Function of the Traffic and Safety Commission

The primary functions of the Traffic and Safety Commission are to:

- Provide a public forum for community requests for bicycle, pedestrian, public transit, and vehicle safety improvements.
- Make recommendations to the City Council on advocacy at the state and regional level related to transportation funding and safety (for instance, increase in Gas Tax, and speed enforcement through photo radar around school and residential areas).
- Make recommendation to City Council regarding impacts to Albany of proposed transportation projects in neighboring jurisdictions (for instance, the Gilman Interchange)

Initiatives and Accomplishments of 2015-17

- Completion of design for the Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Striping and Signage Projects
- Continued design process of Washington Avenue traffic calming project
- Finalized design phase process for Phase III of the Buchanan Marin Bikeway along with the Marin Utility Undergrounding Project and issued request for construction bids in April 2016 and rebid in January 2017.
- Initiated design of the Complete Streets Plan for San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street.
- Completion of the City of Albany Parking Management Plan (grant from Alameda CTC).
- Participated with other commissions and committees in the development of proposals for amendment to parking standards continued in Measure D.
- Provided transportation-related direction for the preparation of the General Plan Update.
- Transportation Element updated in the adopted General Plan.
- Implemented 8 street segments of the ATP Striping and Signage Projects with the 2015 Pavement Program.
- Submitted three grant applications for funding to the Alameda County Transportation Commission: Construction of the San Pablo-Buchanan Pedestrian Safety Improvements (Complete Streets), Solano Avenue Complete Streets Conceptual Plan, and Cycle Track extension from the University Village Mixed Use Development northern limit to the intersection of Marin and San Pablo Avenues.
- Developed the North Albany Traffic Calming Plan and started plan implementation with the installation of 11 speed humps on intersecting streets to Brighton Avenue.
- Considered implementation of School Zones in Albany.
- Conducted public outreach and evaluated design alternatives for the implementation of bicycle facilities along Kains and Adams.
- Made recommendations to the City Council regarding improvements to the Washington Avenue neighborhood between Pierce Street and Cerrito Street, including pedestrian safety, emergency access, and public parking.
Policy Review and Initiatives for 2017-2019

Policy Development and Project Design Review

- Review the design of pedestrian improvements on San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street.
- Make recommendation to the City Council regarding annual sidewalk and pavement projects.
- Make recommendations to City Council regarding construction plan development of the North Albany Traffic Calming Plan.
- Review parking and drop off areas around Albany Unified School District facilities.
- Make recommendation to the City Council regarding electric vehicle charging stations.
- Initiate an update to the 2012 Active Transportation Plan.
- Work on a Complete Streets planning effort for Upper Solano Avenue
- Pursue request for experimentation for the implementation of a combined bicycle and pedestrian crossing of the Dartmouth/San Pablo Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon location.
- Finalize design and Implement the Buchanan Bikeway Phase IV, including bike boxes and signal modifications for the installation of a bicycle accommodations at the San Pablo and Marin intersection.
- Work with AC Transit staff to develop a Transit Plan for Albany and consider including it in the next update to the ATP in 2018.
- Review updates to the City Engineering Standards, particularly related to specifications for thermoplastic friction factor (when wet) and curb ramps.
- Continue work on the incremental steps the Commission requested as a follow up to the Parking Management Plan.
- Address double parking on Solano Avenue and around schools
- Update the Albany Traffic Calming Plan to include volume parameters for the 15% of motorists that travel over the speed limit on certain blocks adjacent to Solano and San Pablo Avenues.
- Pursue grants for the design and construction of the Cycle Track extension between the cycle track installed with the construction of the UC Mixed Use Development and the Marin Avenue/San Pablo Avenue bikeway.

Relation to City Council Strategic Plan

- The Commission’s 2017-19 priority projects will help implement City Council Strategic Plan Objective to Advance Climate Action by implementing the remaining striping and signage projects of the ATP and securing grant funds to continue the implementation of other projects in the ATP.
- The Commission’s 2017-19 priority projects will help implement City Council Strategic Plan Objective to Promote Active Transportation and Safety by completing the design of the Pedestrian Improvements for San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street and by seeking grant funds for its implementation; by evaluating the 2016 Sidewalk Pilot Program, and by developing a program to integrate new funding for sidewalks.
- The Commission’s 2017-19 priority projects will help implement City Council Strategic Plan Objective to Manage Parking by continuing its work on the incremental steps the Commission requested as a follow up to the Parking Management Plan.