# TRAFFIC AND MOBILITY COMMISSION



Council Chamber 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive Carlsbad, CA 92008

### **Welcome to Your Traffic and Mobility Commission Meeting**

We welcome your interest and involvement in the city's legislative process. This agenda includes information about topics coming before the Traffic and Mobility Commission and the action recommended by city staff. You can read about each topic in the staff reports, which are available on the city website and in the Office of the City Clerk. The Minutes Clerk is also available to answer any questions you have about Traffic and Mobility Commission meeting procedures.

#### How to watch

In Person



City Council Chamber

1200 Carlsbad Village Drive

Online



Watch the livestream at

carlsbadca.gov/watch

### How to participate

If you would like to provide comments to the Traffic and Mobility Commission, please:

- Fill out a speaker request form, located in the foyer.
- Submit the form to the Minutes Clerk before the item begins.
- When it's your turn, the Chair will call your name and invite you to the podium.
- Speakers have three minutes, unless the presiding officer (usually the Chair) changes that time.
- You may not give your time to another person, but groups can select a single speaker as long as three other members of your group are present. Group representatives have 10 minutes unless that time is changed by the presiding officer or the Commission.
- In writing: Email comments to <a href="mailto:traffic@carlsbadca.gov">traffic@carlsbadca.gov</a>. Comments received by 2 p.m. the day of the meeting will be shared with the Traffic and Mobility Commission prior to the meeting. When e-mailing comments, please identify in the subject line the agenda item to which your comments relate. All comments received will be included as part of the official record.

Written comments will not be read out loud.

### **Reasonable Accommodations**

Persons with a disability may request an agenda packet in appropriate alternative formats as require by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Reasonable accommodations and auxiliary aids will be provided to effectively allow participation in the meeting. Please contact the City Manager's Office at 442-339-2821 (voice), 711 (free relay service for TTY users), 760-720-9461 (fax) or manager@carlsbadca.gov by noon on the Monday before the meeting to make arrangements. City staff will respond to requests by 2 p.m. on Monday, the day of the meeting, and will seek to resolve requests before the start of the meeting in order to maximize accessibility.

More information about Traffic and Mobility Commission meeting procedures can be found at the end of this agenda and in the Carlsbad Municipal Code chapter 1.20.

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

**ROLL CALL:** 

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** 

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: In conformance with the Brown Act, no Commission action can occur on items presented during Public Comment. A total of 15 minutes is provided so members of the public can address the Commissioners on items that are not listed on the Agenda. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each. If you desire to speak during Public Comment, fill out a SPEAKER CARD and submit it to the Minutes Clerk. If there are more than five (5) speakers, the remaining speakers will be heard at the end of the agenda just prior to Commissioners Reports.

<u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>: The items listed under Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion as listed below. There will be no separate discussion on these items prior to the time the Commission votes on the motion unless members of the Traffic and Mobility Commission, the Liaison or the public request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. A request from the public to discuss an item must be submitted to the Minutes Clerk in writing prior to Traffic and Mobility consideration of the Consent Calendar.

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**:

 POLICE REPORT REGARDING TRAFFIC & MOBILITY-RELATED MATTERS DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023 – Receive a presentation from a representative of the City of Carlsbad's Police Department that will provide an overview of traffic and mobility-related police matters during the month of March 2023. (Staff Contact: Alonso DeVelasco, Police Department)

**Staff's Recommendation**: Receive the presentation.

2. <u>EVALUATION OF TAMARACK AVENUE AND VALLEY STREET PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL PROJECT</u> – Receive a presentation on the evaluation of the Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street pedestrian signal project. (Staff Contact: Miriam Jim and John Kim, Public Works Department)

**Staff's Recommendation**: Receive the presentation.

3. <u>CITY OF CARLSBAD COMPLETE STREETS POLICIES OVERVIEW</u> - Receive an informational presentation on how the city's policies, including the General Plan and Sustainable Mobility Plan, are intended to prioritize the creation of "complete streets" by requiring that the design of transportation infrastructure that balances the needs of all users, promotes safety and enhances the quality of life for all those who live, work and play in the City of Carlsbad. (Staff Contact: Tom Frank, Public Works Department)

**Staff's Recommendation**: Receive the presentation.

<u>COMMISSION COMMENTARY AND REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS</u>: This portion of the agenda is for the Commission Members to make brief announcements, brief reports of their activities and requests for future agenda items.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Continuation of the Public Comments

This portion of the agenda is set aside for continuation of public comments, if necessary, due to exceeding the total time allotted in the first public comments section. When you are called to speak, please come forward to the podium and state your name. The remainder of the categories are for reporting purposes. In conformance with the Brown Act, no public testimony and no Commission action can occur on these items.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

### ABOUT THE TRAFFIC AND MOBILITY COMMISSION AGENDA

Per Carlsbad Municipal Code 2.28.050 the Traffic and Mobility Commission is an advisory commission to the City Council directed to study all matters referred to it concerning traffic safety and pedestrian safety and to make written recommendations to the city council regarding traffic and pedestrian safety within the city.

The Ralph M. Brown Act (commonly referred to as the "Brown Act") governs open meetings for local government bodies in the state of California. The Brown Act guarantees the public's right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies and is contained in section 54950 et seq. of the Government Code. The Brown Act also includes requirements for the distribution of agendas for these public meetings.

### TRAFFIC AND MOBILITY COMMISSION PROCEDURE

For each item on the agenda, City of Carlsbad staff will present a report to the Traffic and Mobility Commission. The Traffic and Mobility Commissioners may then ask clarifying questions about the staff report in advance of the public outreach. The audience will then be asked for comment. The Traffic and Mobility Commission is interested to hear all persons wishing to give testimony. Please file a "Request to Speak" form to speak on items listed on the agenda. Persons not desiring to speak but, wishing to be recorded as proponents or protesters of record, may do so by submitting their name and address to the minutes clerk. If anyone wishes to question a Traffic and Mobility Commission recommendation, they may contact the Traffic and Mobility Division at 1635 Faraday Avenue, between the hours of 7:30 a. m. and 5:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

Visual materials should be submitted to the Transportation Department at 1635 Faraday Avenue no later than noon the Friday before the meeting. Please label all materials with the agenda item number you are representing. All materials exhibited to the Traffic and Mobility Commission during the meeting (slides, maps, photos, etc.) are part of the public record and must be kept by the Traffic and Mobility Division for at least 60 days after final action on the matter. Your materials will be returned upon written request. **Video clips cannot be accommodated.** 

The Public Comment portion of the Agenda allows community members to speak on items that are not on the agenda. If you desire to speak about an item not listed on the agenda, a "Request to Speak" form should be filed with the Minutes Clerk. In conformance with the Brown Act, no action can occur on items presented during Public Comment.

Any agenda related writings or documents provided to the majority of the Traffic and Mobility Commission after distribution of the Agenda packet will be available for public inspection at the Transportation Department located at 1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92008. In addition, a binder containing all agenda related writings and documents will be held by the Minutes Clerk at each Traffic and Mobility Commission meeting and available for public review.

Those wishing to speak to the Traffic and Mobility Commission are asked to come forward, speak into the

microphone, and give their name and address for the taped record. A time limit of three minutes is allotted to each speaker. Members of the public are asked to observe order at this meeting and to conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner.



Meeting Date: April 3, 2023

To: Traffic and Mobility Commission

Staff Contact: Alonso DeVelasco, Police Lieutenant

Alonso.develasco@carlsbadca.gov, 442-339-5578

Subject: Police Report Regarding Traffic & Mobility-Related Matters During

the Month of March 2023

### **Recommended Action**

Receive a presentation from a representative of the City of Carlsbad's Police Department that will provide an overview of traffic and mobility-related police matters during the month of March 2023.

### **Fiscal Analysis**

This action has no fiscal impact.

### **Environmental Evaluation**

In keeping with California Public Resources Code Section 21065, this action does not constitute a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act in that it has no potential to cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Therefore, it does not require environmental review.

### **Public Notification and Outreach**

This item was noticed in keeping with the Ralph M. Brown Act and it was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours before the scheduled meeting date.

### **Exhibits**

None

April 3, 2023 Item #1 Page 1 of 1



Meeting Date: April 3, 2023

To: Traffic and Mobility Commission

**Staff Contact:** Miriam Jim, Senior Engineer

Miriam.Jim@carlsbadca.gov, 442-339-5796

John Kim, City Traffic Engineer

John.Kim@carlsbadca.gov, 442-339-2757

Subject: Evaluation of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street Pedestrian Signal

Project

### **Recommended Action**

Receive a presentation on the evaluation of the Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street pedestrian signal project.

### **Background**

Over the years, staff has been working to address concerns about pedestrian safety at the intersection of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street. Staff have increased enforcement, hired crossing guards, made crosswalks more prominent and installed flashing lights to alert drivers to pedestrians crossing the road. When residents requested the city install an all-way stop at the intersection, staff evaluated the proposal but ultimately recommended against it due to conflicts with state policies on the placement of stop signs and best practices for traffic safety.

On June 3, 2019, the Traffic & Mobility Commission concurred with staff's findings and asked staff to explore other options to address safety, speeding and visibility issues at the intersection. This section of Tamarack Avenue is designated as a "Neighborhood Connector Street" by the General Plan Mobility Element which recommends as follows: "Mid-block pedestrian crossings and traffic calming devices should be considered, but only at locations with high pedestrian activity levels or major destination/attractions." Based on input from the Traffic & Mobility Commission and guidance from the General Plan Mobility Element, staff proposed a pedestrian hybrid signal and curb extensions at the intersection of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street.

This type of signal allows pedestrians at the crosswalk to activate a red light for cars. When no pedestrians are waiting, cars can continue through the intersection without stopping. This type of signal would be the first of its kind in Carlsbad, although other cities have been using them for the past several years. With a solid red light displaying after a pedestrian activation of the push button, the pedestrian hybrid signal offers greater visibility to drivers and more positive

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 1 of 13

vehicle control than the previously existing rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) system that utilizes flashing warning light as an advisory warning.

On September 24, 2019, staff presented the concept for curb extensions and a pedestrian hybrid signal to the City Council. The City Council approved staff's recommendation and the project team began to design plans for this project.

The plans for the signal and other intersection improvements were discussed at the Traffic & Mobility Commission on January 6, 2020, and ultimately recommended by the commission for approval by the City Council. The City Council approved the plans and specifications on July 28, 2020.

The new pedestrian hybrid signal, along with the curb extension and other intersection improvements, were completed on September 27, 2022. During construction, some residents became concerned with the size and scale of the signal, which they felt was out of sync with the neighborhood's character. Concerns have also come up about the new signal poles interfering with ocean views. As part of the project, street parking was eliminated in front of one resident's home, causing concern, although staff has since been able to restore the parking.

In addition to these concerns, some residents have expressed concern about the safety of the new pedestrian hybrid signal. Since the beginning of the construction phase of the project, the City has received dozens of emails, photos and videos to the city alleging unsafe conditions and driver behavior with most coming from one individual. Neighbors and others have asked that the signal be removed.

On July 5, 2022, the Traffic & Mobility Commission asked staff to evaluate the new pedestrian hybrid signal's performance and return with a report in six months after signal activation.

On July 26, 2022, staff highlighted to the City Council a three-phase plan for traffic calming on Tamarack Avenue to address residents' speeding and traffic safety concerns. This three-phase approach includes:

- 1. An accelerated short-term traffic calming project on Tamarack Avenue between Skyline Drive and Adams Street (currently underway)
- 2. Evaluation on the performance of the recent intersection improvements at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street (completed)
- 3. Implementation of a longer-term Sustainable Mobility Plan transformative corridor project along Tamarack Avenue (anticipated to begin design in summer 2023)

Staff has completed the evaluation outlined in phase two, and this report includes the findings.

### **Discussion**

Tamarack Avenue, in the vicinity of Valley Street, functions as a Neighborhood Connector Street and has a high number of single-family homes fronting it. It is striped with a single vehicle lane, bicycle lane and on-street parking lane in each direction. The speed limit is posted at 30 miles per hour and the roadway accommodates approximately 8,500 vehicles per day. Neighborhood

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 2 of 13

Connector Streets have a level of service standard for pedestrians and bicycles but not for vehicles or transit. School street characteristics include:

- Primary purpose is to connect people to different neighborhoods and land uses of the city
- Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Vehicle speeds should be managed to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle movement
- Bicycle lanes should be provided
- Bicycle boulevards can be considered
- Pedestrians should be accommodated on sidewalks adjacent to the travel way (minimum 5' wide sidewalk)
- Mid-block pedestrian crossings and traffic calming devices should be considered, but only at locations with high pedestrian activity levels or major destinations/attractions
- On-street parking may be provided

The intersection of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street is close to Magnolia Elementary School, Valley Middle School and Carlsbad High School, and is host to a number of school-aged pedestrians during the school year. Valley Street is classified as a School Street and has level of service standard for pedestrians and bicycles but not for vehicles or transit. School street characteristics include:

- Primary purpose is to connect people to schools from nearby residential neighborhoods.
- Designed to safely move all modes of travel with an emphasis on providing safe pedestrian and bicycle access for students traveling to and from nearby schools.
- Vehicle speeds shall be managed to support school uses (typically 25 MPH)
- Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian crossings should be provided, including:
  - High visibility crosswalks
  - Enhanced pedestrian notifications (e.g., responsive push-button devices)
  - Enhanced bicycle detection
  - Bicycle lanes shall be provided and can be further enhanced or complemented by other facilities or off-street pathways
- Pedestrian facilities should be a minimum of six feet and shall strive for eight feet in width and shall conform to ADA requirements
- Pedestrian crossing distances should be minimized
- Opportunities for mid-block pedestrian crossings should be investigated
- Traffic calming devices that improve service levels and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists should be considered

Over the years, staff have been contacted by residents and parents with concerns about vehicle speeds on Tamarack Avenue and pedestrian safety at the intersection of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street. The objective of the Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street Intersection Improvement project is to address these concerns.

