discussions
- Policy Recommendations provided in Chapter 4
- Figure 14: Proposed Pedestrian Network - change since last City Council presentation made to bring High Comfort Network to Albany Hill Park entrance routed along Hillside and Taft
- Figure 15: Proposed Biking Network – change since last City Council presentation to reflect additional Priority Intersections along Curtis street and signalized intersection at Kains and Marin reflecting the HAWK beacon proposed as part of the Alameda County Transportation Commission Parallel Bike Improvements Project
- Refinements to program and project descriptions and prioritization per Transportation Commission and Council discussions in February and April respectively

NEXT STEPS

Staff is seeking comments on the draft document by June 2. The document will then undergo a last round of revision and be put into final layout, which is anticipated to be presented to City Council for adoption in July.

ATTACHMENTS

1 – Draft 2026 Albany Active Transportation Plan