



City of Emeryville

CALIFORNIA

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 11, 2017

TO: Carolyn Lehr, City Manager

FROM: Charles Bryant, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: **Approval Of Transportation Committee Recommendation For Six Bike Share Station Locations (CEQA Status: Exempt Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(c))**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the Transportation Committee's recommendation to install six new bike share stations at the following locations:

- North side of 53rd Street at Hollis Street;
- South side of 59th Street at Horton Street;
- South side of Stanford Avenue at Hollis Street;
- East side of Doyle Street at 59th Street;
- South side of 65th Street at Hollis Street; and
- North side of Christie Avenue adjacent to the separated bike path west of Shellmound Street.

BACKGROUND

On December 1, 2015, the Emeryville City Council adopted a resolution (No. 15-150) authorizing the City Manager to enter into the Bay Area Bike Share Program Coordination Agreement with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for regional bike share operations in Emeryville. On December 31, 2015, MTC and Bay Area Motivate, LLC (a bike share operator) entered into an agreement to expand bike share in San Francisco, San Jose, Oakland, Berkeley, and Emeryville. This agreement includes at least 100 fleet bicycles in Emeryville. In September of 2016 it was announced that Ford Motor Company would be the title sponsor of the Bay Area bike share, and the system would be named "Ford GoBike."

Motivate conducted outreach to gather input on siting initial bike share station locations by using a web portal, conducting stakeholder meetings and public workshops, and attending community events, such as Park(ing) Day. Motivate staff presented to, and took recommendations from, the Emeryville Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) in November of 2015. For the past two years, staff has provided the BPAC with status updates on bike share locations and timelines.

A bike share station is considered a type of “parklet” under Section 9-5.1514 of the Planning Regulations. Sidewalk café permits are issued by the Community Development Director. Applications for sidewalk café permits have been filed with the Director for the above six bike share locations (case file numbers SWCAFE17-002 through SWCAFE17-007, respectively). However, Section 9-5.1514(a) of the Planning Regulations stipulates that:

“A parklet shall require the approval of the City Council, upon the recommendation of the Transportation Committee, prior to the approval of a sidewalk cafe permit [by the Director]. Any conditions and requirements designated by the City Council in its approval shall become conditions of approval of the sidewalk cafe permit.”

Thus, the question before the Council is whether to accept the Transportation Committee recommendation to approve the proposed bike share stations, and, if so, whether to designate any conditions or requirements prior to the Director’s approval of the sidewalk café permits.

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to the agreement approved by the City Council on December 1, 2015, Motivate submitted three applications in July 2016 for Phase I installations, with locations on the west side of Adeline Street at 40th Street, the south side of Park Avenue in front of City Hall, and the east side of Horton Street at 40th Street. These were reviewed by the BPAC on July 18, 2016 and by the Transportation Committee on July 21, 2016. Staff issued an approval letter on September 9, 2016. These will be the first three stations in Emeryville when bike share starts operating this summer.

On March 29, 2017 Bay Area Motivate submitted applications for seven more stations:

- North side of 45th Street at San Pablo Avenue (SWCAFE17-001);
- North side of 53rd Street at Hollis Street (SWCAFE17-002);
- South side of 59th Street at Horton Street (SWCAFE17-003);
- South side of Stanford Avenue at Hollis Street (SWCAFE17-004);
- East side of Doyle Street at 59th Street (SWCAFE17-005);
- South side of 65th Street at Hollis Street (SWCAFE17-006); and
- North side of Christie Avenue adjacent to the separated bike path west of Shellmound Street (SWCAFE17-007).

Once complete, these seven stations will complete the initial roll-out of bike share in Emeryville. Additional stations will be added over time as the program expands.

The seven proposed locations were reviewed by staff at the April 12, 2017 Development Coordinating Committee (DCC) meeting. DCC comments were as follows:

- Due to parking constraints and adjacent uses, staff raised concerns about the feasibility of the 45th Street location (SWCAFE17-001). Staff proposed that the station be relocated to the south side of 47th Street near San Pablo Avenue, adjacent to Escuela Bilingüe Internacional (EBI) school. The proposed 47th Street location would still serve the Triangle neighborhood, while better serving the Emeryville Center of Community Life (ECCL). The applicant is currently revising this site location, which will come before the Transportation Committee and City Council at a later time. All other proposed sites are included here for approval, and site plans are attached to this report.
- It was noted that the proposed location on the north side of 53rd Street at Hollis Street (SWCAFE17-002) is a current Zip Car location. Public Works staff contacted Zip Car, who are amenable to having their car share location moved east to the other side of Spur Alley.

STAFF COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

At the June 22, 2017, Joint Meeting of the Emeryville Public Works Committee and Transportation Committee, the Committee reviewed the six proposed bike share station sites.

During public comment a representative of Wareham Development raised concerns about reduced on-street auto parking caused by the proposed bike share stations at the 59th Street at Horton Street location (SWCAFE17-003) and the Doyle Street at 59th Street location (SWCAFE17-005). A Wareham tenant also expressed concerns that the proposed bike share station at 59th Street at Horton Street would reduce on-street auto parking and negatively impact both her business and clients. Due to the importance of having a bike share station in close proximity to the Amtrak station, it was suggested that staff, the bike share station applicant (Motivate), Wareham representatives and tenants, and Committee members walk the area to discuss alternative locations. Staff clarified that if issues arise with safety, security, or other impacts during operation of the bike share stations, sites can be relocated at the discretion of the Public Works Director. It was noted that not moving forward with the proposed locations would result in a delay in this bike share station installation.

The Committee members recommended approval of all proposed locations, with the understanding that the 59th Street at Horton Street location should be relocated if a nearby feasible site is identified.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of the proposed bike share locations has no fiscal impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed bike share stations are exempt from environmental review under the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15301(c) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which covers minor modifications to existing streets and sidewalks.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved this report.

PREPARED BY: Navarre Oaks, Assistant Planner

**APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE:**



Carolyn Lehr, City Manager

ATTACHMENT

1. Proposed site plans