The new pedestrian hybrid signal at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street operates only when a pedestrian pushes the pushbutton but remains "dark" when no one is crossing. Unlike the rectangular rapid flashing beacon previously installed which served as a warning device to motorists when a pedestrian was crossing, the pedestrian signal functions like a traffic signal at the intersection which requires vehicles to stop at the stop lines when the signal displays a solid red light after a pedestrian activates the signal via pushbutton. This pedestrian signal enhances

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 3 of 13

safety at the crosswalk while only impeding traffic flow on Tamarack Avenue when the light is activated by pedestrians wanting to cross.

The project also added curb extensions at the high visibility crosswalks to make pedestrians more visible to motorists, decrease the pedestrian crossing distance across Tamarack Avenue and tighten the corner curb radii to encourage slower vehicle turning speeds.

The pedestrian hybrid signal at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street was energized on September 27, 2022 and is the first of its kind installed in the city.

#### **Public Outreach**

The public had several opportunities to attend public meetings and learn about the options being considered for the intersection, including:

- Traffic & Mobility Commission meeting June 3, 2019
- City Council meeting June 11, 2019
- City Council meeting September 24, 2019
- Traffic & Mobility Commission meeting January 6, 2020
- City Council meeting July 28, 2020
- City Council meeting April 20, 2021

The project was also discussed at two additional meetings held during construction, including a Traffic & Mobility Commission meeting on July 5, 2022, and a City Council meeting on July 26, 2022.

City staff informed road users about the new pedestrian hybrid signal and how it works as the project neared completion. This included:

- Email newsletters to people interested in the project
- A Next Door post to the neighborhoods surrounding the signal
- Emails and phone calls with administrators at nearby schools
- Sample emails for schools to share with parents
- Digital message board
- Informational video
- Social media

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 4 of 13



# Carlsbad Works

New pedestrian signal to be activated at Tamarack and Valley Walkers, bicyclists and drivers will soon get a chance to try out a new type of traffic signal at the corner of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street, which, along with other changes to the intersection, will make it easier to notice when someone is crossing the street.

This type of "pedestrian signal" has already been installed elsewhere in the county, but this is the first one in Carlsbad.

In addition to the new signal, the city extended the curbs on the west side of the intersection, which encourages drivers to slow down more when making turns and shortens the distance to walk across Tamarack Avenue.

#### How the new signal works

- The new signal, officially called a pedestrian hybrid beacon, will stop road traffic when a pedestrian presses the button.
- It operates differently than a regular traffic signal or the flashing light beacon that was at the Tamarack and Valley intersection before.
- Once the signal is activated by the pedestrian button, drivers will see a series of lights that direct a driver to slow down and then stop.
- Pedestrians will follow similar operations that they would see at a regular traffic signal to cross the street.



### **Evaluation of Pedestrian Signal Operation**

### Observation of compliance

Staff reviewed video footage captured at the pedestrian hybrid signal and observed pedestrians and motorists' behavior at the crosswalk. The video footage covered a period of four daysthree typical weekdays and one weekend day, in February 2023. There were a total of 209 crossing events observed with a total of 1,463 pedestrians crossing Tamarack Avenue at Valley Street in the four-day observation period.

During the observed weekdays, approximately 90% of pedestrian crossing events were observed to activate the pedestrian hybrid signal to cross Tamarack Avenue, while about 58% of the crossings observed on the weekend had activated the pedestrian signal. Vehicles on Valley Street and Tamarack Avenue were observed stopping at red light after the signal was activated. The motorist compliance rate at the pedestrian hybrid signal was approximately 86% on the weekdays and 73% on the weekend.

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 5 of 13

Staff further evaluated the instances where motorists did not comply with the solid red light. Out of the total of 26 instances of non-compliance, two involved motorists not yielding the right-of-way to pedestrians at the crosswalk, (i.e., motorists entering the crosswalk as pedestrians started to cross Tamarack Avenue). For the other 24 cases of non-compliance, motorists yielded to the pedestrians crossing Tamarack Avenue but entered the intersection when the signal indication was still on solid red after the pedestrian(s) had cleared the motorists' path of travel. A summary of pedestrian crossings at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street and the percentage of vehicles in compliance with the pedestrian signal are provided in Table 1.

Table 1 - Summary of pedestrian crossing events at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street

	No. of ped. crossing events with signal activation	No. of crossing events with vehicle(s) stopped at red light	No. of crossing events with vehicle(s) entering intersection on red light	Percentage of vehicle compliance	No. of pedestrian right-of-way encroachments by motorists
Weekdays	163	141	22	86%	2
Weekend	15	11	4	73%	0

### Feedback from residents, crossing guard and School

Staff received both positive feedback and concerns from residents regarding the new pedestrian hybrid signal at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street. The main concern raised by residents immediately after signal activation was vehicles running red lights. With police enforcement and public outreach effort on operation of the new signal, vehicle compliance at the new signal has been observed to be greatly improved.

On the other hand, parents and residents have expressed gratitude for the safety enhancement at the crosswalk at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street with the new pedestrian signal.

The crossing guard, who has been assigned to the crosswalk for over a year and has experience assisting children crossing Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street with and without the pedestrian hybrid signal, also provided positive feedback to staff. The crossing guard shared that the pedestrian signal has been an improvement and supports her job, especially in situations where children need assistance crossing both Valley Street and Tamarack Avenue, at the same time. With the pedestrian hybrid signal, the children can cross Tamarack Avenue without a crossing guard while this allows the crossing guard to focus on assisting other students to cross Valley Street.

The project team also approached the principals at local schools to discuss feedback received from parents and staff. The principal at Magnolia Elementary School received questions and concerns from parents in the initial weeks after the signal was activated. Some parents expressed concerns that the signal was confusing, and another did not know the correct place to stop at the signal and received a citation from the Police Department. The principal indicated

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 6 of 13

that no questions or concerns had been raised since the initial weeks following signal activation.

The principal at Valley Middle School has not received comments or questions from parents, but has observed that traffic sometimes is backed up on Tamarack east of Valley at times when a large number of pedestrians are trying to cross the street.

### Collision History

The collision summary for the five-year period between Jan. 2018 and Feb. 2023 shows five reported collisions on Tamarack Avenue between James Drive and Park Drive. None of these collisions occurred at the intersection of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street or involved a pedestrian. No collisions have been reported at the intersection of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street as well as on Tamarack Avenue between James Drive and Park Drive since the pedestrian hybrid signal was energized on September 27, 2022.

### Fire Truck Turn with New Curb Extension

Curb extensions at the intersection of Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street were constructed as a safety enhancement to provide a shorter crossing distance for pedestrians and to make it easier for drivers to see pedestrians. Since the curb extensions were constructed, a few residents have expressed concerns that larger vehicles may not be able to maneuver a right-turn safely without encroaching into the travel lane in the opposite direction or hitting the new curb extensions.

The design of the new curb extension follows the standard design guidelines to accommodate larger vehicles turning at the intersection. City staff conducted a test drive with a 61-ft long fire ladder truck which demonstrated that it can maneuver a right-turn movement from Valley Street onto Tamarack Avenue without encroaching into the opposite lane on Tamarack Avenue or the sidewalk or hitting the new curb extensions. The fire truck tests were recorded on video and are on file with staff.

### Speeds on Tamarack Avenue

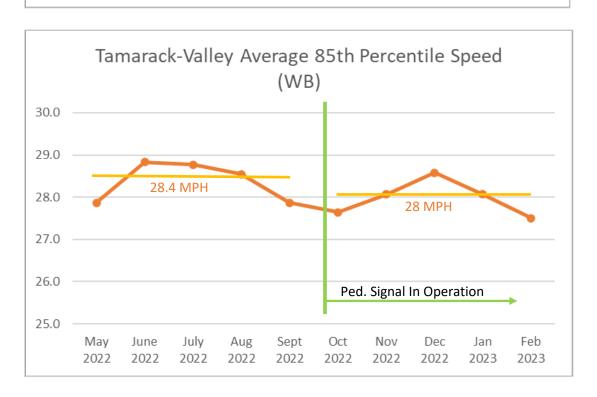
Staff reviewed speed data collected by the two radar speed feedback signs located on Tamarack Avenue, east and west of Valley Street, for a five-month period both before and after the pedestrian signal began operation in late September 2022. The before and after vehicle speed study reveals that the monthly average 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds (speed at which 85% of the vehicles were traveling at or below) on Tamarack Avenue approaching Valley Street has been reduced from 35.8 to 35.2 MPH in the eastbound direction and from 28.4 to 28 MPH in the westbound direction after improvements were implemented.

The pedestrian hybrid signal was installed with the intent to enhance pedestrian safety at the crosswalk at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street and is not a vehicle speed management device. Therefore, a significant change in vehicle speeds on Tamarack Avenue at Valley Street is not expected and as reflected by the speed data. The monthly average 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds on Tamarack Avenue are graphically shown in Figure 1 below.

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 7 of 13

Tamarack-Valley Average 85th Percentile Speed (EB) 37.0 36.0 35.8 MPH 35.0 35.2 MPH 34.0 33.0 Ped. Signal In Operation 32.0 May June July Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Aug 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2023 2023

Figure 1 - Average 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Speeds on Tamarack Avenue (Eastbound and Westbound)



Based on staff evaluation, the performance of the pedestrian hybrid signal at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street has been satisfactory. No significant concerns have been noted with the operation of the new pedestrian hybrid signal and associated curb extensions.

### **Necessary Council Action**

None.

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 8 of 13

### **Next Steps**

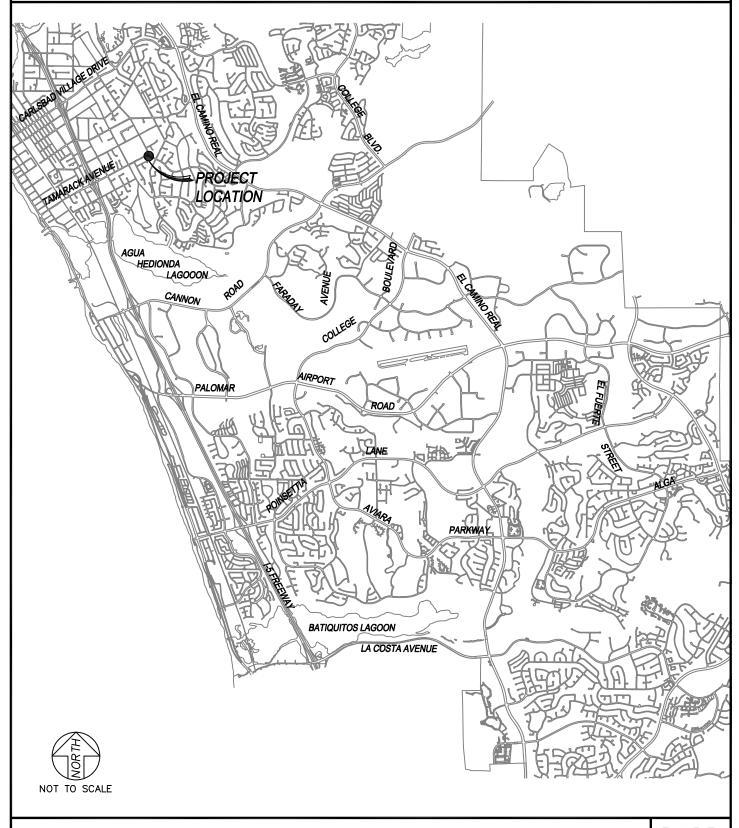
Staff will continue to monitor the pedestrian hybrid signal operation at Tamarack Avenue and Valley Street and will report to Traffic and Mobility Commission as appropriate. The city will begin the outreach effort later this summer on the Tamarack Transformative Corridor project. The public is encouraged to participate in the public input and study process for this upcoming project to further improve the Tamarack Avenue to best serve the needs of the community.

