

### COUNCILMEMBER KENT LEE

# City of San Diego Sixth District

### **MEMORANDUM**

DATE:

February 21, 2023

TO:

Honorable Council President Sean Elo-Rivera

Honorable Members of the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

FROM:

Councilmember Kent Lee, Chair, Active Transportation and Infrastructure

Committee

SUBJECT:

2023 Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Work Plan

It is an honor to serve as Chair of the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (ATI), and I look forward to working together to build a stronger, more resilient San Diego.

San Diegans are focused on building a livable city where every community has access to clean water, reliable streets, inviting public spaces, and quality bicycle and pedestrian pathways. However, many aging San Diegan communities are suffering from years of underinvestment, resulting in an infrastructure backlog that continues to grow annually. The most recent Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook revealed a funding gap that exceeds \$5.1 billion.

Despite a historic infrastructure budget in Fiscal Year 2023 and recently approved streamlining and efficiency measures, significant work remains to ensure the City can effectively and efficiently maintain and rebuild aging infrastructure.

The work plan as prepared is not exhaustive or binding, and I welcome continued input from members of the committee and the public, as we work together to build a stronger, more resilient San Diego.

# Committee Scope

ATI is charged with overseeing the City's essential Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Per the permanent rules of City Council as outlined in the municipal code, the Committee will review and provide oversight on policy items related to:

- Capital Improvement Process Improvements
- ADA CIP Projects
- Infrastructure Financing
- Infrastructure Condition Assessment and Monitoring
- Neighborhood Input on Infrastructure Needs and Priorities
- Stormwater Infrastructure
- Public Facilities Financing Plans
- Development Impact Fees
- Facilities Benefit Assessments
- Wastewater Infrastructure

- Water Infrastructure
- City Facilities
- Park Infrastructure
- Multi-Year Capital Improvement Program Plan
- Transportation Infrastructure
- Transportation Planning
- Transit Services, Parking
- Community Parking Districts
- Municipal Airports
- Walkability
- Bicycle Programs

### About the 2023 Work Plan

These mission, vision, and values statements convey the purpose, direction, and underlying values driving the work of the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for 2023. These statements were developed by drawing on the Council Committee priorities shared at the January 25, 2023, committee hearing, and committee members' priority memorandums received by District 6, and responses collected from the public via the community input survey.

#### Mission

Bringing safe, sustainable, reliable infrastructure to San Diego neighborhoods to build livable, healthy, and thriving communities through data-driven approaches, accountability, and innovation.

### Vision

San Diego is a City where all of its residents have access to quality and well-funded transportation and mobility options, reliable drinking water, clean beaches, vibrant public spaces and libraries, and infrastructure that enhances safety, environmental resiliency, and quality of life.

### **Values**

Equitable Investments
Equal Opportunity Contracting
Climate Action
Transparency

Data-Driven Decision Making Innovation Efficiency Stewardship of Taxpayer Funds

#### **Committee Goals**

As described in each of my colleagues' Fiscal Year 2023 committee priorities, below are goals of the ATI committee to work towards this year:

- Advance policies that support equity, transparency, and prioritize investments in historically marginalized communities.
- Support smart growth projects and policies that align needed infrastructure, transportation, and facility investments desperately needed in aging communities anticipating housing growth to mitigate urban sprawl, decrease congestion, and create more sustainable communities.
- Advocate for continued efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of CIP project delivery to ensure projects are delivered on time, on budget, and are responsive to community needs.
- Focus on improving the effectiveness of the Equal Opportunity Contracting program to ensure diversity in the City's hiring and contracting processes.

# **Strategic Priorities**

The work of the committee will be guided by four strategic priorities.

- 1. Climate Action
- 2. Mobility, Transportation, and Affordable Housing
- 3. Citywide Infrastructure Needs
- 4. Capital Improvement Program Planning and Oversight

### Work Plan Development

Thank you to my committee colleagues for submitting annual priorities as part of the development of the 2023 ATI Work Plan. In consideration of committee member priorities for 2023, the committee will focus on the following areas:

# Climate Action Implementation

Emissions from transportation account for more than half of all greenhouse gas emissions in San Diego. To meet the ambitious goals of the Climate Action Plan (CAP), the committee will focus on infrastructure investments and actions that support mode shift through mobility, land-use actions, and policies. Additionally, transitioning our energy system away from fossil fuels and toward clean and renewable sources is key to reducing the City's GHG emissions and supporting a more sustainable future. To help reach this goal the committee will review the City's suite of programs and policies to help achieve the electric vehicle adoption goals and municipal building decarbonization envisioned by the CAP. To help support the City in meeting its climate goals, the committee will:

- Receive an update on the City's proposed Quick Build infrastructure program, including methodology for project prioritization and implementation.
- Receive a report on the status of the Transportation Department's Safe and Sustainable Transportation for All Ages and Abilities Team (STAT) program.
- Receive a status report on the Mobility Master Plan and roadmap and priorities necessary to achieve CAP's legally binding mode share goals.
- Discuss City efforts to expand its network of electric vehicle charging stations, including
  available funding, grant opportunities, and collaboration with other public agencies. 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 and
  equitable distribution of charging stations.
- Review potential amendments to the San Diego Municipal Code regarding hours of business operation in commercial-neighborhood zones to ensure operation of public electric vehicle charging stations.
- Discuss and review the City's Municipal Energy Strategy and opportunities to execute renewable energy project agreements for City facilities.

# Transportation, Mobility, and Affordable Housing

Quality transportation assets are critical to creating safe, walkable, and sustainable communities. The committee will review progress on Mobility Master Plan development, Vision Zero Strategic Plan, Americans with Disabilities Act (ACT) program, and other policies aimed at improving universal access, mobility, parking circulation, and design principles. Additionally, while the majority of housing issues are heard at Land Use and Housing Committee (LU&H), the committee will monitor progress towards long-term financing strategies and maintenance of City-owned shelter, day-centers, and other homeless and housing related infrastructure assets. As part of this work, the committee will:

- Focus on implementing the Vision Zero Strategic Plan, recently completed on December 4th, 2020, to ensure pedestrian and bicycle safety. As part of this effort, the Committee will review progress on the plan's five-year outlook and strategies, including, hearing an overview of roundabouts planned, education initiatives, and analysis on quick build improvements to high injury networks.
- Recommend adoption of a citywide Complete Streets policy and Complete Streets
  Design Guidelines to provide safe street design guidance for walking and biking facilities
  on a variety of street types considering factors such as vehicular speeds and volumes,
  street width, transit routes, and surrounding land uses.
- Analyze and discuss potential amendments to City Council Policy 100-18 Community Parking District to allow parking meter revenue to be used for bicycle and pedestrian safety infrastructure improvements.
- Update Development Services Department's Manual of Administrative Practices for Utility Installations in the Public Right-of-Way to be consistent with the Complete Streets Policy recognizing the increased emphasis on walkability and neighborhood aesthetics.
- Consider implementation of a proposed community parking district in Pacific Beach and the local collector service between the beach and Mid-Coast trolley to increase transit ridership.
- Review the City's employee commuter benefit program, including cost and usage data, and discuss operational changes that can expand use and coordination of benefits.
- Receive a comprehensive report on projects relating to ADA Compliance and Accessibility regarding funding, capital improvements, addressing ADA complaints, curb ramp design, pedestrian crossing signals, service animals, traffic calming, public restroom design, sidewalks, and disabled parking access.

# Capital Improvement Program Planning, Oversight, and Financing

The committee will advance policies that work to improve long-term project planning and delivery, increase transparency and diversity, and implement reforms that will lead to more projects being done quicker and more efficiently. As part of this work, the committee will:

- Ensure contracts prioritize Equal Opportunity Contracting and workforce diversification.
- Monitor and review the status of major City contracts to ensure compliance with existing Equal Opportunity Contracting requirements.
- Review existing practices to ensure adherence to industry best practices and ensure public works contracts are meeting the City's diversity in contracting goals.
- Receive a comprehensive review of the City's capital infrastructure project deficit, including the backlog of yet-to-be-built infrastructure and facilities identified in community public facility finance plans, and identify long-term financing strategies.

- Review of the efficacy of current Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFD) and feasibility of developing additional EIFDs, especially in historically under-invested communities.
- Receive an update from City staff on the status of the recently adopted Parks Master Plan

   Parks for all of Us Citywide Development Impact Fee to monitor the programs
   implementation.
- The Committee will work with the Office of Government Affairs and asset managing departments 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.
- Discuss efforts to enhance and improve community outreach and engagement before and during city infrastructure projects. Consider adoption of a City Council Policy on customer services to ensure effective communication strategies on City public works projects.
- Monitor recently approved streamlining measures and assess additional opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the City's infrastructure project delivery systems.
- Continue to monitor implementation of recently amended Council Policy 800-14 on CIP prioritization. Special attention should be given to the effectiveness of its equity goals. "Structurally Excluded Community" was a term codified in the new policy to support the prioritization of CIP projects in historically underserved communities. The Committee will request a report to monitor the success of this new equity strategy.

# Citywide Infrastructure Needs

As recently reported in the Fiscal Year 2023-2027 Five-year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook, the City is currently facing an infrastructure deficit of at least \$5 billion. The committee will work on identifying comprehensive policies addressing the City's ability to effectively finance, maintain, and operate its major infrastructure assets such as streets and roads, streetlights, sidewalks, parks, libraries, fire and police stations, stormwater assets, and other vital neighborhood infrastructure. As part of this work, the committee will:

• Take a comprehensive approach to updating existing asset data to ensure the City's long-term planning documents are effective tools for decision-making and transparent and equitable project prioritization. As part of this effort, the Committee will oversee the completion of a new Pavement Condition assessment which will assign an "Overall Condition Index" (OCI) to local roads and an update to 2016 Facility Condition Index (FCI) of General Fund facilities. These are objective methods for measuring street quality and facility conditions and are essential to developing long-term strategies to address the City's infrastructure backlog. In collaboration with the Office of

the Mayor and the Independent Budget Analyst, the committee will develop a multi-year strategy for addressing the infrastructure back log.

- The City of San Diego faces an enormous challenge in trying to meet its ongoing storm water needs. In 2018, a performance audit conducted by the City Auditor revealed that the City is significantly underfunding its stormwater infrastructure and water quality needs. The Committee will request an update from the Stormwater Department on the stormwater and water quality funding needs and financing strategies.
- Discuss storm water quality and adoption of a green infrastructure.
- Review strategies to accelerate the repair and replacement of streetlights.
- To ensure the City continues to improve its emergency response times, the Committee will discuss the current status of the Citygate report.

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