



Kriss Worthington

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CONSENT CALENDAR

September 9, 2003

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: Freeze spending from the \$140,000 bicycle boulevard funding proposed to be shifted to traffic circle funding, and delay Council vote on Worthington compromise item to the City Council meeting of October 21, 2003, to give City Manager time to write a report and to give Transportation Commission time to come with their recommendations.

Compromise item to be delayed to October 21

Approves a compromise motion to designate \$140,000 in additional traffic circle funding to be specified for use for traffic circles on bicycle boulevards (as a compromise between use of funds for unspecified bicycle projects, versus use of funds for unspecified traffic circles)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council Freeze spending from the \$140,000 bicycle boulevard funding proposed to be shifted to traffic circle funding, and delay Council vote on Worthington compromise item to the City Council meeting of October 21, 2003, to give the City Manager time to write a report and to give the Transportation Commission time to come with their recommendations.

Compromise item to be delayed to October 21

Approves a compromise motion to designate \$140,000 in additional traffic circle funding to be specified for use for traffic circles on bicycle boulevards (as a compromise between use of funds for unspecified bicycle projects, versus use of funds for unspecified traffic circles)

BACKGROUND:

Berkeley wants to provide positive improvements for the residents who live on Bicycle boulevards. Berkeley wants to make bicycling an attractive alternative to single occupancy vehicles, in order to reduce congestion and air pollution.

This funding was removed from bicycle funding and allocated in the 2004 budget for traffic circles at unspecified locations.

Some bicycling advocates are concerned about the withdrawal of funding, especially Without advance notice. This proposal shifting \$140,000 out of the \$170,000 previously approved by the City Council, was not noticed on the agenda, and was not listed in any of the five budgets proposed before the meeting.

Other options considered:

One option could be to return the \$140,000 to the bicycle funding with no strings attached. This would give greater flexibility for the use of the funds but would not Increase traffic circle funds.

Another option would be to spend the \$140,000 on non bike related traffic circles. This would increase funds available for that use but would risk leaving many folks questioning the fairness of this surprise.

The goal of this Council item is to promote a compromise that will remove any questions about the legality or fairness of the action, while accomplishing the basic purpose of the motion.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NONE

CONTACT PERSON:

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