



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 4/26/2022
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom

Regular Session

A. Call To Order

Mayor Nash called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs, Mueller (arrived at 7:16 p.m.), Nash, Taylor, Wolosin
Absent: None
Staff: Interim City Manager Justin I.C. Murphy, City Attorney Nira F. Doherty, City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Agenda Review

The City Council requested clarification on item J2.

D. Presentations and Proclamations

D1. Proclamation: Earth Day

Mayor Nash read the proclamation (Attachment).

Environmental Quality Commission Chair Angela Evans and Commissioner Tom Kabat accepted the proclamation.

E. Public Comment

- Kathleen Daly spoke in support of new housing, especially for teachers, on the Flood School site.
- Shivani Saran spoke on concerns related to the shootings on Windermere Avenue and in support of the urgent need for mitigation measures.
- Todd Stiers spoke on concerns related to the shootings on Windermere Avenue and in support of the urgent need for mitigation measures

Police Chief David Norris commented on the April 25, 2022 Windermere Avenue shooting.

M. Closed Session – public comment only

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code: (two potential cases)

None.

F. Advisory Body Vacancies and Appointments

- F1. Consider applicants and make appointments to fill vacancies on the various City advisory bodies (Staff Report #22-075-CC)

City Clerk Judi Herren introduced the item.

- Karen Grove spoke in support of appointing Jackelyn Campos and Adriana Walker to the Housing Commission.
- Michal Bortkin spoke on their application to the Housing Commission and in support of increased affordable housing.
- Linh Dan Do spoke on their application to the Planning Commission.
- Adriana Walker spoke on their application to the Housing Commission.

The City Council directed staff to return the remaining two Complete Street Commission appointments and membership size to the City Council and to hold a special recruitment for the Parks and Recreation Commission and Finance and Audit Committee for City Council appointment on May 10, 2022.

The City Council made appointments to fill vacancies on the Complete Streets, Environmental Quality, Housing, Library, and Planning Commissions (Attachment):

Complete Streets Commission:

Sally Cole – term expiring April 30, 2026

Christopher Kollmann – term expiring April 30, 2026

Environmental Quality Commission:

Tom Kabat – term expiring April 30, 2023

Jeffrey Lin – term expiring April 30, 2024

Nancy Larocca Hedley – term expiring April 30, 2026

Jeff Schmidt – term expiring April 30, 2026

Housing Commission:

Adriana Walker – term expiring April 30, 2025

Jackelyn Campos – term expiring April 30, 2026

Library Commission:

Alan Cohen – term expiring April 30, 2026

Sarah Zasslow – term expiring April 30, 2026

Parks and Recreation Commission:

Kelsey Theriault – term expiring April 30, 2026

Planning Commission:

Linh Dan Do – term expiring April 30, 2026

David Thomas – term expiring April 30, 2026

G. Study Session

- G1. Provide direction on pedestrian and bicycle pilot improvements to be included in the Ravenswood Avenue resurfacing project (Staff Report #22-076-CC)

Senior Transportation Engineer Kevin Chen made the presentation (Attachment).

- Adina Levin spoke in support of safety improvements related to the transportation master plan (TMP).
- Jacqui Cebrian spoke in support of the pedestrian and bicycle pilot improvements project.
- Bill Kirsch spoke in support of the pedestrian and bicycle pilot improvements project.
- Katie Behroozi spoke in support of the pedestrian and bicycle pilot improvements project.
- Caio Arellano spoke in support of the pedestrian and bicycle pilot improvements project and to reprioritize grade separation.

The City Council discussed safety hazards at the intersection and a crosswalk and timed traffic lights

The City Council received clarification on safety and congestion challenges leading to the pilot, public engagement, and the pilot timeline.

