

**WALNUT CREEK CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 11-49**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WALNUT CREEK
APPROVING A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AS SPECIFIED FOR THE WALNUT
CREEK BICYCLE PLAN**

Section 1. Background and Findings.

1. On August 2, 2011, the City Council held a public hearing to review and consider a resolution to adopt the Walnut Creek Bicycle Plan and a resolution to approve a General Plan Amendment to replace the existing Bicycle Facilities Map in *General Plan 2025* with a new map.
2. City staff prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21000 *et seq.*) and CEQA Guidelines (14 Code Regs. § 15000 *et seq.*).
3. On August 2, 2011, the City Council adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration.
4. On August 2, 2011, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 11-49, approving an amendment to *General Plan 2025*, Chapter 5, Figure 4 (Bicycle Facilities Map) to reflect the updated Bicycle Facilities Map proposed in the Walnut Creek Bicycle Plan.
5. On July 14, 2011, the Walnut Creek Planning Commission held a public hearing to review and consider the Walnut Creek Bicycle Plan, a General Plan Amendment to replace the existing Bicycle Facilities Map in *General Plan 2025* with a new map, and Mitigation Negative Declaration with Mitigation Monitoring Program prepared for the Walnut Creek Bicycle Plan and to provide recommendations to the Walnut Creek City Council. After receiving public testimony and considering the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, the Planning Commission adopted Planning Resolution No. 3565, recommending approval of the Walnut Creek Bicycle Plan, General Plan Amendment and adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration with Mitigation Monitoring program to the City Council. The Planning Commission also provided certain recommendations and comments to the City Council for consideration.
6. On June 30, 2011, a Notice of Intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration was filed at the Contra Costa County Clerk's office, mailed to interested parties including Contra Costa Transportation Authority, TRANSPAC, neighboring jurisdictions, and CalTrans, posted in the Contra Costa Times newspaper, and posted at the Walnut Creek City Hall for a 21-day public review and comment period that ended on July 21, 2011.
7. The Mitigated Negative Declaration concluded that the proposed project incorporates appropriate measures associated with biological resources, cultural resources, and transportation/traffic to avoid or reduce potential impacts to a less-than-significant level and, accordingly, that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment. Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Mitigated Negative Declaration for adoption as part of the project approval.
8. On December 15, 2009, the Walnut Creek City Council held a study session on the draft Bicycle Plan and provided recommendations and comments to staff.

9. The following study sessions were publicly noticed and held to provide input on the Administrative Draft Bicycle Plan: Transportation Commission (August 20, 2009); Planning Commission (October 15, 2009); Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Commission (December 9, 2009); and City Council (December 15, 2009). Various stakeholders, including bicycle advocates, Walnut Creek residents and other interested persons also attended these meetings and provided comments on the Administrative Draft Plan.
10. On August 13, 2009, the draft Bicycle Plan (then called “Walnut Creek Bicycle Master Plan”) was prepared and released for public review in August 2009.
11. Throughout the four year development of Bicycle Plan, a total of 30 public meetings were held on the Bicycle Plan with input provided by those in attendance. A copy of the draft Bicycle Plan was made available on the City of Walnut Creek’s website, where a link allowed residents to review the Plan and provide comments. Meeting agendas for the various Commissions reviewing the Bicycle Plan were also available on-line, providing residents with information on future meetings. Additionally, the official City newsletter, *Nutshell*, carried informative articles about the progress of the Bicycle Plan in the “Re-Cycling” column and invited the general public to provide input.
12. An Advisory Committee, selected by the Transportation Commission and City Council, drafted the original version of the Bicycle Plan. The Advisory Committee was composed of various stakeholders, including members of the Bicycle Advisory Committee, Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission, Transportation Commission, Planning Commission and the City’s Transportation Planning staff. The Advisory Committee held numerous public meetings with staff and the consultants in 2008 and 2009. The Committee provided oversight of writing and all phases of the planning process and provided direction as the Plan was developed.
13. The Walnut Creek Bicycle Plan is consistent with *General Plan 2025*, Chapter 5, Action 5.1.1 which calls for the development of a Bicycle Master Plan with measurable objectives for the City of Walnut Creek. *Walnut Creek General Plan 2025* also contains a Bicycle Facility Map (Chapter 5, Figure 4) which reflects new and proposed facilities as part of the City’s long-term goal to accommodate bicycle use.
14. The health, safety, welfare and general prosperity of the residents of the City of Walnut Creek will be served by the proposed amendment based on all of the evidence in the record because the Plan:
 - a. Provides specific recommendations for the City that will promote a desirable transportation alternative to the automobile.
 - b. Addresses the many aspects of planning and infrastructure that affect bicycling in Walnut Creek and will support the City’s ongoing efforts to create a green, environmentally sustainable environment that encourages alternative modes of transit, consistent with goals and policies in *General Plan 2025*;
 - c. Provides recommendations to improve the overall safety of the bicyclist;
 - d. Promotes bicycling as a viable and sustainable transportation option;
 - e. Emphasizes Walnut Creek’s importance as a regional destination by providing a bicycle network that is consistent with other local and regional plans;

- f. Establishes a set of short- and long-term goals and policies intended to guide the development of new facilities as well as the maintenance of existing facilities; and
- g. Allows the City to compete for grant opportunities from outside funding sources for plan implementation, such as the California Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) funds and other state and federal funding programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WALNUT CREEK CITY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 2. Decision.

Based on the background and findings set forth above, which are true and correct and incorporated by this reference, the City Council hereby amends *General Plan 2025*, Chapter 5, Figure 4, to change the existing Bicycle Facilities Map within the General Plan to a revised Bicycle Facilities Map, as shown in the Walnut Creek Bicycle Plan.

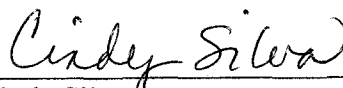
This resolution shall take effect on the 31st day after its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Walnut Creek at a regular meeting thereof held on the 2nd day of August 2011, by the following called vote:

AYES: Councilmembers: Rajan, Simmons, Skrel, Mayor Silva

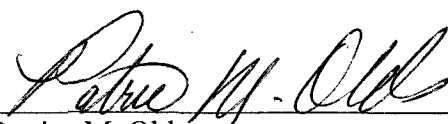
NOES: Councilmembers: None

ABSENT: Councilmembers: Lawson



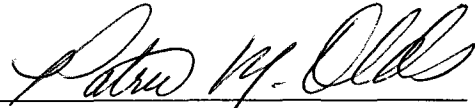
 Cindy Silva
 Mayor of the City of Walnut Creek

Attest:



 Patrice M. Olds
 City Clerk of the City of Walnut Creek

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of Resolution No.11-49, duly passed and adopted by the City Council of Walnut Creek, County of Contra Costa, State of California, at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 2nd day of August 2011.



Patrice M. Olds
City Clerk of the City of Walnut Creek