### **Exhibits**

- 1. Vicinity Map
- 2. Collision Summary Tamarack Ave between James Dr and Park Dr
- 3. Collision Summary Tamarack Ave and Valley St

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 9 of 13

# **LOCATION MAP**



TAMARACK AVENUE AT VALLEY STREET PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL EVALUATION

**EXHIBIT** 

1

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 10 of 13

# City of Carlsbad Public Works Department/Traffic & Mobility Division

From 1/1/2018 to 2/28/2023

Total Collisions: 5 Collision Summary Report 3/14/23

Injury Collisions: 3 Fatal Collisions: 0

TAMARACK AV from JAMES DR to PARK DR Page 1 of 2

.,,,,						
19-01882	3/21/2019	12:30 Thursday	TAMARACK AV - JAMES DR	0' Direction: Not State	, •	Pty at Fault:
	Other	Motor Vehicle	e on Othe Unsafe Starting or Backing	22106 Hit & Run:	Property Damage Only # Inj: 0	) # Killed: (
Party 1 Driver Veh Type: Party 2 Driver Veh Type:		Backing Sobriety: HNBD Proceeding Straight Sobriety: HNBD	M Age: 2004 FO Assoc Factor: None Appare M Age: 2013 CH Assoc Factor: None Appare	nt Lap/Shoulder Harness Used Cel EVROLET TAHOE Emergend	l Phone Not In Use y Vehicle (On Emergency Run	
20-01768	3/13/2020	12:27 Friday	TAMARACK AV - PARK DR	0' Direction: Not State	d Daylight Cloudy	Pty at Fault
	Broadside	Other Motor \	Vehicle Auto R/W Violation	21802A Hit & Run: No	Complaint of Pain # Inj: 1	L # Killed: (
Party 1 Driver Veh Type: Party 2 Driver Veh Type:	EAST SOUT	Proceeding Straight Sobriety: HNBD Proceeding Straight Sobriety: HNBD	F Age: 2018 HY Assoc Factor: Inattention F Age: 2019 VO Assoc Factor: None Appare	Lap/Shoulder Harness Used Cel LKSWAGEN JETTA Passenger	Car, Station Wagon, Jeep	
20-07966	12/19/2020	15:57 Saturday	TAMARACK AV - PARK DR	0' Direction: Not State	d Dusk - Dawn Not Stated	Pty at Fault:
	Broadside	Bicycle	Auto R/W Violation	21800A Hit & Run: No	Other Visible Injury # Inj: 1	L # Killed: (
Party 1 Driver Veh Type: Party 2 Bicyclist Veh Type:		Proceeding Straight Sobriety: Not Applicab Proceeding Straight Sobriety: Not Applicab	ole Assoc Factor: None Appare F Age: 13 SH	MANO Bicycle	'	
21-01205	2/23/2021	09:44 Tuesday	TAMARACK AV - PARK DR	111' Direction: WEST	Daylight Clear	Pty at Fault
	Hit Object	Fixed Object	Improper Turning	22107 Hit & Run: No	Property Damage Only # Inj: 0	) # Killed: (
Party 1 Driver Veh Type:	EAST	Proceeding Straight Sobriety: HBD Not Und	M Age: 66 2012 TO der Influ Assoc Factor: Other	YOTA COROLLA Passenger Lap/Shoulder Harness Used Cel	Car, Station Wagon, Jeep I Phone Not In Use	
22-05100	8/5/2022	16:25 Friday	TAMARACK AV - JAMES DR	223' Direction: EAST	Daylight Clear	Pty at Fault:
	Broadside	Other Motor \	Vehicle Improper Turning	22103 Hit & Run: No	Complaint of Pain # Inj: 1	L # Killed: (
Party 1 Driver Veh Type: Party 2 Driver		Making U Turn Sobriety: HNBD Proceeding Straight	F Age: 36 2015 NIS Assoc Factor: None Appare M Age: 29 2013 TO	nt Lap/Shoulder Harness Used Cel	Car, Station Wagon, Jeep I Phone Not In Use Car, Station Wagon, Jeep	
Veh Type:		Sobriety: HNBD	Assoc Factor: None Appare	nt Lap/Shoulder Harness Used Cel	l Phone Not In Use	

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 11 of 13

Segment Length: 0.23 miles (1,230')

Collisions per mile: 21.46

**Settings for Query:** 

Segment: TAMARACK AV between JAMES DR and PARK DR Include Intersection Related at Limit 1 (JAMES DR): True Include Intersection Related at Limit 2 (PARK DR): True Include Intersection Related at Intermediate Intersections: True Sorted By: Date and Time

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 12 of 13

# City of Carlsbad Public Works Department/Traffic & Mobility Division

Exhibit 3

3/14/23

From 1/1/2018 to 2/28/2023

Total Collisions: 0 Collision Summary Report

Injury Collisions: 0
Fatal Collisions: 0

TAMARACK AV & VALLEY ST Page 1 of 1

**Settings for Query:** 

Street: TAMARACK AV Cross Street: VALLEY ST Intersection Related: True Sorted By: Date and Time

April 3, 2023 Item #2 Page 13 of 13



Meeting Date: April 3, 2023

To: Traffic and Mobility Commission

Staff Contact: Tom Frank, Transportation Director/City Engineer

tom.frank@carlsbadca.gov, 442-339-2766

**Subject:** City of Carlsbad Complete Streets Policies Overview

**District:** Citywide

### **Recommended Action**

Receive an informational presentation on how the city's policies, including the General Plan and Sustainable Mobility Plan, are intended to prioritize the creation of "complete streets" by requiring the design of transportation infrastructure that balances the needs of all users, promotes safety and enhances the quality of life for all those who live, work and play in the City of Carlsbad.

### **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this informational report will be to provide the Traffic & Mobility Commission with an overview of the city's policies related to mobility and complete streets roadway design from the city's General Plan Mobility Element and Sustainable Mobility Plan. Complete streets are streets that are safe and inviting for all users, including people of all ages and abilities, regardless of whether they are driving, biking, walking or taking public transportation. This report is intended to assist the Traffic & Mobility Commission in evaluating proposed street design projects in the city.

### **Discussion**

Most of Carlsbad's transportation system was built during the last 35 years, coinciding with the city's period of major growth. The policies that guided this development were focused mostly on creating capacity on city roads so cars could travel without delays.

In the past, traffic engineers designed roadways to be comfortably driven at speeds higher than the posted speed limit. For example, a 30-mph street was designed to be comfortably driven at 45 mph. This approach prioritized the free flow of car traffic over the safety and convenience of other users of the roadway such as pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders.

Today's traffic engineering practices now prioritize the creation of complete streets, which are safe and inviting for all users, including people of all ages and abilities, regardless of whether

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 1 of 40

they are driving, biking, walking or taking public transportation. In 2008, the state legislature passed the Complete Streets Act, which requires this approach to street design.

The term "complete streets" is synonymous with other terms such as livable streets or sustainable streets, where the engineering approach involves considering the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders when designing roadways, as well as implementing features such as bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks and transit stops to improve safety and accessibility. The goal is to create a more equitable, sustainable and livable transportation system that benefits all members of the community.

### Complete streets design in the City of Carlsbad

The City of Carlsbad's approach to managing travel around and throughout the city is based on state law and the policies, plans and strategies approved by City Council. The overarching document that identifies these core goals is the city's General Plan Mobility Element, approved by City Council in 2015. This replaced the Circulation Element, which had been largely based on the circulation needs of a single mode of travel – the car.

The General Plan Mobility Element is a collection of policies and guidelines used by staff to design new roads and redesign existing roads. The Mobility Element incorporates the complete streets design principles approach and is based on the core values of Carlsbad's Community Visions which calls for the city to "increase travel options through enhanced walking, bicycling and public transportation systems."

In addition to the community's vision, the Carlsbad General Plan Mobility Element sets forth several goals related to sustainable mobility:

- Keep the City of Carlsbad moving with complete streets that provide a safe, balanced, cost effective, multi-modal transportation system (vehicles, pedestrians, bikes, transit), accommodating the mobility needs of all community members, including children, the elderly and the disabled. (3-G.1)
- Improve connectivity for residents, visitors and businesses. (3-G.2)
- Provide inviting streetscapes that encourage walking and promote complete streets. (3-G.3)
- Implement transportation demand and traffic signal management techniques to improve mobility. (3- G.5)
- Protect and enhance the visual, environmental, and historical characteristics of the City of Carlsbad through sensitive planning and design of scenic transportation corridors. (3-G.6)
- Provide for the safe and efficient movement of goods throughout the city. (3-G.7)

Since adoption of the Mobility Element, the City of Carlsbad has actively been developing and implementing a series of stand-alone documents, technical analyses and recommendations related to walking and bicycling such as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans, the Village and Barrio Master Plan, the Carlsbad Active Transportation Strategy, and recent initiatives such as the Climate Action Plan and the passage of the Transportation Demand Ordinance.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 2 of 40

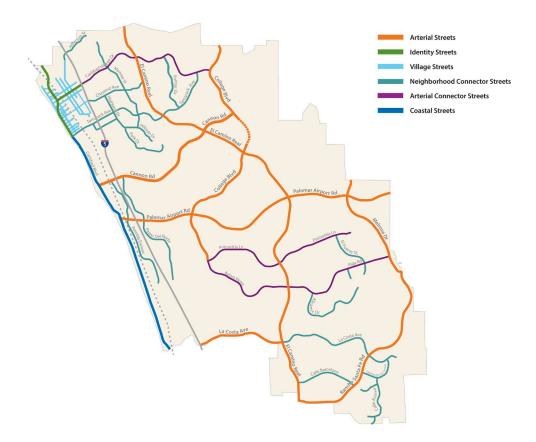
The Sustainable Mobility Plan consolidates these planning efforts over the previous 10+ years in a manner that simplifies implementation and achievement of the overall goals for sustainable outcomes in the City of Carlsbad. The Sustainable Mobility Plan was approved by the City Council in 2021 and is the main plan that guides implementation of the General Plan Mobility Element, with the goal of improving traffic safety, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing travel choices. The plan focuses on prioritizing transportation options that also are good for the environment:

- Improvements for bicyclists, pedestrians and people with disabilities
- Connected walking, cycling, transit stops and trail networks
- Programs like Safe Routes to Schools and cycling education to encourage active transportation
- Access to public transit
- Infrastructure improvements to enhance safety and connectivity
- Mobility hubs featuring car-share and bike-share services
- Ways to get people to drive alone less, and instead walk, bike, ride transit or carpool more

### Types of streets

Not all streets have the same purpose, and that affects how they are designed. The city's General Plan Mobility Element recognizes that optimum levels of service cannot be provided for all travels modes on all streets within the city. For example, main streets (arterial streets) that connect busy areas will have more space dedicated to cars, with higher speeds. Streets in neighborhoods, in close proximity to schools, and along the coastline will have designs that slow down traffic and provide more room for bike lanes and sidewalks. The city's General Plan Mobility Element lists the different types of streets and the features they should have.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 3 of 40



As another example, much of Carlsbad Boulevard falls under the category of coastal streets, which calls for the following design elements:

- Primary purpose is to move people along the city's ocean waterfront and connect
  people to the beach, recreation, businesses and residences in close proximity to the
  waterfront. The street serves as a destination for people who seek to drive, walk and
  bicycle along the ocean waterfront.
- Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Vehicle speeds shall be managed to support uses along the coast.
- Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian crossings should be provided, including: High
  visibility crosswalks Enhanced pedestrian notifications (e.g. responsive push-button
  devices) Enhanced bicycle detection Bicycle lanes shall be provided and can be
  further enhanced or complemented by other facilities (such as bicycle lane buffers or
  off-street pathways).
- Pedestrian facilities should be a minimum of five feet and shall strive for six to eight feet in width and shall conform to ADA requirements.
- Pedestrian crossing distances should be minimized.
- Trail facilities should be encouraged.
- Opportunities for mid-block pedestrian crossings should be investigated.
- On-street parking should be provided.
- Transit facility and operation improvements should be encouraged.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 4 of 40

Because much of our transportation system was built a long time ago, it will take time to transform all city streets to meet these definitions, but all new streets will be designed according to these guidelines from the start.

### **Designing for safety**

A complete streets or livable streets vision is more than implementation of a state-mandated approach during a general plan update process. It is a fundamental shift in how the city plans and designs the street system – recognizing the street as a public space and ensuring that the public space serves all users of the system (elderly, children, bicycles, pedestrians, etc.) within the urban context of that system (e.g. accounting for the adjacent land uses).

Designing infrastructure to support the General Plan Mobility Element's complete streets goal involves a wide range of strategies and features. Some common elements of complete streets infrastructure include sidewalks, bike lanes, shared-use paths, pedestrian crossings, transit shelters and street furniture.

### Innovative complete streets design features

The General Plan Mobility Element policy 3-P.17 states: consider innovative design and program solutions to improve the mobility, efficiency, connectivity, and safety of the transportation system.

Innovative design solutions include, but are not limited to, traffic calming devices, roundabouts, traffic circles, curb extensions, separated bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian scramble intersections, high visibility pedestrian treatments and infrastructure, and traffic signal coordination.

For example, the Sustainable Mobility Plan identifies that roundabouts are an effective intersection traffic control measure to calm traffic and improve safety of intersections for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles by reducing speeds and conflict points. Roundabouts have added benefits of improving efficiency of vehicle operations of intersections, reducing greenhouse gas emissions from idling vehicles and enhancing aesthetics. Roundabouts will be considered on existing city streets where they could effectively address safety or traffic operations issues or in new development projects when intersection control is being considered. The city will review them on a case-by-case basis.