H. Consent Calendar

- H1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for April 6, 2022 (Attachment)
- H2. Adopt a resolution to continue conducting the City's Council and advisory body meetings remotely due to health and safety concerns for the public and to authorize the use of hybrid meetings (Staff Report #22-077-CC)
- H3. Adopt a resolution approving the 2021 amended water supply agreement with the City and County of San Francisco; and adopt a resolution approving a minimum purchase transfer from the City of Mountain View to the City of East Palo Alto (Staff Report #22-078-CC)
- H4. Adopt fiscal year 2022-23 budget principles and confirm direction on potential service level enhancements and the capital improvement program (Staff Report #22-079-CC)

The City Council received clarification on the reactivation of the gymnastics program.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Combs), to approve the consent calendar, passed unanimously.

I. Regular Business

- I1. Assembly Bill 481 Compliance – police department acquisition and use – military equipment ordinance introduction and Use Policy (Staff Report #22-074-CC)

Police Chief David Norris made the presentation (Attachment).

- Nabil Saad requested specific instances of the deployment of equipment.

The City Council discussed appreciation for the increased transparency of the item.

The City Council received clarification on additional language to the ordinance's Section 4 and rare

instances of deployment of equipment in Menlo Park being only in response to very specific public safety and/or officer safety threats.

ACTION: Motion and second (Mueller/ Wolosin), to waive first reading and introduce an ordinance regarding police department acquisition and use of military equipment including the additional language to Section 4 of the ordinance “Menlo Park Police Department Policy 708 setting forth a military equipment use policy is hereby adopted”, to include trend lines on the deployment of equipment in the quarterly reporting to the City Council, and approve the Military Equipment Use Policy, passed unanimously.

12. Adopt a resolution affirming the Independent Redistricting Commission’s Redistricting Plan and the new City Council district boundaries set forth in Map 131.1 as adopted by the Independent Redistricting Commission (Staff Report #22-080-CC)

City Clerk Judi Herren introduced the item.

Independent Redistricting Commission Chair Caio Arellano reported out to the City Council (Attachment).

- Pam Jones spoke in support of the process, the demographer, and Independent Redistricting Commission.

The City Council discussed future process for additional City Council check and resident’s concerns.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Taylor), to adopt a resolution affirming the Independent Redistricting Commission’s Redistricting Plan and the new City Council district boundaries set forth in Map 131.1 as adopted by the Independent Redistricting Commission, passed unanimously.

J. Informational Items

- J1. City Council agenda topics: May 2022 (Staff Report #22-081-CC)
- J2. Short term rental compliance update (Staff Report #22-082-CC)

The City Council requested an update within six-months and to include map of rental unit locations, owner and renter information, and additional analysis related to rental lengths per unit.

K. City Manager’s Report

Interim City Manager Justin Murphy reported on the Youth Advisory Committee Earth Day event, the excepting of bids for the Sharon Road sidewalk project, San Francisquito Creek meetings, and an update on the FEMA/BRIC grant application for the SaferBay project.

L. City Councilmember Reports

Vice Mayor Wolosin reported out on the Commute.org board meeting.

- L1. Direction on drafting a policy to sunset unused capacity from tax measures (Staff Report #22-083-CC)

City Councilmember Mueller introduced the item.

- Adina Levin spoke on the process of this item given the lack of 2022 goals and priorities, city manager transition, and staffing capacity.

The City Council received clarification on the policy related to adding agenda items and current individual City Council requests in queue.

ACTION: Motion and second (Mueller/), to direct the item to the Finance and Audit Committee for preparation of a formal staff report with no additional staff support required, failed with no second.

M. Closed Session

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code: (two potential cases)

Mayor Nash adjourned to closed session at 9:32 p.m.

Mayor Nash reconvened the meeting at 11:18 p.m.

No reportable action.

N. Adjournment

Mayor Nash adjourned the meeting at 11:19 p.m.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of May 10, 2022.

