



## **Councilmember Marni von Wilpert**

*City of San Diego • District 5*

### **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 14, 2022

**TO:** Honorable Council President Sean Elo-Rivera

**FROM:** Councilmember Marni von Wilpert, Chair, Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

**SUBJECT:** 2022 Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan

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I am so honored to serve as the Chair of the City Council's Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. I am pleased to share our Committee's 2022 Work Plan. With the passage of the historic trillion-dollar federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), now is the time for the City of San Diego to address the various transportation and infrastructure challenges facing the City.

The Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is an important venue for the City Council, City staff, and members of the public, to discuss ideas and provide feedback on ways to address our many infrastructure and transportation needs throughout the City. The committee itself has seen significant changes in the past decade that have greatly improved processes and planning efforts, but there remains more work to be done.

The current challenges facing the City's infrastructure and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) are immense, with growing funding gaps in numerous infrastructure asset categories and major budgetary challenges. Additionally, a history of underinvestment within low-and-moderate income (LMI) communities throughout the City has left many residents disenfranchised and frustrated. Although the current challenges are significant, this Committee is prepared to tackle these difficult issues and ensure that we address racial and social justice issues, and make sure every community is receiving the equitable infrastructure investment that they deserve.

In consideration of Committee Member priorities for 2022, the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will also focus on the following areas:

- **Vision Zero Strategic Plan 2020-2025 Implementation**  
Public safety is a top priority for the City Council and Mayor. In 2021, many San Diegans were affected by the tragic pedestrian and cyclist deaths on our streets. The Vision Zero Strategic Plan 2020-2025 was published in December 2020 with both near- and long-term actions to help achieve a safer transportation system for all users. The

Committee will receive updates from various departments on the current implementation efforts outlined within the plan and discuss the successes and challenges facing the City's Vision Zero efforts.

- **Transportation Department Program Review**

The Transportation department manages multiple infrastructure assets that make up a significant portion of the City's Get It Done service requests submitted by members of the public. The backlog of calls for service to sidewalks, streetlights, and street repairs is growing. The Committee will work with the Transportation Department to review their current programs and services to ensure the department is positioned to meet the growing needs of the City and our residents. The programs to be reviewed include, but are not limited to the following:

- Streets Program
- Sidewalk Program
- Streetlight Program
- Complete Streets Policy Development

- **Mobility Master Plan**

The original Mobility Action Plan identified a strong need for inter-agency coordination between the City and other regional partners to deliver transportation opportunities for all modes of transportation. The Mobility Department is currently in the process of developing an updated Mobility Action Plan now titled the Mobility Master Plan. While many Councilmembers called for this plan in their budget priority memos, the work to complete this plan is still ongoing. The Committee will receive updates from city staff and hold a discussion regarding the next steps for the Mobility Master Plan to ensure expedited development of this essential planning document.

- **Review and Update Council Policies on Infrastructure**

In 2021, the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee started the process of reviewing and updating multiple Council Policies related to Infrastructure Planning and Capital Improvement Program Prioritization. These discussions led to a request for additional public outreach prior to returning to Committee for consideration. The Committee will work with the Mayor's office upon completion of the public outreach efforts to update the following City Council Policies:

- Council Policy 000-31 Capital Improvement Program Transparency
- Council Policy 000-32 Neighborhood Input on Infrastructure Needs
- Council Policy 800-14 Capital Improvement Program Prioritization

- **Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook and Infrastructure Asset Backlogs**

Annually, the Committee discusses the Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook, which is a CIP and infrastructure planning document from the Engineering and Capital Projects Department. This document helps the Mayor and City Council plan for future infrastructure needs which include an identified \$6.84 billion in priority capital needs in the Fiscal Year 2023-2027 Five Year Outlook with a gap in anticipated funding of \$3.31 billion. The committee will work closely with the Mayor, City Departments, and

the Independent Budget Analyst to identify strategies to reduce funding gaps within the various infrastructure asset categories. The Committee will specifically focus on efforts to address the largest unfunded asset category of Stormwater Infrastructure and will hold discussions to identify new infrastructure finance opportunities to address existing backlogs.

- **Transportation and Infrastructure Funding Opportunities**

With the historic federal investment in infrastructure through the IIJA, now is a critical time for the City to identify new funding opportunities as we continue to grow our Capital Improvement Program. The Committee will hold discussions to identify new and innovative ways to fund City infrastructure, this includes but is not limited to grant opportunities recently made available from the State and Federal Government, new infrastructure financing opportunities, and public private partnerships.