### **Fiscal Analysis**

This item is a presentation on the work related to management of the city's transportation assets and, as such, there is no financial impact related to this item.

### **Environmental Evaluation (CEQA)**

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21065, receiving a presentation on the work of the Public Works Branch, Transportation Department does not constitute a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, in that it has no potential to cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 5 of 40

### **Public Notification**

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date.

### **Exhibits**

1. General Plan Mobility Element

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 6 of 40





The Mobility Element seeks to enhance vehicle, systems options within Carlsbad, and improve mobility through increased connectivity and intelligent transportation management. Increasing transportation options and improving connectivity within the city are core values of the Carlsbad Community Vision and also support other core values of the vision, including sustainability, access to recreation and active, healthy lifestyles, and neighborhood revitalization.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 7 of 40 This element provides a short context for Carlsbad's existing mobility system, identifies how that system was developed, and communicates the current vision for the future of mobility within the city. Topics addressed include:

- Livable Streets
  - Multi-Modal Levels of Service
  - Walking
  - Bicycling
  - Transit
- Connectivity to Support Mobility
- Parking
- Transportation Demand Management
- Traffic Signal Management
- Freight and Goods Movement and
- Innovation in Transportation Mobility

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 8 of 40

3-3

# 3.1 Introduction

### **Background and Purpose**

Much of Carlsbad's transportation system has developed within the last 30 years, concurrent with the city's physical expansion. The transportation emphasis during this period has been on improving travel by the automobile, within the framework provided by Proposition E (commonly referred to as the Growth Management Plan) passed by Carlsbad voters in 1986. The 1994 General Plan and the Growth Management Plan helped assure that infrastructure was provided in a systematic fashion as the city grew and developed.

The transportation system envisioned in the 1994 General Plan has largely been realized, with the majority of the street infrastructure constructed to its ultimate configuration. As the city looks increasingly to infill development rather than outward expansion, the primary transportation issues relate to protecting and enhancing the community's quality of life, as reflected in the core values of the Carlsbad Community Vision. The community's vision includes better pedestrian and bicycle connections between neighborhoods, destinations, and different parts of the community, and a balanced transportation system rather than a singular focus on automobile movement.

In recent years, the city has been taking steps to support complete and livable streets. In January 2012, the City Council identified complete and livable streets as a top strategic focus area for the city. In February 2013, the city completed a Livable Streets Assessment report that reframes potential challenges into opportunities, based on best practices in other jurisdictions wrestling with similar challenges. In 2011-2013 the city implemented a traffic signal program to better serve and manage motorists and connect traffic signals throughout the city. This element focuses on providing livable streets that improve mobility and connectivity for all users of the transportation system.

# Relationship to State Law

California state law (Government Code Section 65032(b)) requires that a general plan include a circulation element that consists of "the general location and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals... and other local public utilities and facilities, all correlated with the land use element of the [general] plan." This Mobility Element includes all information required of circulation elements, except that the location and extent of "other local public utilities and facilities" is addressed in the Public Safety Element.

Additionally, in 2008, the State of California passed Assembly Bill 1358, the California Complete Streets Act. This bill requires that all circulation elements developed after January 1, 2011 include a complete streets approach that balances the needs of all users of the street, including motorists, pedestrians, bicycles,

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 9 of 40

3-4

children, persons with disabilities, seniors, movers of commercial goods, and users of public transportation. This Mobility Element uses the term "livable streets" in place of "complete streets"; providing livable streets throughout the community is the core focus of this element.

# **Relationship to Community Vision**

While the Mobility Element responds to many of the core values of the Carlsbad Community Vision, it most closely furthers:

Core Value 5: Walking, Biking, Public Transportation and Connectivity. Increase travel options through enhanced walking, bicycling and public transportation systems. Enhance mobility through increased connectivity and intelligent transportation management.

### **Relationship to Other General Plan Elements**

The Mobility Element generally focuses on mobility and connectivity of the city's transportation system and is complementary to other elements within the General Plan. This element was developed to support and enhance the Land Use and Community Design Element, which has the strongest relationship to this element.

In addition, the Mobility Element will inform future updates to the city's Bicycle Master Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan, and Trails Master Plan efforts; all of which provide a greater level of detail related to those planning efforts compared to this element. Furthermore, future noise contours in the Noise Element and air quality policies in the Open Space, Conservation and Recreation Element reflect considerations of future traffic generation, as outlined in this element.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 10 of 40

# 3.2 Context: Existing Transportation System

Currently, Carlsbad's transportation system includes streets (travel lanes, bicycle lanes, sidewalks, etc.), trails, transit (bus and train), truck routes, and the McClellan-Palomar airport. The existing transportation system is described below.

### **Streets**

The city accommodates motorists via its system of freeways, regional streets and local streets. North/south facilities include Interstate-5, El Camino Real, Carlsbad Boulevard, College Boulevard, Paseo del Norte, Avenida Encinas, Rancho Santa Fe Road and Melrose Drive. East/west facilities include Carlsbad Village Drive, Chestnut Avenue, Tamarack Avenue, Cannon Road, Faraday Avenue, Palomar Airport Road, Poinsettia Lane, Aviara Parkway, and La Costa Avenue. Many of these streets not only serve Carlsbad, but also provide regional connectivity to the north county area. Although there are numerous east/west streets through the city, major barriers interrupt connectivity – the north/south railroad that parallels Interstate-5 and Carlsbad Boulevard, the Interstate-5 freeway, three lagoons, and the general rolling hill topography of the city. While State Route 78 does not run within the city limits of Carlsbad, it provides a regional east-west freeway just north of Carlsbad that connects with Interstate 15 in Escondido.

Many city-maintained streets provide for pedestrian and bicycle travel on such facilities as parallel bike lanes, trails, and/or sidewalks. Walking and bicycling environments are critical to Carlsbad's high quality of life, especially in areas that have a high demand for those services (such as the Village area, along the coast and near the lagoons).

### **Trails**

Trails typically serve pedestrians and, where allowed, bicycles. Automobiles are prohibited on trails. While the city's rolling topography can be challenging, its open space areas, three lagoons, coastline and Mediterranean climate make it an ideal location to provide an extensive trail system.

In April 2013, the city initiated a Trails Master Plan update. This update will include identification of existing and proposed trails within the city that will integrate with other transportation system elements. Additionally, the Trails Master Plan will ensure consistency with the city's recently completed and accepted ADA Transition Plan. The Trails Master Plan will be completed in coordination with the Carlsbad Active Transportation Strategy, also initiated by the city in April 2013. The Comprehensive Active Transportation Strategy will result in a set of strategies to identify and construct livable streets solutions for the city's street system.





Pedestrian-attracting land uses include lagoons (top) and the coastline (bottom).

3-5

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 11 of 40



3-6

### **Transit**

Transit in Carlsbad includes bus service, ADA paratransit service, the COASTER commuter rail, and Amtrak rail service; indirectly, transit service is also provided by the Sprinter light rail system and Metrolink commuter rail. These services are described below:

- Bus Service Bus service is provided by the North County Transit District (NCTD) and is referred to the BREEZE. BREEZE currently operates approximately ten bus routes within the city.
- Paratransit Service NCTD also offers LIFT, a curb-to-curb service for eligible disabled persons who are unable to utilize the BREEZE.
- COASTER Commuter Rail This is a north-south commuter rail transit service connecting north San Diego County to the City of San Diego. Carlsbad is served by two COASTER stations, one located north of Poinsettia Lane (just west of Interstate-5) and the other is located in the Carlsbad Village area.
- Sprinter This is an east-west light rail transit service connecting Oceanside to Escondido and many educational destinations such as Mira Costa College and California State University San Marcos. Although the Sprinter does not run within the city limits, it is just north of Carlsbad and connections to Carlsbad are provided via the COASTER and BREEZE services in addition to bicycle accessibility.
- Amtrak Amtrak is a national passenger rail service connecting San Diego to San Luis Obispo. There are currently six Amtrak trains per day at associated Amtrak stations in Carlsbad.
- Metrolink Metrolink is a commuter rail service serving Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. The Orange County line connects to the COASTER line in Oceanside.

This Mobility Element also recognizes the unique opportunity the city has with its two COASTER stations and Amtrak stations. The city has the ability to service regional commuting in the area via transit without requiring the use of an automobile on north-south corridors in the city. In addition to the special treatment of streets and connectivity in and around the transit stations, this Mobility Element also seeks to connect people with businesses and other destinations by improving the quality of bus service through coordination with NCTD, evaluating transit quality along routes that connect to employment areas, important destinations and transit stations, encouraging the provision of shuttle services, and in other new innovative ways.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 12 of 40

Although the basic regional transit backbone infrastructure has been implemented within the city (discussed above), one of the biggest deterrents to transit use is the "first mile/last mile" portion of the transit trip, which refers to the method and ability for transit users to actually connect to their ultimate destination once they get off of the primary transit mode. This concept is also referred to as "door-to-door" transit service, which addresses transit in a more comprehensive manner than "stop-to-stop." This Mobility Element further promotes the improvement of the "first mile/last mile"/"door-to-door" transit service through development incentives that incorporate and encourage shuttles and other connectivity to and from the transit infrastructure system.

### **Goods Movement**

The movement of goods in Carlsbad typically occurs on the rail line, freeway and via designated truck routes within the city. This connectivity assures that goods can be moved safely and efficiently in the city. Many of Carlsbad's businesses and residents rely on goods movement whether for deliveries or importing/exporting product.

Carlsbad Municipal Code Section 10.32.091 enumerates the designated and established truck routes in Carlsbad. The designated truck routes provide access from Interstate-5 and State Route 78 to commercial areas, the Village, business park areas, McClellan-Palomar Airport, and points beyond the city limits. Carlsbad streets that are designated truck routes are designed to accommodate large vehicles.

# **McClellan-Palomar Airport**

McClellan-Palomar Airport is a class 1 commercial service airport (pursuant to its operating certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Administration). The airport serves all types of scheduled operations of large air carrier aircraft (31 or more passenger seats), as well as small air carrier aircraft (more than nine but less than 31 passenger seats). The airport currently serves smaller general aviation aircraft up to larger corporate jet aircraft, and is the only airport with an instrument landing system between Lindbergh Field (San Diego) and John Wayne (Santa Ana) airports that can accommodate the majority of instrument rated aircraft.

Medevac and transient helicopters also operate at the heliport/helipad located east of the runway. The Carlsbad Municipal Code prohibits the City Council from approving any legislative act (such as a zone change or general plan amendment) authorizing the expansion of McClellan-Palomar Airport without voter approval.





3-7

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 13 of 40

# 3.3 Livable Streets Vision and Strategies

### **Livable Streets**

A livable streets vision is more than implementation of a state-mandated approach during a general plan update process. It is a fundamental shift in how the city will plan and design the street system – recognizing the street as a public space and ensuring that the public space serves all users of the system (elderly, children, bicycles, pedestrians, etc.) within the urban context of that system (e.g. accounting for the adjacent land uses).

The Mobility Element is consistent with and further enhances the state and federal requirements for complete streets by implementing a "livable streets" strategy. Livable streets recognize that each street within the city is unique given its geographic setting, adjacent land uses, and the desired use of that facility. As such, this element identifies a street typology appropriate for the uniqueness of the street and surrounding land uses and identifies which modes of travel (pedestrian, bicycle, vehicles, etc.) should be accommodated on that street.









April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 14 of 40

The following are notable examples of how Carlsbad streets have been, or are planned to be, developed or retrofitted to better accommodate all users of the street system and interface appropriately with adjacent land uses:

- Streets within Bressi Ranch, the Village area, Robertson Ranch, and the Pine Park area;
- The "road diet" along La Costa Avenue to improve safety. A road diet is a process whereby streets are modified from (traditionally) a four-lane facility with no turn lanes or bicycle lanes to a two-lane facility with a two-way left-turn lane and bicycle facilities;
- Installation of the Kelly Drive crosswalk and pedestrian median island at Kelly Elementary School;
- Pedestrian crosswalks and median improvements and rectangular rapid flashing beacons along Carlsbad Boulevard;
- Enhancing, buffering and widening bike lanes during routine street maintenance;
- Repurposing of Carlsbad Boulevard across Buena Vista Lagoon reduce the number of vehicle lanes with enhanced pedestrian and bicycle facilities (trail, bike lanes, sidewalk);
- Installation of a roundabout at the Carlsbad Boulevard and State Street intersection; and
- Installation of sharrows on State Street connecting to the Coastal Rail Trail Reach 2 through the Village. Sharrows are special pavement stencils denoting that bicycles may use the lane with motorists.
- Planned traffic calming improvements, such as traffic circles, roundabouts, and median islands, in the Barrio and Village areas.

The City of Carlsbad Livable Streets Assessment (February 2013) is a document that benchmarks the city's position on implementing livable streets. It documents best practices of other jurisdictions and recommends actions the city can take to continue to implement livable streets concepts. The Carlsbad Active Transportation Strategies study will serve as the livable streets implementation plan for the city.