2022 EARTH DAY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Earth Day has been celebrated globally since 1970 to unite around protecting our common environment to ensure future generations will have a safe and sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, all people of this Earth, no matter their country, gender, income, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, or abilities, have a right to live in a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Menlo Park City Council adopted a resolution recognizing the threat of climate change and the urgent need to combat it; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Menlo Park City Council adopted its climate action plan with the goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that nations are far off track from meeting commitments to reduce catastrophic climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Menlo Park City Council declared a “state of emergency” with respect to climate change, yet is not on track to meet its “Zero Carbon by 2030” goal in its Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, local cities, including Menlo Park, helped create Peninsula Clean Energy, which supplies 100% carbon-free electricity for all customers in Menlo Park; and

WHEREAS, Menlo Park has notable accomplishments in making progress in protecting the environment, such as:

- adopting all-electric Reach Codes for new construction;
- implementing a sustainable green fleet policy;
- purchasing a solar-battery microgrid that will provide clean emergency power for the new community center in Belle Haven; and

WHEREAS, Menlo Park’s successful experience and presence in Silicon Valley gives it a unique opportunity to demonstrate leadership and set an example for other cities to reduce greenhouse gases with innovative, comprehensive, and expeditious approaches; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Nash, on behalf of the City Council of the City of Menlo Park, California, encourage all residents and businesses to celebrate the Earth and deepen their understanding of environmental protection, the urgency of climate change, and the need to create a healthier, safer, more equitable future for all people.

DocuSigned by:

Betsy Nash

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Betsy Nash, Mayor
April 26, 2022





PROVIDE DIRECTION ON RAVENSWOOD AVENUE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PILOT

April 26, 2022



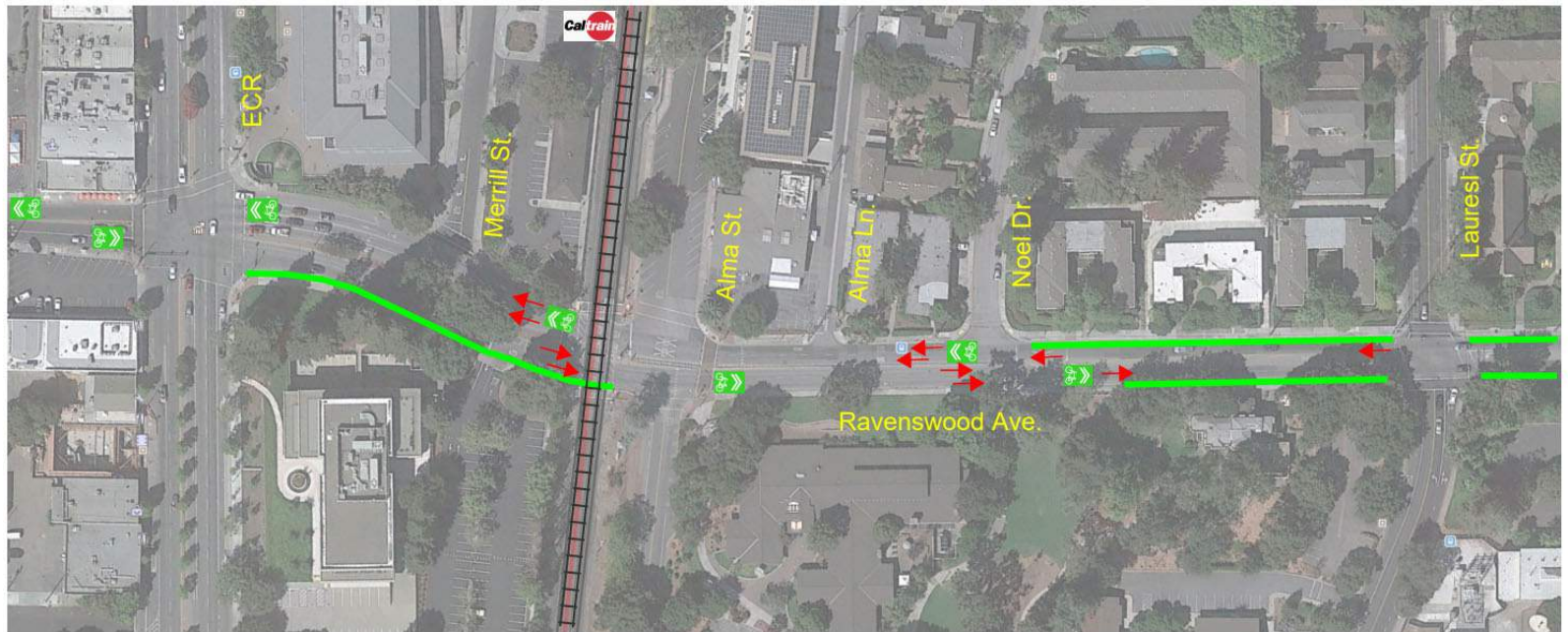
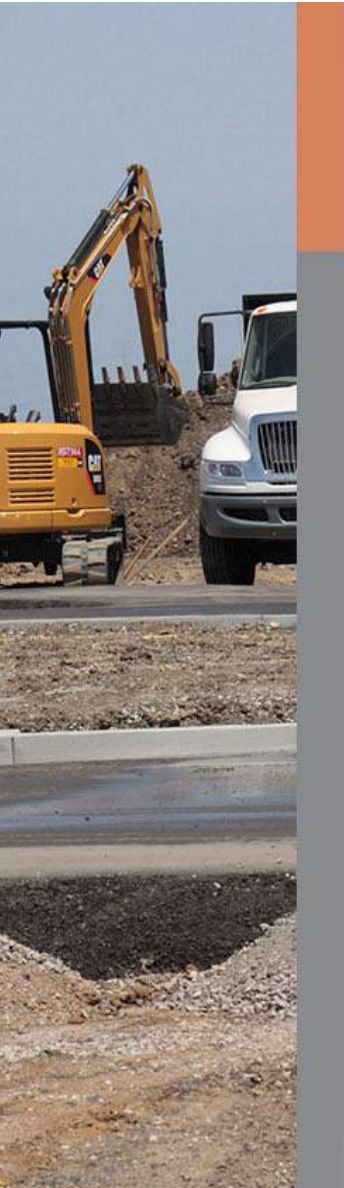
AGENDA

