

Office of the Mayor

ACTION CALENAR

April 29, 2010

To: Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Tom Bates
Councilmember Linda Maio
Councilmember Laurie Capitelli

Subject: Bus Rapid Transit Final Environmental Impact Study/Report Build Alternatives

Recommendation

That the Berkeley City Council adopt a resolution to study the following three (3) alternatives for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Final Environmental Impact Study/Report:

- Alternative A - Build recommendation (modified staff proposal)
- Alternative B - Reduced Impact proposal (including most Rapid Bus Plus features)
- Alternative C – No Build

Alternatives A and B should include all of the following standard features:

- NextBus (real time) schedule signage
- Standardized proof of payment system
- Security features
- Minimize parking loss

Other features that should be included if technically or financially feasible:

- Elevated and/or Level boarding platforms,
- Far side bus stations combined with queue jump lanes when needed.

Background

After careful consideration of the Planning Commission recommendation, staff recommendation, and comments from the public, we have modified the staff proposal and the Rapid Bus Plus proposal to better address the needs and concerns of the city and its residents.

Contact Persons

Mayor Tom Bates	510-981-7100
Councilmember Linda Maio	510-981-7110
Councilmember Laurie Capitelli	510-981-7150

Attachments:

Resolution

Table – Comparative Chart of Bus Rapid Transit FEIR Study Build Alternatives A and B

Alternative A – BRT FEIR Study - Build Alternative

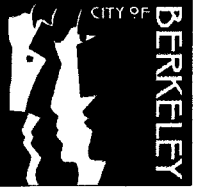
Alternative B – BRT FEIR Study - Reduced Impact Alternative

Table – Comparative Chart of Bus Rapid Transit FEIS/R Build Alternatives A and B

Location	Build Alternative	Reduced Impact Alternative
Telegraph Avenue. South of Dwight Way	Two-way Telegraph with Dedicated Center Bus Lanes and Median Stops	Maintain existing street configuration with no dedicated lanes. Stops at bulb outs with raised platforms where possible and queue jump lanes where necessary.
Telegraph Avenue North of Dwight Way	Maintain current configuration of one-way northbound Telegraph, with southbound buses on two-way Dana. No dedicated lane. Bike lanes in both directions.	Maintain current configuration of one-way northbound Telegraph, with southbound buses on two-way Dana. No dedicated lane. Bike lanes in both directions.
Bancroft Way to Shattuck	Two-way Bancroft Way from Dana. Eastbound buses in dedicated bus lane. Bike lanes in both directions on Bancroft if feasible. Two-way Durant to College with no BRT bus service. Two-way bike lanes on Durant.	Two-way Bancroft Way from Dana. No dedicated bus lanes, bike lanes in both directions on Bancroft. Two-way Durant to College with no BRT bus service. Two-way bike lanes on Durant.
Shattuck Avenue Bancroft to Center Street	Two-way Shattuck Avenue. No dedicated bus lanes. Queue jump lane if necessary. Right turn lane with prioritized signal for buses from Bancroft Way onto Shattuck Ave.	Two-way Shattuck Avenue. No dedicated bus lanes. Queue jump lane if necessary. Right turn lane with prioritized signal for buses from Bancroft Way onto Shattuck Ave.
Shattuck Avenue/ Shattuck Square to University Avenue	Two-way Shattuck Avenue from Center St. to University Ave. All buses on west side of triangle. No dedicated lanes. Shattuck Ave will be reconfigured for higher volume traffic. Shattuck Square (east side of triangle) will have no bus service, and will be calmed to one lane northbound for parking, loading and increased pedestrian space. Right turns only from Shattuck Square to Addison or University.	Two-way Shattuck Avenue from Center St. to University Ave. All buses on west side of triangle, No dedicated lanes. Shattuck Ave which will be reconfigured for higher volume traffic. Shattuck Square (east side of triangle) will have no bus service, and will be calmed, to one lane northbound for parking, loading and increased pedestrian space. Right turns only from Shattuck Square to Addison or University.
Bus Layover	Layover will be relocated to a location on either Hearst or Berkeley Way. Buses will travel northbound on two-way Shattuck (west leg) from Center to Hearst or Berkeley Way; right on Hearst or Berkeley Way to potential layover zone, then return via Oxford, University and Shattuck.	Layover will be relocated to a location on either Hearst or Berkeley Way. Buses will travel northbound on two-way Shattuck (west leg) from Center to Hearst; right on Hearst or Berkeley Way to potential layover zone, then return via Oxford, University and Shattuck.