While many transportation projects have historically been vehicle capacity enhancing and traffic control focused, this Mobility Element supports a new paradigm to evaluate each project and explore all potential solutions to enhance the mobility for all users of the street, including vehicles, pedestrians, bikes, and transit. Many of these projects will involve repurposing existing right-of-way rather than acquiring and constructing new right-of-way.







3-9

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 15 of 40

The city's approach to provide livable streets recognizes that optimum service levels cannot be provided for all travel modes on all streets within the city. This is due to competing interests that arise when different travel modes mix. For example, pedestrian friendly streets typically have slow vehicle travel speeds, short-distance pedestrian crossings, and include some type of buffer between the vehicle travel way and the pedestrian walkway. However, automobile friendly streets typically have wide travel lanes, multiple turn lanes (increasing the pedestrian crossing distance), and high automobile speeds. Therefore, this Mobility Element utilizes a livable streets approach to provide a balanced mobility system that identifies, based on the location and type of street (street typology), the travel modes for which service levels should be enhanced and maintained per the multi-modal level of service (MMLOS) standard specified in the city's Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan.

Table 3-1 describes the city's livable street typologies and Figure 3-1 depicts the city's livable street system. Table 3-1 identifies which modes of travel are accommodated on each street typology and specifies, depending on the type of street, which modes are subject to the MMLOS standard and which modes are not. While Table 3-1 does not require a minimum level of service for some travel modes on some types of streets, the intent is not to degrade levels of service for any travel mode. Rather, Table 3-1 provides the city with the flexibility to provide a balanced mobility system that meets the mobility needs of all modes and persons of all ages and abilities; and recognizes that to do so it may not always be possible to provide an optimum level of service for all travel modes on all streets.

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) evaluated the transportation impacts of the General Plan, including this Mobility Element. At the time the EIR was prepared, the draft Mobility Element used the terms "prioritized" and "non-prioritized" travel modes to indicate whether or not a travel mode is subject to the MMLOS standard ("prioritized") or not subject to the standard ("non-prioritized"). In order to clarify the meaning and intent of those terms, this Mobility Element was revised to indicate which modes of travel are subject to the MMLOS standard and which modes are not, without the use of the terms "prioritized" and "non-prioritized." Where Table 3-1 identifies that a travel mode is subject to the MMLOS standard, the EIR evaluated such modes as "prioritized" travel modes; and where Table 3-1 identifies that a travel mode is not subject to the MMLOS standard, the EIR evaluated such modes as "non-prioritized" travel modes.





3-10 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 16 of 40

3-11

### TABLE 3-1: CARLSBAD LIVABLE STREETS GUIDE

	AND ACCOMMODAT	CTREET TYPOLOGY DECORPTION AND DEFERRED ATTRIBUTES
ACCOMMODATED MODES	SUBJECT TO MMLOS STANDARD (Y/N)	STREET TYPOLOGY DESCRIPTION AND PREFERRED ATTRIBUTES
Freeways		
	Y	High-speed facilities designed to accommodate vehicles and buses moving through the city and region
	Y	Bicycles and pedestrians are prohibited
Arterial Streets		
	Y	These are the primary vehicle routes through the city for both local and regional vehicle trips.
		• Designed to safely move all modes of travel while efficiently moving vehicles and buse throughout the city.
M	N	Traffic signals shall be coordinated to optimize vehicle movements
		Bicycle lanes shall be provided and can be further enhanced or complemented by othe facilities or off-street pathways
		Pedestrian facilities to be provided consistent with ADA requirements
<u></u>	N	Mid-block crossings should not be provided
₫®		On-street parking should be prohibited along these corridors
		Vertical traffic calming techniques (such as speed tables, humps, etc.) should not be considered
	Y	Special considerations can be considered on arterials within proximity to schools to enhance Safe Routes to Schools for pedestrians and bicyclists.
dentity Streets		
	N	These streets provide the primary access to and from the heart of the city - the Village
Pigning		Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists
		Vehicle speeds should be managed to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle movement
		No pedestrian shall cross more than five vehicular travel and/or turn lanes
		• In addition to ADA compliant ramps and sidewalks, sidewalks should support the adjacent land uses as follows:
	Y	<ul> <li>Adjacent to retail uses, modified/new sidewalks should generally be a minimum of 10 feet (12 feet preferred) in width where feasible and taking into consideration the traffic volumes of the adjacent roadway, and allow for the land use to utilize the sidewalk with outdoor seating and other activities</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Adjacent to residential uses, modified/new sidewalks should be a minimum of six feet in width</li> </ul>
		Elsewhere, modified/new sidewalks should be a minimum of eight feet in width
· K	Υ	Where feasible, bicycle lanes should be provided
		Vehicle speeds should complement the adjacent land uses
		Bicycle parking should be provided in retail areas
		Bike racks should be readily provided within the public right-of-way and encouraged c private property
		Traffic calming devices, such as curb extensions (bulbouts) or enhanced pedestrian crossings should be considered and evaluated for implementation
[======]	N	Street furniture shall be oriented toward the businesses
		• Mid-block pedestrian crossings could be provided at appropriate locations (e.g. where sight distance is adequate and speeds are appropriate)
		On-street vehicle parking should be provided. In areas with high parking demand, in- novative parking management techniques should be implemented / considered
		Pedestrians should typically be "buffered" from vehicle traffic using landscaping or parked vehicles

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 17 of 40

### TABLE 3-1: CARLSBAD LIVABLE STREETS GUIDE

	RLSBAD LIVABLE AND ACCOMMODAT	
ACCOMMODATED MODES	SUBJECT TO MMLOS STANDARD (Y/N)	STREET TYPOLOGY DESCRIPTION AND PREFERRED ATTRIBUTES
Village Streets		
	N	<ul> <li>Primary purpose is to move people throughout the Village; providing access to businesses, residences, transit and recreation within the Village area.</li> <li>Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians</li> </ul>
		and bicyclists.
<b>F</b>	Y	Vehicle speeds should be managed to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle movement
		Promote pedestrian and bicycle connectivity through short block lengths
		Bicycle lanes should be provided
	Υ	Bicycle boulevards can be considered
( <b>4</b> °()		Pedestrians should be accommodated on sidewalks adjacent to the travel way (minimum 5' wide sidewalk)
	N	• Mid-block pedestrian crossings and traffic calming devices should be considered, but only at locations with high pedestrian activity levels or major destinations/attractions
		On-street parking may be provided
Arterial Connecto	or Streets	
	Y	Primary purpose is to connect people to different areas and land uses of the city by connecting to/from arterial streets
M	Y	Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists and efficiently moving vehicles between arterial streets.
		Bicycle lanes should be provided
	Y	Pedestrians should be accommodated on sidewalks adjacent to the travel way (minimum 5' wide sidewalk)
	N	Mid-block pedestrian crossings and traffic calming devices should be considered, but only at locations with high pedestrian activity levels or major destinations/attractions
		On-street parking may be provided
Neighborhood Co	onnector Street	
	N	Primary purpose is to connect people to different neighborhoods and land uses of the city
	Υ	• Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists.
M	•	Vehicle speeds should be managed to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle movement
		Bicycle lanes should be provided
	Y	Bicycle boulevards can be considered
		Pedestrians should be accommodated on sidewalks adjacent to the travel way (minimum 5' wide sidewalk)
**************************************	N	Mid-block pedestrian crossings and traffic calming devices should be considered, but only at locations with high pedestrian activity levels or major destinations/attractions
		On-street parking may be provided

3-12 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 18 of 40

#### TABLE 3-1: CARLSBAD LIVABLE STREETS GUIDE

STREET TYPOLOGY		
ACCOMMODATED MODES	SUBJECT TO MMLOS STANDARD (Y/N)	STREET TYPOLOGY DESCRIPTION AND PREFERRED ATTRIBUTES
Employment/Trar	nsit Connector Stre	eets
	N	• Primary purpose is to connect people to and from the employment areas of the city, as well as important destinations and major transit facilities.
<b>M</b>	Y	• Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists and efficiently moving buses to employment, transit stations and major destinations.
		Vehicle speeds should be managed to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle movement
	Y	Direct connections to bus stops should be provided
		Enhanced bus stops should be considered that include shelters, benches, and lighting
		Bicycle lanes and sidewalks should be provided
		Pedestrian crossing distances should be minimized
		On-street parking may be provided
Coastal Streets		
	N	• Primary purpose is to move people along the city's ocean waterfront and connect people to the beach, recreation, businesses and residences in close proximity to the waterfront. The street serves as a destination for people who seek to drive, walk and bicycle along the ocean waterfront.
		• Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists.
<b>M</b>	Y	Vehicle speeds shall be managed to support uses along the coast
1 M		Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian crossings should be provided, including:
		<ul> <li>High visibility crosswalks</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Enhanced pedestrian notifications (e.g. responsive push-button devices)</li> </ul>
	Y	– Enhanced bicycle detection
		<ul> <li>Bicycle lanes shall be provided and can be further enhanced or complemented by other facilities (such as bicycle lane buffers or off-street pathways)</li> </ul>
		Pedestrian facilities should be a minimum of five feet and shall strive for six to eight feet in width and shall conform to ADA requirements
r <del>anna</del>	N	Pedestrian crossing distances should be minimized
		Trail facilities should be encouraged
		Opportunities for mid-block pedestrian crossings should be investigated
		On-street parking should be provided
		Transit facility and operation improvements should be encouraged

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 19 of 40 3-13

TABLE 3-1: CARLSBAD LIVABLE STREETS GUIDE

JIKEET TIFOLOGI	AND ACCOMMODA	TED MODES
ACCOMMODATED MODES	SUBJECT TO MMLOS STANDARD (Y/N)	STREET TYPOLOGY DESCRIPTION AND PREFERRED ATTRIBUTES
School Streets		
	N	<ul> <li>Primary purpose is to connect people to schools from nearby residential neighborhoods.</li> <li>Designed to safely move all modes of travel with an emphasis on providing safe pedestrian and bicycle access for students traveling to and from nearby schools.</li> </ul>
<b>₩</b>	Y	<ul> <li>Vehicle speeds shall be managed to support school uses (typically 25 MPH)</li> <li>Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian crossings should be provided, including:         <ul> <li>High visibility crosswalks</li> <li>Enhanced pedestrian notifications (e.g. responsive push-button devices)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Y	<ul> <li>Enhanced bicycle detection</li> <li>Bicycle lanes shall be provided and can be further enhanced or complemented by other facilities or off-street pathways</li> <li>Pedestrian facilities should be a minimum of six feet and shall strive for eight feet in</li> </ul>
<del>,,,</del>	N	<ul> <li>width and shall conform to ADA requirements</li> <li>Pedestrian crossing distances should be minimized</li> <li>Opportunities for mid-block pedestrian crossings should be investigated</li> <li>Traffic calming devices that improve service levels and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists should be considered</li> </ul>
ndustrial Streets		
	Y	<ul> <li>Primary purpose is to connect people to businesses within the city's industrial parks.</li> <li>Designed to safely move all modes of travel while efficiently moving vehicles and buse</li> </ul>
N.	N	<ul> <li>from arterial streets and employment/transit connector streets to businesses.</li> <li>Traffic calming devices are generally discouraged given the propensity for larger truck and heavy vehicles in this area</li> </ul>
	N	<ul> <li>On-street parking may be provided as long as it does not interfere with the turning radii of heavy vehicles.</li> </ul>
-	Y	
ocal/Neighborho	ood Street	
	N	<ul> <li>Primary purpose is to connect people to and through residential neighborhoods and local areas of the city.</li> <li>Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists.</li> </ul>
	Y	<ul> <li>Vehicle speeds should be managed to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle movement</li> <li>Pedestrians should be accommodated on a sidewalk or soft surface trail (such as decomposed granite) unless those facilities are inconsistent with the existing desirable</li> </ul>
F	Y	<ul> <li>neighborhood character</li> <li>Bicycles can be accommodated with a bicycle lane or route if vehicle volumes and/or speeds necessitate; otherwise bicycles can share the street</li> </ul>
	N	<ul> <li>Bicycle boulevards can be considered</li> <li>Traffic calming measures should be considered when supported by the neighborhood or when warranted for safety reasons</li> </ul>
		On-street parking should be considered

**3-14** April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 20 of 40

TABLE 3-1: CARLSBAD LIVABLE STREETS GUIDE

STREET TYPOLOGY	AND ACCOMMODAT	ED MODES
ACCOMMODATED MODES	SUBJECT TO MMLOS STANDARD (Y/N)	STREET TYPOLOGY DESCRIPTION AND PREFERRED ATTRIBUTES
Bicycle/Pedestria	n Pathway	
<b>M</b>	Y	Primary purpose is to provide safe bicycle and pedestrian access throughout the community by connecting people to residences, businesses and recreation uses.
		For bicycles and pedestrians only – no vehicular access is permitted
4	Y	Serves commuters and recreational users
Streets within ½	⊔ Mile of a Transit C	enter
	N	Primary purpose is to connect people to/from the city's transit centers.
		• Designed to safely move all modes of travel while enhancing mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists and efficiently moving vehicles and buses to/from transit centers.
M	Υ	Vehicle speeds should be managed to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle movement
		Provides access to the Breeze/COASTER system via enhanced bicycle/pedestrian connectivity or via shuttle service from the stations to the ultimate destination
<b>4</b> 0	Y	• Could include enhanced transit systems, such as signal priority for transit, dedicated ROW for transit, or queue bypass lanes.
	Y	Mid-block pedestrian crossings and traffic calming devices should be considered in these areas
		Parking should be provided and managed using innovative parking techniques

### Multi-Modal Levels of Service

Traditionally, transportation systems have been designed to achieve a level of service from the perspective of the driver, not pedestrians or bicyclists. However, cities throughout the country are now designing their transportation systems to achieve levels of service for all travel modes. Some cities, such as Fort Collins, CO, San Francisco, CA, Gainesville, FL, Charlotte, NC, and others, have been doing this for more than a decade; and in 2010, national guidelines were developed by the Transportation Research Board to encourage other cities to establish levels of service for all travel modes.