- Background
- Project re-evaluation
- Recommendations
- Next steps





BACKGROUND



Legends:

Bike lane	Bike routes	Railroad tracks	Caltrain station	Travel lanes
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EXISTING CONDITIONS
RAVENSWOOD AVENUE



BACKGROUND

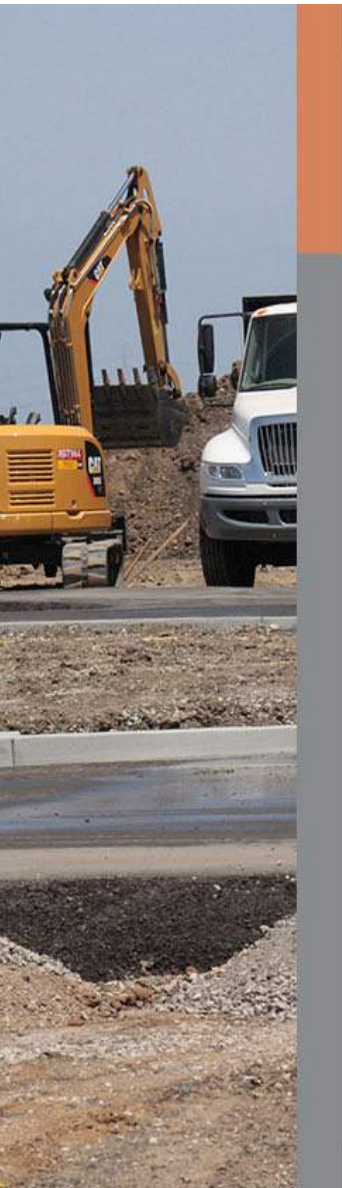
- Capital Improvement Program – street resurfacing
 - Ravenswood Ave. between Alma St. and Middlefield Rd.
- May 12, 2021, Complete Streets Commission meeting (Ravenswood Ave. between Alma St. and Noel Dr.)
 - Eastbound: one permanent bike lane and two vehicular travel lanes
 - Westbound: bike route and two vehicular travel lanes