Details of lane configurations will be determined by a traffic study, to be done by AC Transit.

Recommendation for BRT FEIR Study : Alt. A - Build Alternative



Layover location on either
Hearst or Berkeley Way

Shattuck

2-Way Shattuck Ave,
Center to University.
2-way BRT on Shattuck
Ave. (west side of
triangle)
No dedicated lanes.

Bancroft

2-Way , from Dana
Buses in mixed flow WB;
EB in bus lane
Durant converted to
2-way to College Ave.

South of Dwight

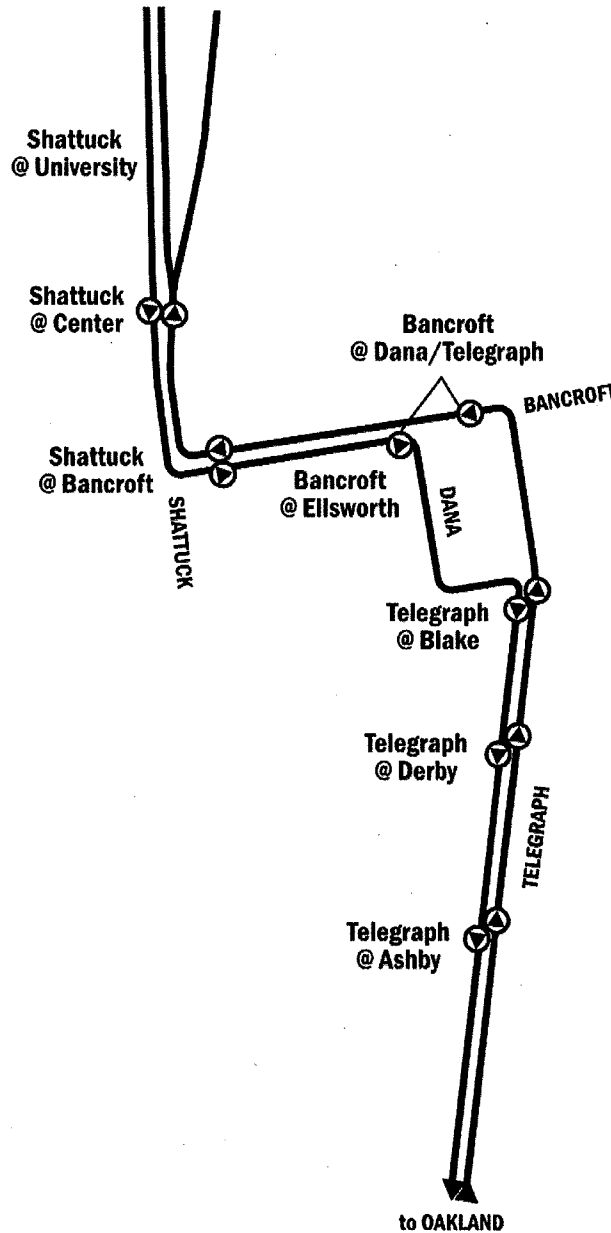
Center Bus Lanes
Median stops
One auto lane in each
direction with left turn
lanes where needed.

Shattuck Square

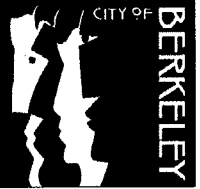
Single lane northbound
Use for parking, loading
and open space
No bus service
Remove layover at
Center Street
Right turns only at
Addison and University

North of Dwight

Maintain current 1-Way
Telegraph with BRT in
mixed flow NB,
BRT SB on Dana,
No dedicated lanes.
Dana becomes 2-way
with bike lanes.



Recommendation for BRT FEIR Study : Alt B – Reduced Impact Alternative



Layover location on either
Hearst or Berkeley Way

Shattuck

- 2-Way Shattuck Ave Center to University, 2-way BRT on Shattuck Ave. (west side of triangle)
- No dedicated lanes

Bancroft

- 2-Way , from Dana
- No bus lanes
- Bike lanes in both direction
- 2-Way Durant to College

South of Dwight

- 2-Way Telegraph with mixed flow traffic in all lanes
- No dedicated lanes
- Queue jump lanes if needed
- Elevated boarding stations on bulb outs where possible

Shattuck Square

- Single lane northbound
- Use for parking, loading and open space
- No bus service
- Remove layover at Center Street
- Right turns only at Addison and University

North of Dwight

- Maintain current 1-Way Telegraph with BRT in mixed flow NB,
- BRT SB on Dana,
- No dedicated lanes.
- Dana becomes 2-way with bike lanes.