The California Complete Streets Act (2008) requires cities in California to plan for a balanced, multi-modal transportation system that meets the needs of all travel modes. This Mobility Element establishes a multi-modal level of service (MMLOS) methodology for Carlsbad that determines the vehicle level of service by the Highway Capacity Manual and evaluates the service levels for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users.

The city's MMLOS methodology will provide a qualitative "grade" assigned to specified travel modes (see Table 3-1), ranging from a level of service (LOS) A to LOS F. LOS A reflects a high service standard for a travel mode (e.g. outstanding characteristics and experience for that mode) and LOS F would reflect a poor service standard for a travel mode (e.g. congestion for vehicles, no bicycle, pedestrian, or transit facilities, etc.). Thresholds are identified to balance supply and demand to create a sustainable system of public right-of-way, keeping in mind

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 21 of 40 3-15

on-going maintenance of the infrastructure and implementation of livable streets. The level of service of the various travel modes are evaluated according to the following factors:

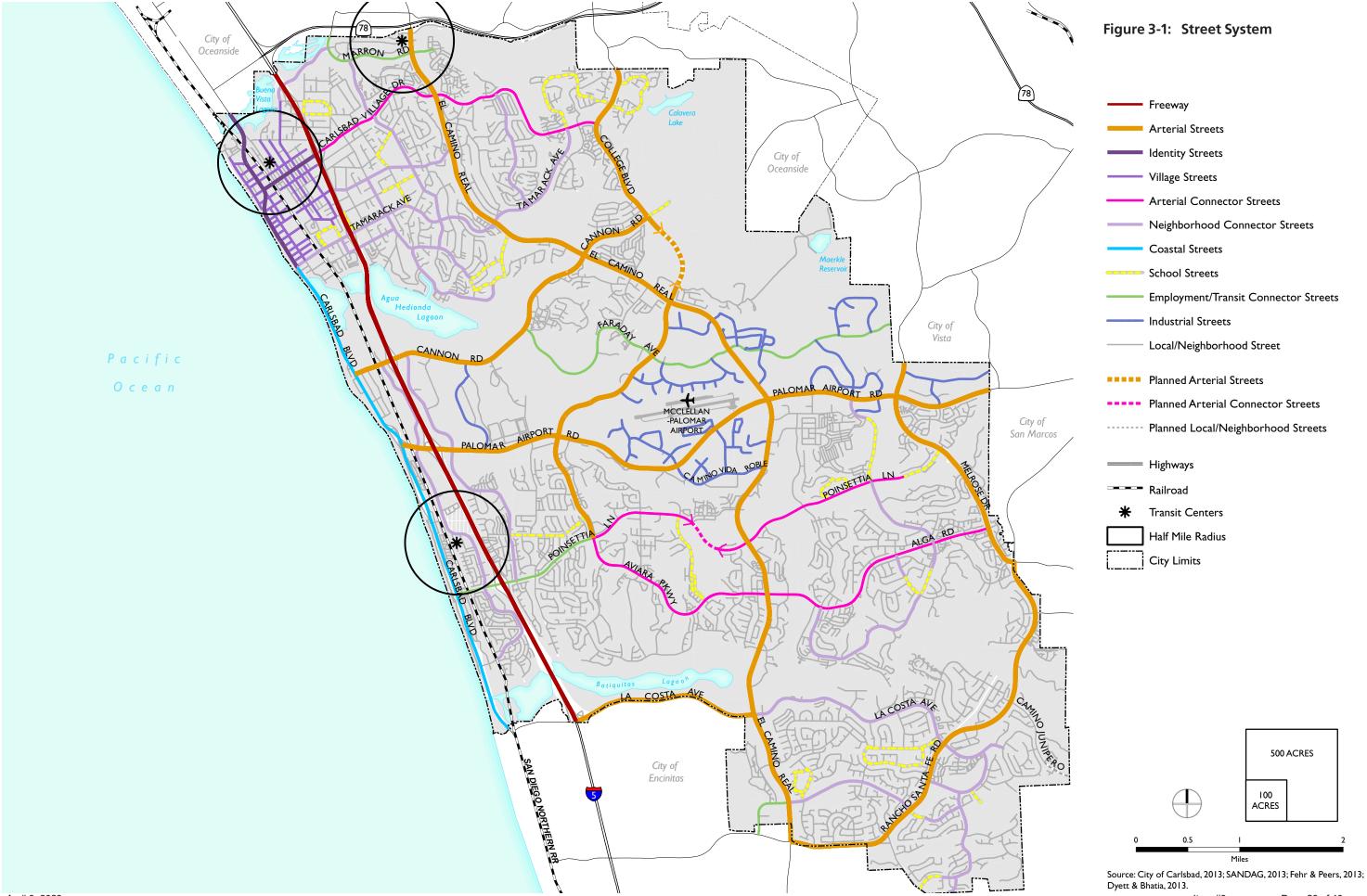
- Vehicular Level of Service. Level of service will be determined by the
  most recent version of the Highway Capacity Manual. This methodology
  evaluates vehicles based on their freedom to maneuver and overall delay
  experienced at intersections.
- Pedestrian Level of Service. Level of service to be evaluated using the Carlsbad MMLOS method. This method evaluates the *quality* of the pedestrian system (e.g. number of vehicle lanes that need to be crossed and the speed of adjacent traffic) and the *friendliness* of the infrastructure at intersections (e.g. pedestrian countdown heads, dedicated pedestrian phases (e.g. a scramble phase), curb extensions, refuge median).
- Bicycle Levels of Service. Level of service to be evaluated using the Carlsbad MMLOS method. This method evaluates the *quality* of the bicycle system (e.g. bicycle route, bicycle lanes, or bicycle pathway; presence of bicycle buffers from the vehicle travel way), the *amenities* of the system (e.g. presence of bicycle parking), and the *friendliness* of the infrastructure (e.g. bicycle detection at intersections, pavement conditions, presence of vehicle parking).
- Transit Levels of Service. Level of service to be evaluated using the Carlsbad MMLOS method. This method evaluates the *transit vehicle right-of-way* (e.g. dedicated or shared, signal priority), *hours and frequency of service* (e.g. weekday/weekend hours, peak period headway); *performance* (e.g. on-time or late); *amenities and safety* (e.g. lighting, covered stop, bench, on-board bike/surfboard storage); and *connectivity* (e.g. to other transit routes, employment areas, schools, visitor attractions, and other major destinations).

# **Future Operations and Street Improvements**

Most of the envisioned Carlsbad street system is built out. The remaining planned street improvements are summarized in Table 3-2; these facilities serve the needs of land uses identified in the Land Use and Community Design Element. The planned streets are identified on the Street Network map, Figure 3-1.

In addition to the new street connectivity and capacity expansion described in Table 3-2, the city is also implementing a citywide traffic signal system upgrade effort. This effort includes retiming of traffic signals, upgrading the controller and detection technology, and integration of the traffic control system to a single point traffic management center. This enables the city to monitor, manage, and adjust traffic signal timing along major corridors to improve mobility and manage vehicle flow within the city. Improved traffic signal timing also enhances the safety for drivers, improves air quality by reducing emissions and brake dust, and improves commute times.

3-16 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 22 of 40



April 3, 2023 Page 24 of 40

TABLE 3-2: PLANNED CITY OF CARLSBAD STREET CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENT NAME	IMPROVEMENT DESCRIPTION
College Boulevard	Complete improvements between Cannon Road and El Camino Real to arterial street typology standards
Poinsettia Lane	Complete improvements between Cassia Road and El Camino Real to connector street typology standards
Camino Junipero Extension	Extend to the eastern city limit as a local street
Interstate-5 North Coast Project	Includes the widening of Interstate-5 to include high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) (carpool) managed lanes and auxiliary lanes connecting adjacent interchange off-ramps and on-ramps as needed
Interstate-5/State Route-78 Interchange Improvement	While in preliminary design, identifying transportation options will relieve congestion on the freeway as it is a bottleneck that impacts adjacent interchanges, regional streets, and the movement of goods and people. This interchange is not located within the City of Carlsbad but is part of the Caltrans Public Works Plan for the Interstate-5 North Coast Corridor Project.

## **Future Traffic Operations**

With build-out of the Land Use and Community Design Element, the completed street network presented in Table 3-1 and on Figure 3-1 will have capacity constraints on arterial streets and on freeways within and adjacent to the city. The analysis of the Land Use and Community Design Element indicated that the following freeways and arterial street facilities will operate at LOS E or LOS F in the city at build-out:

- Interstate-5
- State Route-78
- La Costa Avenue between Interstate-5 and El Camino Real
- El Camino Real between Palomar Airport Road and La Costa Avenue
- Palomar Airport Road between Interstate-5 and College Boulevard
- Palomar Airport Road between El Camino Real and Melrose Drive

These facilities would generally be congested during peak periods; however, during most hours of the day, these facilities would have sufficient capacity to serve the vehicle demand. The city does not have regulatory authority over Interstate-5 or State Route-78 and has no control over managing traffic on those

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 25 of 40 3-19



facilities. When these freeways are beyond capacity, some motorists will use City of Carlsbad arterials rather than the freeways to bypass congestion. Adjacent communities outside of Carlsbad also utilize Carlsbad's regional infrastructure to bypass congestion on freeways.

The four Carlsbad arterial street segments listed above would need to be widened beyond their six-lane cross-section to operate at the city's standard for vehicle level of service on those facilities (LOS D or better); however, creating streets wider than six lanes is inconsistent with the goals of this Mobility Element. In addition, widening these streets beyond six lanes creates new challenges for intersection operations, maintenance, and storm water management. Therefore, rather than widening these arterial streets beyond six lanes, the city shall implement transportation demand management (e.g. promote travel by modes other than the single-occupant vehicle), transportation system management (e.g. signal timing coordination and improved transit service) and livable streets techniques to better manage the transportation system as a whole.

Concurrent with City Council adoption of this Mobility Element, the city's Growth Management standard for circulation identified in the Citywide Facilities and Improvement Plan will be amended to reflect the livable streets approach to mobility described in this element.

# Bicycling, Walking, and Transit

A balanced transportation system in Carlsbad will provide adequate facilities for people to bicycle, walk, or take transit to their destinations. To achieve this balanced transportation system, service levels for bicycle, pedestrian and transit modes will be maintained/enhanced on a variety of streets, as shown in Table 3-1 and Figure 3-1.

In addition to maintaining and enhancing bicycling, walking and transit service levels on streets, the city has a series of off-street trails and pathways that also serve the mobility needs of bicyclists and pedestrians (these facilities are described in more detail in the Open Space, Conservation and Recreation Element). Additionally, transit is provided on dedicated right-of-way within the city, consisting of the COASTER commuter rail line. This Mobility Element integrates and enhances the service levels of travel modes that complement utilization of transit facilities near the COASTER stations.

# **Bicycle Facility Classification System**

Caltrans has defined three bikeway facility types in Chapter 1000 of the Highway Design Manual. These facility types are described below as well as in the City of Carlsbad Bicycle Master Plan.

3-20 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 26 of 40

Class I Bikeway (bike path) – provides a separated corridor that is not served by streets and highways and is away from the influence of parallel streets. Class I bikeways are for non-vehicle use only with opportunities for direct access and recreational benefits, right-of-way for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians, and cross flow conflicts are minimized.

Class II Bikeway (bike lane) – provides a delineated right-of-way assigned to bicyclists to enable more predictable movements, accommodating bicyclists through corridors where insufficient room exists for side-by-side sharing of existing streets by motorists and bicyclists.

Class III Bikeway (bike route) – shared facility that serves either continuity to other bicycle facilities or designates preferred routes through high demand corridors.

In addition to the three facility types described above, a number of local streets help complete the bicycle network. These streets typically do not have a bikeway designation; however, the entire street system may be fully adequate for safe and efficient bicycle travel, where signing and pavement marking for bicycle use may be unnecessary. These are most commonly found along local streets where vehicle speeds are relatively low, which enables bicycle travel to be accommodated with vehicle travel.