PROJECT RE-EVALUATION

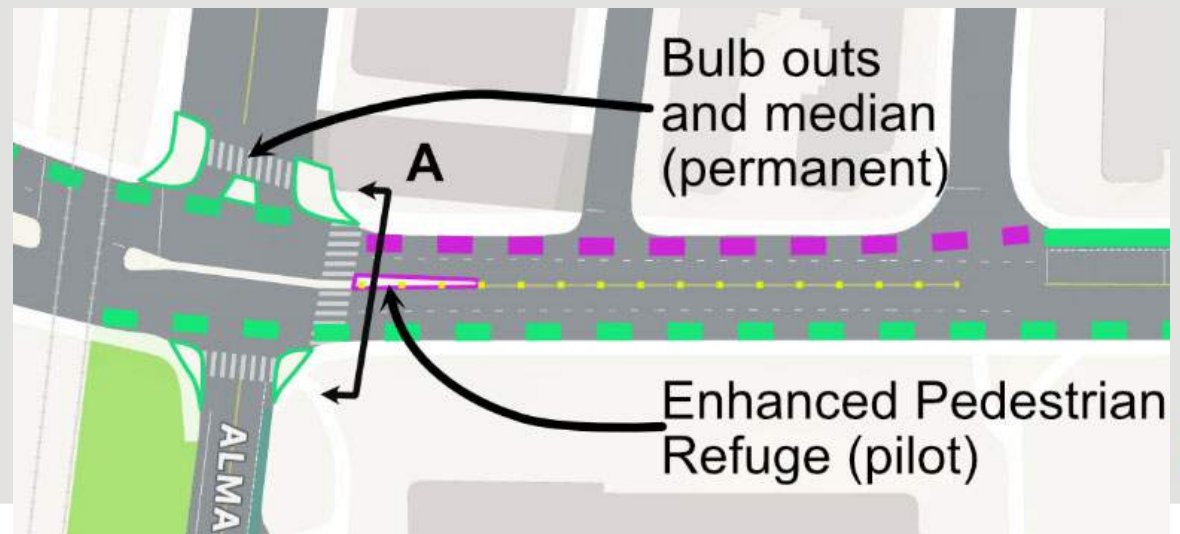
- Factors/influences
 - Parkline project at SRI (333 Ravenswood Ave)
 - Pedestrian safety at Alma St crossing
 - Uncertainty about travel patterns (daily volumes: spring/fall 2021 \approx 80% of 2019)
- Street resurfacing scope revision
 - Remove Laurel St to Middlefield Rd
 - Add El Camino Real to Alma St
- Pedestrian and bicycle improvements feasibility





POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS (RAVENSWOOD AVE & ALMA ST)

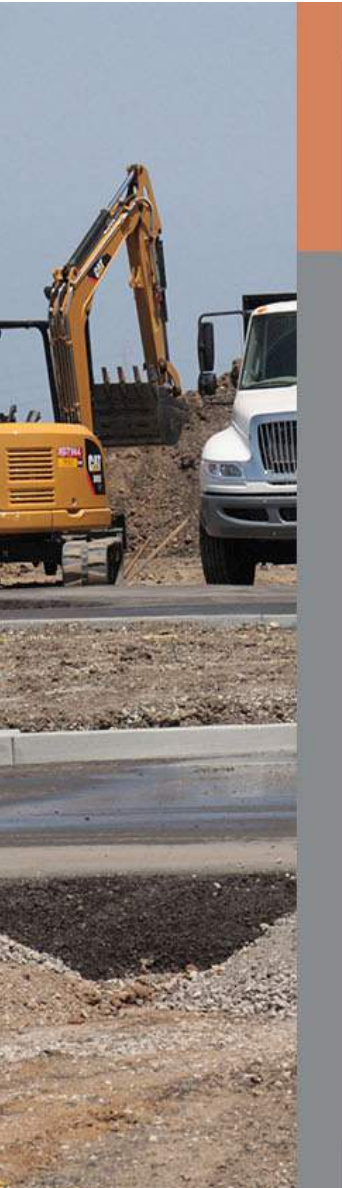
- North side: median and bulb outs (permanent)
- South side: curb radii (permanent)
- Lighting improvements (under review)
- Alma St. crossing: pedestrian refuge widening (pilot)





