



## Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7  
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### ACTION CALENDAR

February 11, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: City Manager Referral: Preparations to Apply for Telegraph Pedestrian Safety Funds

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to the City Manager to produce a plan to enable funding applications for Telegraph Avenue pedestrian safety improvements (as requested by the Telegraph Merchants Assoc).

#### BACKGROUND:

The Telegraph and Southside area have heavy pedestrian traffic and many safety concerns. The Southside Plan states “that more than 2,500 pedestrians pass through the intersection of Bancroft and Telegraph peak hours.” The campus area has both a high crime rate and an incredible concentration of foot traffic. These improvements would also improve disabled accessibility. Improving pedestrian safety in these areas has become a time sensitive issue to residents and merchants. Applications are needed to gain funds in multiple upcoming funding cycles, and proposed preparations could help bring these funds to Berkeley.

The Telegraph Merchants Association strongly supports these efforts, and established a committee to produce ideas to revitalize pedestrian safety on Telegraph Ave. It is important for the City of Berkeley to support the positive ideas coming from their volunteer activities.

The City of Berkeley has already acknowledged that “the comfort and safety of the pedestrian in Southside is of the highest priority” (Southside Plan) and identified specific pedestrian improvements that need to be addressed in the Pedestrian Master Plan and Southside Plan.

**Southside Plan Policy T-D4: Fix High Hazard Intersections in the Southside, by adding signals or stop signs as suggested above and by using other techniques identified in Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force recommendations, the Pedestrian Plan, and the General Plan. Intersections with high pedestrian collision rates that need to be addressed include:**

- Durant and Telegraph
- Bancroft and College
- Dwight and Telegraph
  
- Bancroft and Bowditch
- Bancroft and Dana
- Bancroft and Telegraph

**Southside Plan Policy T-C4:** Develop a program of sidewalk and intersection repair and improvements.

- A. Repave or repair telegraph Avenue sidewalks when feasible.
- B. Repair damaged sidewalks and intersections throughout the neighborhood.
- C. Develop and implement intersection improvements for major pedestrian intersections such as Bancroft Way and College Avenue, Bancroft and Dana Street, and Telegraph Avenue at Dwight Way.
- D. Add zebra-striped crosswalks at major intersections.
- E. Add disabled access ramps at major intersections. Add or refurbish curb ramps at major intersections to provide optimal safe access. Where existing infrastructure elements prevent building a ramp, evaluate either repositioning the problematic elements or using a “bulb-out” to create the surface necessary for a safe ramp.
- F. Install pedestrian level lighting wherever and whenever feasible.

**Southside Plan Policy T-D3:** Implement streetscape improvements to calm traffic and facilitate pedestrian crossing.

- A. Consider adding “bulb-outs” at intersections.
  
- B. Add a series of stop signs and traffic signals at key intersections throughout the neighborhood, including:
  - A traffic signal at Dana Street and Bancroft Way to slow traffic and facilitate pedestrian crossing,
  - A traffic signal at Bancroft Way and College Avenue, and
  - A stop sign at Ellsworth Street and Bancroft Way.
  
- C. Consider adding a traffic signal or other traffic calming device at Parker Street and Telegraph Avenue. Any traffic control device at Parker and Telegraph should be a type that makes it possible for pedestrians and bicycles to cross Telegraph without adding any additional traffic to Parker between Telegraph and Shattuck Avenue or Telegraph and College Avenue.
  
- D. New traffic signals should be all-way-stop signals that allow pedestrians to cross-in any direction without contending with automobiles making turns.
  
- E. New signals should be Accessible Pedestrian Signals.

**Berkeley Pedestrian Master Plan 6.4.1 High-Visibility Crosswalk Markings:**

Telegraph Avenue and Bancroft Way from Oxford Street to Piedmont Avenue have been determined by the City to be high priority corridors that warrant the installation of ladder crosswalk markings at all uncontrolled marked crosswalk locations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: \$5,000 to 10,000. This small investment would allow us to apply for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

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### ACTION CALENDAR

February 11, 2014

*(Continued from December 17, 2013)*

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: City Manager Referral: Preparations to Apply for Telegraph Pedestrian Safety Funds

#### RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager to apply for Telegraph Ave pedestrian safety funds and to produce a preliminary plan for Telegraph pedestrian safety improvements as requested by the Telegraph Merchants Association.

#### BACKGROUND

This became a time sensitive issue to have an application for funds ready for an upcoming funding cycle.

The Telegraph Merchants Association established a committee which has held a series of brainstorming sessions to produce ideas to revitalize pedestrian safety on Telegraph Ave. It is important for the City of Berkeley to support the positive ideas coming forward from their volunteer activities.

The Southside Plan has identified specific pedestrian improvements that need to be addressed. Telegraph Avenue is one of the most heavily pedestrian used streets so the number of people that will benefit from increasing pedestrian safety will be significant.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$5,000 to 10,000. This small investment would allow us to apply for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

#### CONTACT PERSON

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