## **Proposed Bikeway System**

As of 2010, there was an estimated 98 miles of bicycle facilities in Carlsbad. Of these facilities, approximately 92 miles were Class II bicycle lanes located throughout the city on streets such as Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad Village Drive, Tamarack Avenue, Chestnut Avenue, El Camino Real, Palomar Airport Road, Rancho Santa Fe Road, Melrose Drive, College Boulevard, Cannon Road, and La Costa Avenue. These on-street bikeways provide direct routes for experienced cyclists comfortable with riding on relatively high vehicle volume and speed streets. New cyclists may be encouraged to use these on-street bikeways by designing the bikeways to increase the comfort and safety of less experienced riders, narrowing travel lanes to manage vehicle travel speeds, implementing traffic calming measures, and by promoting land use patterns that decrease distances between destinations. In addition to incorporating additional routes into the bikeway network, clear directional/way-finding signage and secure bicycle parking at schools, shopping centers, beaches, employment centers and transit stops will encourage more people to ride bicycles and enhance the level of comfort for all.

While the majority of the Mobility Element streets within the city currently include a bicycle facility of some type within the right-of-way, there are several gaps at critical locations. In particular, bicycle lanes are discontinuous along Palomar Airport Road, just east of Carlsbad Boulevard, and within many





April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 27 of 40 3-21





of the Interstate-5 interchanges and crossings. These gaps and other barriers, such as the railroad and freeway, greatly diminish connectivity to the coastline for cyclists. Caltrans' Interstate-5 North Coast Corridor Public Works Plan – a proposed 40-year program to create a multi-modal system of rail, highway, transit, bicycle and pedestrian improvements that span from La Jolla to Oceanside – proposes additional trail connections across lagoons and along the freeway, and to enhance all interchanges and crossings to better integrate and accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.

The Carlsbad Bicycle Master Plan identifies the location of bikeways and recommends the enhancement of the existing bicycle network with the implementation of approximately 6.5 miles of new Class I bike paths, 2.8 miles of new Class II bike lanes, and 4.2 miles of new Class III bike routes. The planned bikeways include the Coastal Rail Trail, a Class I bike path on Carlsbad Boulevard at Ponto, two Class II bike lanes – one on Hillside Drive and another on Avenida Encinas, and five Class III bike route projects in the northwest quadrant of the city.

In addition to the planned bikeways and bicycle facilities, the Carlsbad Bicycle Master Plan outlines new educational and promotional programs aimed at bicyclists and motorists. These programs include bicycle parking improvements, multi-modal (transit) support facilities, bicycle safety and education programs for cyclists and motorists, safe routes to schools programs, community and employer outreach programs, continued development of bikeway network maps, and bike-to-work and school day events, among others.

The Carlsbad Bicycle Master Plan is a comprehensive document that provides detailed information on the city's bicycle network and a bicycle network map depicting existing and planned bikeways and facilities.

### **Pedestrian Facilities**

Pedestrian facilities (i.e., sidewalks, crosswalks, trails) are a key component of a multi-modal transportation system, which should enable people of all age groups and abilities to safely walk to their destinations. Pedestrian facilities connect various land uses, like neighborhoods, schools, shopping, employment, transit stations, community services, and recreation. Areas that are particularly attractive to pedestrians include the coastline, lagoon areas and the Carlsbad Village, which offers a pedestrian friendly environment and concentration of shopping, dining and entertainment uses. In general, pedestrian-attracting land uses are fairly evenly distributed across the city.

## **Proposed Pedestrian System**

Carlsbad has adopted several programs and plans related to improving the walking environment. The city's Pedestrian Master Plan identifies the location of pedestrian facilities and guides the future development and enhancement of

3-22 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 28 of 40

pedestrian facilities to ensure that walking becomes an integral mode of transportation in Carlsbad. The Carlsbad Residential Traffic Management Program provides a mechanism for community members to report issues relating to speeding and traffic volumes on residential streets, which assists the city in "calming" traffic in these areas to make them more comfortable for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists.

Physical barriers to pedestrian access include gaps in sidewalks, topography, lagoons, high-volume high-speed streets, incomplete or missing road segments, and regional infrastructure such as freeways and railways. There are four significant concentrations of high pedestrian needs across the city, including the following locations:

- The entire northwest quadrant, especially the Carlsbad Village area, Barrio area and along the coast
- The entire coastal area along Carlsbad Boulevard
- Several locations along El Camino Real, near Camino Vida Roble, Aviara Parkway/Alga Road and La Costa Avenue
- The southeastern portion of the city, stemming from the intersection of La Costa Avenue and Rancho Santa Fe Road

A range of potential improvement projects exist to enhance pedestrian mobility, local connectivity, usage, safety and accessibility. These improvements include missing sidewalk connectivity, upgrading substandard sidewalks, new connections to pedestrian attracting designations (such as access across the railroad track to the beach at Chestnut Avenue, for example), safe routes to school, enhanced crosswalks, pedestrian countdown signals, improved signage and markings and provision of ADA improvements.

# **Proposed Transit System**

Future transit service in the city will primarily be coordinated by NCTD. However, there are several transit improvements, which are part of San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) regional planning efforts, which are reflected in this Mobility Element:

- Coastal rail improvements are proposed for the tracks serving the COASTER and Surfliner trains in San Diego County along the Los Angeles to San Diego rail corridor. These proposed improvements include double tracking, bridge replacements, grade separated pedestrian crossings, safety improvements for at-grade crossings, and station improvements. Improvements to the COASTER service (2020 and 2030) are also proposed and would increase service and reduce headways.
- Route 653 (2035) is a proposed bus rapid transit (BRT) route which would operate in the peak period between Kearny Mesa and Palomar Airport Road.





April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 29 of 40 3-23





The future transit improvements described above will continue to advance transit service in the city. Other potential improvements to the rail corridor that the city is currently pursuing through discussions with NCTD include the creation of quiet zones and construction of a grade separated corridor that could include grade separated crossings at Carlsbad Village Drive, Grand Avenue, Tamarack Avenue and Cannon Road, as well as new pedestrian and bicycle crossings at Chestnut Avenue, Chinquapin Avenue and the Village and Poinsettia COASTER stations, and other locations.

One key component to improving transit use is improving the "first mile/last mile" experience for transit users. This typically includes end of trip facilities (bike lockers and racks, showers, changing rooms, etc.) and better connectivity from the transit stop to the ultimate destination via bicycle facilities, pedestrian facilities, local transit circulators, shuttles, etc.

Carlsbad's future transit effectiveness will be dependent on major employers assisting with providing some of these "first mile/last mile" facilities through transportation demand management (TDM) measures. TDM is envisioned to include shuttle circulators from transit stations to major employers and destinations, showers and changing rooms at those locations, and a host of other typical TDM techniques that would support transit usage and the connection to the ultimate destination. This Mobility Element also supports TDM through potential incentives (such as reduced parking standards for TDM implementation) to further support transit access to these destinations.

The final component to improving transit use in the city is working with NCTD to improve the transit experience; particularly along the bus routes. This includes improving bus stops in the city to ensure that they are well lit, have seating, and are covered to protect users from weather.

# **Connectivity to Support Mobility**

Connectivity in the city is critical to achieving the Carlsbad Community Vision. As previously described, there are a number of street improvements that are planned that will complete connections within the city. This Mobility Element also recommends additional connectivity for bicycles and pedestrians, as noted below:

- Cannon Road connection. Provide a bicycle/pedestrian facility that would begin at the current eastern terminus of Cannon Road and continue eastward to the city's eastern boundary.
- Marron Road connection. Provide a bicycle/pedestrian facility that would begin at the current eastern terminus of Marron Road and extend eastward to the city's eastern boundary.
- Additional crossings of Interstate-5 and the railroad. Continue to look for opportunities to add crossings of these two barriers and improve

3-24 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 30 of 40

east-west connectivity to and from the coast. Key connections will include: improvements (bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicular) to the crossings at Chestnut Avenue (under the freeway) and at Chinquapin Avenue (over the freeway); and new connections (bicycle and pedestrian) across the railroad at Chestnut Avenue and Chinquapin Avenue. Additionally, Caltrans is designing a number of new pedestrian and bicyclist connections along and across Interstate-5 and near the lagoons as part of the Interstate-5 North Coast Corridor Public Works Plan. The city will continue to coordinate with Caltrans on these improvements.

• Improved accessibility to the lagoons and to the coast are envisioned to improve connectivity to those areas.

## **Parking**

Parking is critical to ensuring the success of any area. Inadequate parking means that businesses and residents suffer. Too much parking underutilizes valuable land; promotes lower density development; discourages using other forms of transportation (such as public transit); spreads out land uses; and creates gaps in store fronts, thereby requiring the use of the automobile. Additionally, too much parking also requires more driveways for accessibility, introducing conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles. Restrictive parking requirements impact the ability to rejuvenate/repurpose older buildings and revitalize activity centers that can be better served and connected by enhancing facilities and amenities for bicyclists and pedestrians. Therefore, it is important to manage parking such that there is enough to support the needs generated by the use, but not so much that it wastes land and impairs other ways of getting around.

The city's Zoning Ordinance and adopted master and specific plans provide standards for parking facilities based on development types within the city. To promote efficient parking supply, the city will develop flexible parking requirements that may include the following techniques:

- Shared parking. Continue to allow uses that have different parking demands at different times of the day to share the same parking facilities. This is an effective way to minimize pavement, allow denser land use, provide for more landscaping, and provide improved walkability within a mixed use area. The best example of shared parking is an office building and an apartment building as office's peak parking demand occurs at 10:00 a.m. and apartment's peak parking demand occurs at 11:00 p.m.
- Collective parking. Allow uses in mixed use projects/areas to reduce the standard parking rate to account for shared mixed use on-site parking.
- Unbundled parking. Rather than provide free guaranteed parking, "unbundle" the parking from the development and require residents and/ or employees to pay for use of a parking space.





April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 31 of 40 3-25

- Park once. A strategy in destination districts to enable visitors to "park once" and visit a series of destinations. Park once strategies work well in areas like the Village and areas that are well connected by pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The creation of centralized parking areas supports this strategy.
- In-lieu parking fees. Continue strategies in appropriate areas that allow
  developers to contribute fees toward the development of a common
  parking facility in lieu of providing on-site parking. This works best in
  concentrated commercial areas, and assists in paying for unified structured parking and provides developers an opportunity to increase density
  on their parcels.
- Parking management strategies. A business district or businesses
  manage high demand parking locations and destinations through a
  number of different strategies including demand pricing, time restrictions, valet parking, and other techniques.
- Public-private partnerships. The city, business owners, and developers
  collaborate to provide both private and public parking opportunities.
  Instances where this works well include parcels owned by the city, where
  a private entity develops, manages, and enforces parking in these public
  lots.
- Parking locater signs. Electronic monitoring devices that identify the
  available parking in a given facility and utilize changeable message signs
  to assist travelers in identifying available parking locations. This may
  require modifications to the city's Zoning Ordinance to be implemented
  in some areas of the city.
- **Parking way-finding signs.** Signs identifying where public parking is available, which supports the "park once" concept.
- Reduced parking standards. Reduce parking standards in areas that
  are well served by transit, provide shuttle accessibility to the COASTER
  station, provide parking cash out programs (employers pay employees to
  not drive a single occupancy vehicle to work), or provide other programs
  that will reduce parking demand.
- Biking equals business program. Businesses provide bicycle parking or corrals and provide incentives to encourage their patrons and employees to ride rather than drive.
- Transit equals business program. Businesses provide their customers and employees incentives to encourage them to use transit rather than drive.
- **Bicycle corrals in-lieu of vehicle parking.** For certain businesses, reduce required onsite parking for vehicles if they provide a bicycle corral that accommodates more people.

3-26 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 32 of 40

Although there are additional parking strategies that are available and may become available in the future, most of the strategies work best in smart growth/mixed use development areas and will be necessary to accomplish the goals and visions identified in the General Plan and this Mobility Element.

# Transportation Demand Management and Traffic Signal Management

This Mobility Element also supports and promotes TDM and traffic signal management (TSM) techniques.

TDM consists of programs and policies to reduce the demand for the single occupant automobile. Common techniques include carpool programs, car-sharing and bike-sharing programs, flexible work hours, telecommute provisions, shuttle services to nearby transit stations, employee transit subsidies (e.g. employers will subsidize bus or rail tickets), installation of bicycle facilities (lockers, racks, lanes, showers at employment areas, etc.), or other measures that would reduce the demand to drive, particularly during the peak commute hours. TDM is critical for the city to build-out without expanding the transportation infrastructure beyond what is envisioned in this Mobility Element. Additionally, as previously described, TDM is a major component in improving the effectiveness of transit as it can assist in serving the "first mile/last mile" component of a transit trip.

The city has also implemented a state-of-the-practice TSM system. This system integrates traffic signals in the city to a single access point, allowing city staff to monitor and update signal timings to improve safety and mobility for all users in the city. This Mobility Element supports further implementation of this program and use of other technologies that become available, which have the ability to improve mobility for all users of the city's transportation system.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 33 of 40 3-27

# 3.4 Goals and Policies

### Goals

- 3-G.1 Keep Carlsbad moving with livable streets that provide a safe, balanced, cost-effective, multi-modal transportation system (vehicles, pedestrians, bikes, transit), accommodating the mobility needs of all community members, including children, the elderly and the disabled.
- 3-G.2 Improve connectivity for residents, visitors and businesses.
- **3-G.3** Provide inviting streetscapes that encourage walking and promote livable streets.
- **3-G.4** Manage parking to support all modes of transportation and ensure efficient use of land.
- **3-G.5** Implement transportation demand and traffic signal management techniques to improve mobility.
- **3-G.6** Protect and enhance the visual, environmental and historical characteristics of Carlsbad through sensitive planning and design of scenic transportation corridors.
- **3-G.7** Provide for the safe and efficient movement of goods throughout the city.