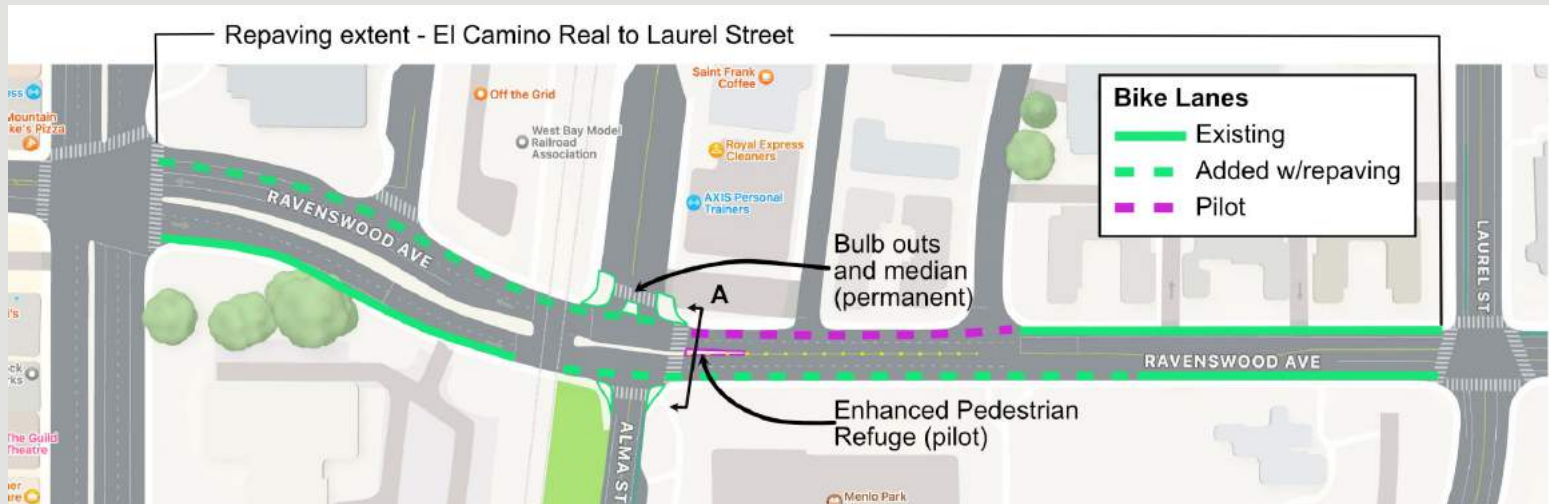
BICYCLE LANE FEASIBILITY

Segment	Eastbound	Westbound
El Camino Real to Merrill St	Existing	Feasible within existing right of way
Merrill St to Alma St.	Existing	Feasible within existing right of way
Alma St to Noel Dr	Feasible within existing right of way, consistent with CSC direction from 2021	Pilot requires shifting the westbound automobile travel lane by 300 feet
Noel Dr to Laurel St	Existing	Existing





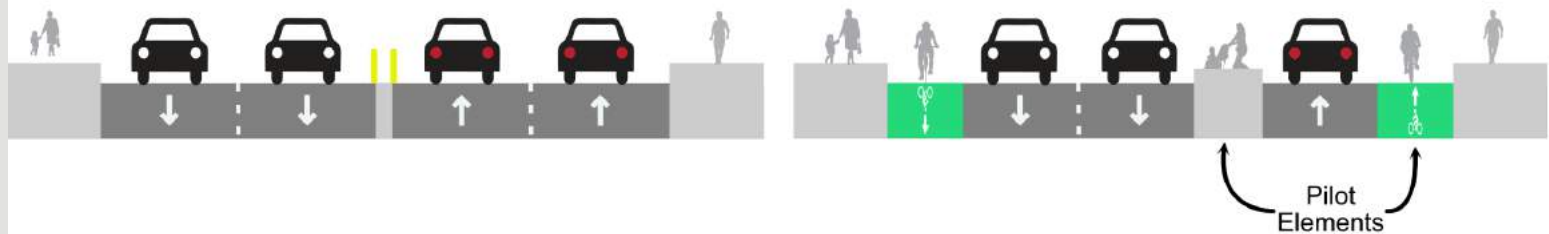
POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS



A - Cross Section At Pedestrian Crossing of Ravenswood

Existing

Enhanced Pedestrian Refuge





REQUESTED DIRECTION – PILOT

- Pedestrian and bicycle improvements (shift travel lane expansion point by 300')
 - Widen pedestrian refuge across Alma St. crosswalk
 - Install westbound bike lane between Noel Dr. and Alma St





REQUESTED DIRECTION – PILOT EVALUATION METRICS

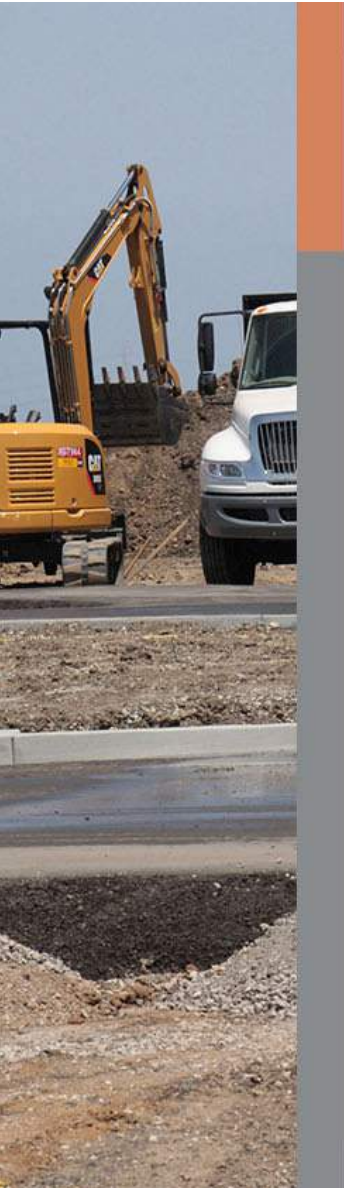
Metric	Source	Variables
Morning / evening peak hour vehicular queues	Observations	Queue distance relative to Laurel Street
Pre- and post- pilot vehicular volumes (on Ravenswood Ave and Oak Grove Ave)	Observations	Change in vehicular volumes
Pre- and post- pilot bicycle volumes	Observations	Change in bicycle volumes Pedestrian crossings at Alma St
Community feedback survey	Online survey	Percent support Perceived safety/comfort
Bicycle and pedestrian collisions	Police Department	Number of collisions

- Return after pilot with recommendation on making permanent



FEEDBACK

- March 9, Complete Streets Commission
 - Pilot recommendations
 - Public engagement/survey
- Community member





NEXT STEPS

- Provide direction on pilot (shift lane expansion point by 300')
 - Widen pedestrian refuge across Alma St. crosswalk
 - Install westbound bike lane between Noel Dr. and Alma St
 - Use temporary materials: striping and flexible posts
- Authorize staff to terminate pilot if significant safety or congestion challenges are detected
- Schedule for resurfacing project
 - Complete design – May 2022
 - Project bidding and award – June 2022
 - Complete Construction – Late summer/Fall 2022



THANK YOU





ORDINANCE AND POLICY INTRODUCTION

MPPD “Military Equipment” Use Policy and City Ordinance



AGENDA

- Brief discussion on this required policy and accompanying City Ordinance
- Overview of equipment reportable by legislation
- Transparency & Accountability
- Recommendation:
 - Introduction of Ordinance to approve policy
 - Determination of necessity of this equipment for public safety, without reasonable alternatives





BACKGROUND

September 30, 2021 AB 481 signed into law:

- New law requires all law enforcement agencies to adopt a Military Equipment Policy
 - Policy must be approved by Ordinance
 - Prior to funding, acquisition or use
- MPPD is not seeking any new equipment
 - Policy describes equipment already in possession for many years
 - Applicable equipment is only used under rare circumstances requiring elevated tactical operation or heightened public safety need
- Requesting introduction of Ordinance
 - Approve policy
 - Allow continued use of existing equipment



