

DATE: March 7, 2023

TO: Chair Ramos and Transportation and Mobility Commission members

FROM: Kate Drennan, Principal Planner, Community Development Department

CC: Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Director, Community Development; Ryan Lopossa, Streets and Transportation Division Manager, Public Works

RE: **Pedestrian Crossing Policy & Project Evaluation**

Introduction

The Vancouver Transportation System Plan (TSP) will identify transportation projects, policies, and programs for the next twenty years. One early identified high priority project was the update of the City's pedestrian crossing policy. This policy, dating from 2010, currently guides the City's approach to pedestrian crossings at uncontrolled locations. An uncontrolled location is where a crossing does not have a signal, stop sign, or other traffic control to stop vehicles for those are crossing the street. The workshop presentation will provide an overview of proposed updates to the pedestrian crossing policy, including an overarching vision for pedestrian crossing density throughout the City. In addition, the Project team will provide a brief overview of project evaluation using the new approach to project prioritization to group projects into priority categories.

Overview/Preview

The pedestrian crossing policy is meant to address many elements of the City's approach to pedestrian crossings. It sets a vision for creating robust pedestrian-oriented infrastructure over time, it serves as a tool to guide where to prioritize pedestrian infrastructure, and outlines considerations for where to place infrastructure and what to install. The crossing policy does not replace engineering judgement specific to each location and project but does provide a transparent process for how the City approaches crossings in a variety of roadway contexts.

The primary changes in the crossing update include:

- Adding guidance for signalized and stop-controlled intersections
- Addressing school zone contexts
- Updated treatments and improvement types
- Setting crossing-spacing goals based on pedestrian network and adjacent land-uses
- Broadening the approach the City uses in evaluating pedestrian demand

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The Project team will also present an initial prioritization of TSP project locations based on the process inputs of: equity, safety, transportation choice (e.g. density of essential places), and climate (e.g. future growth areas). The team will present this by geographic corridor, although pedestrian and mobility user projects will be individually defined and compiled for inclusion in the TSP and Transportation Improvement Program. Creation of the final TSP and TIP project lists will also consider qualitative criteria related to the timing and feasibility of projects.

Action, Timeline, Next Steps

The team is bringing both the pedestrian crossing policy and the prioritization example for the purposes of gathering feedback and vetting the approach to both tasks. Each will be a supporting component of the larger transportation system plan that guides City investment.

Kate Drennan, Principal Transportation Planner, Long-Range Planning, CDD

Kate.Drennan@cityofvancouver.us, 360-487-7959

Attachment(s):

Powerpoint Presentation 23.03.06 TMC Workshop on TSP Update