# **Implementing Policies**

# Street Typology and Multimodal Levels of Service

- 3-P.1 Implement a comprehensive livable streets network. This network, as outlined in Table 3-1 and shown on Figure 3-1, identifies the transportation modes that shall be accommodated, based on street typology, to ensure accessibility of the city's street system to persons of all ages and abilities.
- **3-P.2** Integrate livable streets in all capital improvement projects, where applicable, as well as new development projects.
- 3-P.3 Apply and update the city's multi-modal level of service (MMLOS) methodology and guidelines that reflect the core values of the Carlsbad Community Vision related to transportation and connectivity. Utilize the MMLOS methodology to evaluate impacts of individual development projects and amendments to the General Plan on the city's transportation system.
- **3-P.4** Implement the city's MMLOS methodology and maintain LOS D or better for each mode of travel for which the MMLOS standard is applicable, as identified in Table 3-1 and Figure 3-1.

3-28 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 34 of 40

- 3-P.5 Require developers to construct or pay their fair share toward improvements for all travel modes consistent with this Mobility Element, the Growth Management Plan, and specific impacts associated with their development.
- 3-P.6 Require future development projects, which are determined during site-specific environmental review to have a significant impact on freeway facilities (I-5 and SR-78), to implement a freeway traffic mitigation program approved by the city that will avoid, reduce or offset the increase in freeway traffic directly attributable to the proposed project. The mitigation program may include, but is not limited to, payment of a fair share fee to Caltrans for necessary improvements to affected freeway facilities or to NCTD or such other transit agency for improvement of public transit on affected freeways, or such other activities as will avoid, reduce or offset the project's significant impacts on freeway facilities.
- **3-P.7** Encourage Caltrans to identify and construct necessary improvements to improve service levels on Interstate-5 and State Route 78.
- **3-P.8** Utilize transportation demand management strategies, non-automotive enhancements (bicycle, pedestrian, transit, train, trails, and connectivity), and traffic signal management techniques as long-term transportation solutions and traffic mitigation measures to carry out the Carlsbad Community Vision.
- 3-P.9 Develop and maintain a list of street facilities where specified modes of travel are exempt from the LOS standard (LOS exempt street facilities), as approved by the City Council. For LOS exempt street facilities, the city will not implement improvements to maintain the LOS standard outlined in Policy 3-P.4 if such improvements are beyond what is identified as appropriate at build out of the General Plan. In the case of street facilities where the vehicle mode of travel is exempt from the LOS standard, other non-vehicle capacity-building improvements will be required to improve mobility through implementation of transportation demand and transportation system management measures as outlined in Policy 3-P.11, to the extent feasible, and/or to implement the livable streets goals and policies of this Mobility Element. Evaluate the list of exempt street facilities, as part of the Growth Management monitoring program, to determine if such exemptions are still warranted.

To exempt the vehicle mode of travel from the LOS standard at a particular street intersection or segment, the intersection or street segment must be identified as built-out by the City Council because:

- a. acquiring the rights of way is not feasible; or
- the proposed improvements would significantly impact the environment in an unacceptable way and mitigation would not contribute to the nine core values of the Carlsbad Community Vision; or

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 35 of 40 3.20

3-30

- c. the proposed improvements would result in unacceptable impacts to other community values or General Plan policies; or
- d. the proposed improvements would require more than three through travel lanes in each direction.
- **3-P.10** Allow the following street facilities to be exempt from the vehicle LOS standard identified in Policy 3-P.4, subject to the requirements described in Policy 3-P.9.
  - La Costa Avenue between Interstate-5 and El Camino Real
  - El Camino Real between Palomar Airport Road and La Costa Avenue
  - Palomar Airport Road between Interstate-5 and College Boulevard
  - Palomar Airport Road between El Camino Real and Melrose Drive
- **3-P.11** Require new development that adds vehicle traffic to street facilities that are exempt from the vehicle LOS standard (consistent with 3-P.9) to implement:
  - a. Transportation demand management strategies that reduce the reliance on single-occupant automobile and assist in achieving the city's livable streets vision.
  - b. Transportation system management strategies that improve traffic signal coordination and improve transit service.
- 3-P.12 Update the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan to ensure consistency with the General Plan. This includes updating the circulation LOS standards methodologies to reflect a more balanced/ multi-modal approach.
- 3-P.13 Use public outreach to educate and encourage alternative modes of travel and inform the community about the benefits of participation in new programs, approaches and strategies that support Mobility Element goals and policies.
- **3-P.14** Require performance measures tied to transportation facilities and services to comply with the Climate Action Plan and other state regulations and policies.

## Street Design and Connectivity

- 3-P.15 Evaluate methods and transportation facility improvements to promote biking, walking, safer street crossings, and attractive streetscapes. The City Council shall have the sole discretion to approve any such road diet or vehicle traffic calming improvements that would reduce vehicle capacity to or below a LOS D; this also applies to streets where the vehicle is not subject to the MMLOS standard as specified in Table 3-1.
- 3-P.16 Design new streets, and explore funding opportunities for existing streets, to minimize traffic volumes and/or speed, as appropriate, within residential neighborhoods without compromising connectivity for emergency first responders, bicycles, and pedestrians consistent with the city's Carlsbad Active Transportation Strategies. This should be accomplished through management and

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 36 of 40

- implementation of livable streets strategies and such programs like the Carlsbad Residential Traffic Management Plan.
- 3-P.17 Consider innovative design and program solutions to improve the mobility, efficiency, connectivity, and safety of the transportation system. Innovative design solutions include, but are not limited to, traffic calming devices, roundabouts, traffic circles, curb extensions, separated bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian scramble intersections, high visibility pedestrian treatments and infrastructure, and traffic signal coordination. Innovative program solutions include, but are not limited to, webpages with travel demand and traffic signal management information, car and bike share programs, active transportation campaigns, and intergenerational programs around schools to enhance safe routes to schools. Other innovative solutions include bicycle friendly business districts, electric and solar power energy transportation systems, intelligent transportation systems, semi- or full autonomous vehicles, trams, and shuttles.
- 3-P.18 Encourage and seek partnerships to foster innovations in emerging technology for transportation mobility to support the city's workforce, residents, and tourists. Integration between communication technology, energy, and transportation mobility should be encouraged.
- 3-P.19 Encourage Caltrans, SANDAG, NCTD, and adjacent cities to improve regional connectivity and service consistent with regional planning efforts. This includes expansion of Interstate-5 with two HOV lanes in each direction, auxiliary lanes, and associated enhancements, a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route along Palomar Airport Road, shuttle bus services from COASTER stations, and other enhancements to improve services in the area.
- **3-P.20** Engage Caltrans, the Public Utilities Commission, transit agencies, the Coastal Commission, and railroad agency(s) regarding opportunities for improved connections within the city, including:
  - Improved connections across the railroad tracks at Chestnut Avenue and other locations
  - A grade separated rail corridor that includes grade separated street crossings at Grand Avenue, Carlsbad Village Drive, Tamarack Avenue and Cannon Road, as well as new pedestrian and bicycle crossings
  - Completion and enhancements to the Coastal Rail Trail and/or equivalent trail along the coastline
  - Improved connectivity along Carlsbad Boulevard for pedestrians and bicyclists, such as a trail
  - Improved access to the beach and coastal recreational opportunities
  - Improved crossings for pedestrians across and along Carlsbad Boulevard

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 37 of 40 3-31

- 3-P.21 Implement connections and improvements identified in this Mobility Element, including those identified in policy 3-P.19, as well as:
  - Extension of College Boulevard from Cannon Road to El Camino
    Real
  - Completion of the Poinsettia Lane connection near El Camino Real (Reach E)
  - Extension of Camino Junipero to the eastern city boundary
  - A bicycle/pedestrian trail/pathway connecting the eastern terminus of Marron Road to the east
  - A bicycle/pedestrian trail/pathway connecting the eastern terminus of Cannon Road to the east, and coordination with adjacent agencies to appropriately link to their facilities
- **3-P.22** Support pedestrian and bicycle facilities at all Interstate-5 and State Route 78 interchanges.
- **3-P.23** Maintain the city's scenic transportation corridors as identified in the Carlsbad Scenic Corridor Guidelines.

## Pedestrian and Bicycle Movement

- **3-P.24** Update the pedestrian, trails and bicycle master plans, as necessary, to reflect changes in needs, opportunities and priorities.
- 3-P.25 Implement the projects recommended in the pedestrian, trails and bicycle master plans through the city's capital improvement program, private development conditions and other appropriate mechanisms.
- 3-P.26 Identify and implement necessary pedestrian improvements on streets where pedestrians are to be accommodated per Table 3-1, with special emphasis on providing safer access to schools, parks, community and recreation centers, shopping districts, and other appropriate facilities.
- 3-P.27 Implement the Safe Routes to School and Safe Routes to Transit programs that focus on pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements near local schools and transit stations. Prioritize schools with access from arterial streets for receiving Safe Routes to School projects.
- **3-P.28** Improve and enhance parking, connectivity, access, and utilization for pedestrians and bicycles to COASTER stations, utility corridors, and open spaces consistent with city planning documents.
- **3-P.29** Evaluate incorporating pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure within the city as part of any planning or engineering study, private development, or capital project.
- 3-P.30 Complete the Carlsbad Active Transportation Strategies to assist in identifying livable street implementation parameters within the city.

3-32 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 38 of 40

- **3-P.31** Engage the community in the policy setting and planning of street, bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and connectivity studies, plans and programs.
- 3-P.32 Require developers to improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity consistent with the city's bicycle and pedestrian master plans and trails master planning efforts. In addition, new residential developments should demonstrate that a safe route to school and transit is provided to nearby schools and transit stations within a half mile walking distance.
- 3-P.33 Work with existing neighborhoods and businesses to improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity and safety consistent with the city's pedestrian and bicycle master plans and trails master planning efforts.
- 3-P.34 Actively pursue grant programs such as SANDAG's Active Transportation Grant Program and Smart Growth Incentive Program to improve non-automotive connectivity throughout the city. The emphasis of grant-funded projects shall be on implementation, which includes planning documents that guide and prioritize implementation, programs that encourage the use of active transportation modes, education for the use of active transportation modes, or physical improvements themselves.

### **Transit**

- 3-P.35 Partner with other agencies and/or developers to improve transit connectivity within Carlsbad. As part of a comprehensive transportation demand management (TDM) strategy and/or with transit oriented development (TOD), a shuttle system could be established that connects destinations and employment centers like LEGOLAND, hotels, the Village, McClellan-Palomar Airport, business parks, the COASTER and Breeze transit stations, public activity centers (such as senior centers, city hall, libraries, etc.) and key destinations along the coast. The system could incorporate shuttle service in adjacent cities to maximize connectivity.
- **3-P.36** Encourage NCTD, SANDAG and other transit providers to provide accessibility for all modes of travel to the McClellan-Palomar Airport area.
- **3-P.37** Coordinate with NCTD to improve the quality of bus stop facilities in the city.

## Parking and Demand Management

3-P.38 Develop flexible on-site vehicle parking requirements. Such requirements will include implementation of innovative parking techniques, implementing effective TDM programs to reduce parking demand, and consideration of other means to efficiently manage parking supply and demand.

April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 39 of 40 3, 3, 3

- **3-P.39** Require new employment development to provide secure bicycle parking on-site. Major employers should provide shower and changing rooms for employees as appropriate.
- 3-P.40 Assist Village businesses to manage parking in the Village area to maximize parking efficiency. Any potential parking-related revenues generated in this area should be reinvested into the Village area for implementing livable streets and other parking, pedestrian, and bicycle enhancements, including way-finding signage and maintenance of associated infrastructure.
- **3-P.41** Consider supporting new development and existing businesses with various incentives (such as parking standards modifications) for implementing TDM programs that minimize the reliance on single-occupant automotive travel during peak commute hours.

### Rail and Truck Movement

- **3-P.42** Identify and update truck routes within the city that provide sufficient turning radii and other design attributes to support large vehicles on those facilities.
- 3-P.43 Coordinate with other agencies and private entities to investigate methods of improving service, implementing a quiet zone, and enhancing connectivity and safety along the rail corridor; such as through development of a grade separated rail corridor that includes grade separated street crossings at Grand Avenue, Carlsbad Village Drive, Tamarack Avenue and Cannon Road, as well as new pedestrian and bicycle crossings at Chestnut Avenue, Chinquapin Avenue and the Village and Poinsettia COASTER stations, and other locations.

### Air Movement

3-P.44 Work with the County of San Diego and other agencies to ensure continued safe and efficient operation of the McClellan-Palomar Airport, consistent with the Carlsbad Community Vision and existing city policy.

3-34 April 3, 2023 Item #3 Page 40 of 40