PRINCIPLES

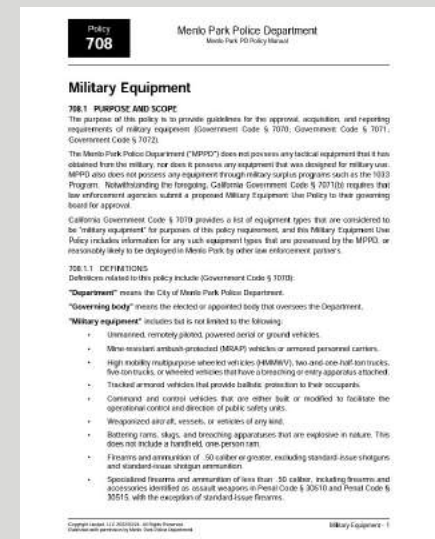
- Menlo Park PD is joining law enforcement agencies across the entire state in this process
- San Mateo County Police Chiefs Association – Consistency
 - Several municipal agencies with regional Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Teams
 - Provision of two equipment lists – local agency, regional SWAT
- Important Parts
 - The new law uses descriptor “Military Equipment”
 - none of this equipment is military surplus, nor designed exclusively for military use
 - This is NOT newly acquired
 - existing equipment, part of use and practice for many years
 - Rarely used, only when the need for public safety is exceptionally high



POLICY – MPPD LEXIPOL POLICY 708

Includes components required by government code:

- Description of the equipment, capabilities, manufacturer, etc.
- Purposes and authorized uses
- Cost of obtaining and maintaining
- Legal and procedural rules governing its use
- Training required to use equipment
- Mechanisms in place to ensure compliance





THE EQUIPMENT

- Equipment held by Menlo Park PD:
 - Of the 16 types of equipment described by law, MPPD possesses 2
 - Pepper Ball Launchers
 - Less Lethal Projectile Launchers
 - EXEMPT but listed: Patrol Rifles

ALL equipment on BOTH lists is kept and deployed exclusively for rare and exceptional high safety situations and were selected as necessary because there is no other alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and public safety.

- Equipment jointly held by regional SWAT with RCPD and APD:
 - Of the 16 types of equipment described by law, SWAT possesses 8
 - Remote Operating “Robots”
 - 2 Command/Control Vehicles
 - Breaching Tool Shotgun
 - .50 Caliber Rifle (Sniper)
 - Automatic rifles and machine guns exclusively for SWAT Operations
 - Flashbangs and Chemical Agents exclusively for SWAT Operations
 - Less Lethal Projectile Launchers



TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY



In compliance with Government Code, policy establishes:

- Future acquisition of military equipment requires a public meeting, policy update and Council approval
- Police Department is responsible for preparing Annual Military Equipment Report
 - Posted on City website
 - Shared with the public via a noticed meeting
 - Delivered annually to Council to confirm compliance
- ADDED MEASURE – If use of unlisted, unanticipated equipment occurs due to an expanded incident, MPPD will provide details to Council within 30 days of the incident.
- Draft Ordinance and Policy posted on City website on March 25, 2022
 - At least 30 days prior to this meeting



ACTION REQUESTED

Introduce Ordinance to:

- Approve Military Equipment Policy
 - Reflects input/feedback from City Attorney
 - Ensures compliance with the law
- Make determinations required by Government Code
 - The equipment is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same level of officer and civilian safety
 - The policy will safeguard the public welfare, safety, civil rights and civil liberties
- Ordinance considered for adoption in May, 2022 (targeting May 10)



THANK YOU

City of Menlo Park Redistricting Plan

City of Menlo Park Independent Redistricting Commission

Caio Arellano, Chair

April 26, 2022

Overview of the IRC Workplan 2021-22

- **Training and Study Sessions**
- **Public outreach**
- **Consideration and selection of the proposed district map**
- **Commission feedback for City staff**