- **Green Infrastructure**

The Committee will focus efforts to incorporate green infrastructure and community-based partnership elements in the City's CIP and Infrastructure projects. Green infrastructure improvements will allow the City and our infrastructure assets to be more efficient and resilient in the face of our changing climate.

- **CIP Project Discussions**

The Committee will hold discussions on a wide variety of CIP projects. Priority projects identified by Committee Members for initial review include:

- o Update on Public Facility Capital Needs and Prioritization
- o Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project
- o Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Projects

- **Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Plan**

The Committee will hold a discussion with the Sustainability and Mobility Department to achieve the goal of expanding EV charging stations throughout the City. This effort should include the completion of an Electric Vehicle Charging Plan as called for within strategy 2 of the Climate Action Plan. This plan must identify locations throughout the City with special focus on underserved communities to ensure an adequate distribution of EV charging stations to allow for the increasing shift to EVs. The Committee will also hold discussions with the City's Sustainability Department and the Economic Development Department to identify potential public-private partnerships to assist the City's rollout of EV charging infrastructure.

- **Explore Value Engineering and Quick Build options for CIPs and City Infrastructure**

Quick-build projects are cost-effective infrastructure improvements that can be built within 1-2 years and can be either permanent or temporary. The Committee will hold discussions with various City Departments and consider strategies to move forward with several quick-build pilot projects to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure on high injury network corridors in support of the City's Vision Zero goals.

- **Receive regular updates from San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS)**  
 The Committee will work with SANDAG and MTS to receive regular updates and provide input on regional transportation efforts. This includes active transportation planning and project execution; coordination with SANDAG’s San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan; improving regional transit services, including evaluation of new dedicated bus lanes, and coordinating with our MTS partners to ensure clean and safe bus stops. Additional specific areas of focus include:

  - Youth Opportunity Pass Pilot Program
  - SANDAG and City Capital Investment Planning and Coordination
  - SANDAG Coastal Bluff Stabilization Projects
  - Evaluation of City employee commuter benefit programs
  
- **Review current Development Impact Fee (DIF) Plans and Public Facility Financing Plans (PFFP) and Review Citywide DIF program Nexus Studies and Policies**  
 With the large gap in funding for the City’s priority infrastructure needs, we must ensure we spend infrastructure dollars wisely. The Committee will review current Development Impact Fee Plans and Public Facility Financing Plans and will hold discussions related to the implementation of the City’s Complete Communities Citywide DIF program.
  
- **Placemaking and the Activation of the Public Right-of-Way**  
 The City’s Placemaking Program utilizes public right-of-way and medians to activate underutilized spaces. After realizing benefits of the City’s Temporary Outdoor Business Operation Permit program, in response to Covid-19, the Mayor and City Council approved an ongoing Spaces As Places program to allow for continued activation of the Public Right-of-Way. The Committee will hold discussions with City Departments about the implementation of the Spaces as Places Program and will evaluate other opportunities for Placemaking and activation of City streets.
  
- **Update Development Services Department’s Manual of Administrative Practices for Utility Installations in the Public Right-of-Way**  
 The Committee will work with the Mayor’s office and hold discussions with the Development Services Department to review Manual of Administrative Practices for Utility Installations in the Public Right-of-Way. The Committee may recommend amendments as needed to be consistent with the Complete Streets Policy recognizing the increased emphasis on walkability and neighborhood aesthetics.
  
- **Shared Dockless Mobility Devices**  
 The Committee will review and update the City’s regulations for Shared Dockless Mobility Devices to ensure operators and riders are safe, compliant, and maximizing community benefit.
  
- **Project Coordination**  
 In recent years the City has taken significant steps to bring project planning and management into the 21st century. This has required substantial investment in software that the City continues to refine. As the benefits from the new software tools come

online, the Committee will work with City Departments to improve project coordination strategies

- **Review of the City's Equal Opportunity Contracting (EOC) policies.**  
The City's EOC program is responsible for enforcing Federal, State, and City equal opportunity laws in public contracting. EOC goals include enhancing diversity and safeguarding against discrimination in City contracts and ensuring fairness in the expenditure of taxpayer dollars. The Committee will work with City EOC staff to review existing policies to ensure that the program is successful in delivering a contracting program that meets the City's goals.

If you have any questions, please contact the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Consultant, Justin Garver, at (619) 236-7020 or [jgarver@sandiego.gov](mailto:jgarver@sandiego.gov).

Cc: Honorable Mayor Todd Gloria  
Honorable City Attorney Mara Elliot  
Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst