



Office of the Mayor

ACTION CALENDAR  
April 30, 2013

To: Members of the City Council  
From: Mayor Tom Bates  
Subject: Consider Conversion of Bancroft Way and Durant Avenue into Two-Way Streets

RECOMMENDATION:

Request the City Manager identify a process and cost estimate for inclusion in the FY 2014 Budget and for the City Council to consider the feasibility of converting Bancroft Way and Durant Avenue into two-way streets. The analysis should include estimates of costs for traffic analysis, traffic control methods, CEQA analysis, and construction. It should also identify possible funding sources, partners, and schedule involved.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff time required for analysis.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council adopted the Southside Plan on September 27, 2011. The City has already taken a number of actions to implement the Southside Plan since its adoption: a streamlined entitlement process, 24-hour business hours, and an upcoming ordinance that would allow the display and sales of merchandise on sidewalks. One of the major goals of the plan is to “increase the quality, amenity and use of all non-automotive modes of transportation.”

On November 27, 2012 the City Council held a work session to discuss the status of Telegraph Avenue. Representatives of the University of California presented information on its Lower Sproul project that includes the demolition of Eschleman Hall and construction of a new Student Union building. Berkeley Design Advocates (BDA) presented the results of a 2012 Telegraph Avenue design charrette. Telegraph Avenue Business Improvement District discussed the installation of new decorative lighting and the establishment a WiFi zone in the area immediately south of campus between Bancroft and Dwight ways.

One of the projects identified by the BDA was converting Bancroft Way and Durant Avenue into two-way streets. Benefits presented include a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists as well as traffic calming as a result of reduced auto-traffic speed. In addition, there will be more convenient access to UC Berkeley as a result of relocating and concentrating bus traffic to Bancroft Way.

CONTACT PERSON:

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