Southern Blackstone Avenue Smart Mobility Strategy

BETTER BLACKSTONE ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, March 27, 2019
Manchester Shopping Center
Room 209
Purpose of Smart Mobility Plan

- Develop a complete streets strategy that include recommendations for project improvements to the street, sidewalks, intersections, and adjacent properties
- Improvements incorporate the following:
  1. Increased safety and access to all travel modes
  2. Identify and address impacts on business opportunities
  3. Enhance the streetscape
  4. Improve pedestrian crossings
  5. Improve bicycle access and facilities
  6. Improve gateway and wayfinding signage
Project Area
What are Complete Streets?

“Complete streets are streets for everyone.”

1. Transit users
2. Motorists
3. Bicyclists
4. Pedestrians
What are the Benefits of Complete Streets?

- **SAFETY**: well-designed bicycle tracks tends to reduce injury and crash risk. Available crosswalks prevent pedestrian fatalities.

- **ENVIRONMENT**: more walking, biking, transit riding = less air pollution and decrease in the obesity rate.

- **ECONOMIC**: redevelopment projects are spurred by complete streets.
CalEnviroScreen 3.0 – Statewide
CalEnviroScreen 3.0
Better Blackstone Project Area
California Health Disadvantage Index 1.1–Better Blackstone Project Area
Historical Growth of Fresno
Concentration of Poverty by Census Tract
So, what is the City doing to improve Blackstone Avenue?
What Have We Done, So Far?

A. Contracted with Community Design + Architecture, Inc. in April 2018 as the consultants on this project

B. Outreached to the community

C. Developed conceptual designs based on community input

D. Drafted and released the report
Community Outreach

- 8,300 flyers were distributed for community meetings, design workshops, and input sessions
- 15 neighborhoods were canvassed
- 1,700 doors were knocked on
- 1,400 reminder calls were placed to residences and businesses
- E-News distributions reaching 2,000 people (3x)
- 2-day multiday charrette
- 1 workshop, 3 open houses
- Several listening sessions with key stakeholders
SOUTHERN BLACKSTONE AVENUE SMART MOBILITY STRATEGY

CORE RECOMMENDATIONS
Pilot Project to Evaluate Recommended Improvements

Shields to McKinley 1-Mile
Rebalance space within the public right-of-way to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists
Speed Management

Further study the reduction of the posted speed limit along the corridor

- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 20 MPH: 9 out of 10 pedestrians survive.
- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 30 MPH: 5 out of 10 pedestrians survive.
- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 40 MPH: Only 1 out of 10 pedestrians survive.
Increase Frequency of Crossings & Pedestrian and Bicycle-friendly Intersection Improvements
Other Potential Improvements:
1. City already upgrading lighting
2. Blackstone Avenue-branded banners and wayfinding signage
3. Additional Street Trees along the corridor
CAN BLACKSTONE BE A COMPLETE STREET?
YES, BIG STREETS CAN BE COMPLETE!

- Same Number of (exist.) Travel Lanes + Separated Bikeway
- Conversion of one Travel Lane to Dedicated Transit Lane + Separated Bikeway
- Conversion of one Travel Lane to Widened Sidewalks + Raised Separated Bikeway
We Need You...

Open House Opportunities

Manchester Shopping Center, Room 208
Thursday, April 2, 2019
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Ted C. Wills
Thursday, April 3, 2019
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Public Meetings

Planning Commission
City Hall, Council Chambers
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
6:00 p.m.

City Council
City Hall, Council Chambers
May, 2, 2019
1:30 p.m.
"IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, NO ONE CAN AFFORD TO ASSUME THAT SOMEONE ELSE WILL SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS. EACH ONE OF US HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP GUIDE OUR GLOBAL FAMILY IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. GOOD WISHES ARE NOT SUFFICIENT; WE MUST BECOME ACTIVELY ENGAGED."

- DALAI LAMA