



October 26, 2010

Fedolia "Sparky" Harris, Senior Planner  
Department of Transportation  
New City Hall  
915 I Street, 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA EMAIL

**RE: 65<sup>th</sup> Street Station Area Study (M09-019)**

Dear Mr. Harris:

WALKSacramento supports the staff recommendations in the *65<sup>th</sup> Street Station Area Study*. Elements such as pedestrian-friendly intersections, pedestrian-scaled street grid, wide sidewalks, attractive streetscapes, and traffic calming of the C-Prime scenario should provide greater pedestrian mobility and safety.

We would like to emphasize that safe crossings are vitally important for pedestrians. The Study recognizes this by identifying features of intersections that will make crossings safer and more convenient for pedestrians. However, there are currently more than a dozen intersections, eight of which are signalized, within the study area that do not have crosswalks marked on all legs.

The City's *Pedestrian Safety Guidelines* recommends marked crosswalks at all controlled intersection approaches but identifies heavy right- or left-turning movements as exceptions. Making this exception requires many pedestrians to cross two additional legs of the intersection which adds more crossing time, greater exposure to vehicle movements, and does not contribute to pedestrian-friendly intersections.

If the 65<sup>th</sup> Street Station area is defined as a future transit village and transportation improvements are to encourage more walking, then exceptional effort should be made to provide convenient and safe crossings for pedestrians. We recognize the challenge that high traffic volumes can make at intersections, but we would like to see pedestrians given greater consideration within transit villages.

WALKSacramento recommends revising the following paragraph on page 26 of the draft *65<sup>th</sup> Street Station Area Study* by adding the underlined text.

**PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY INTERSECTIONS** Safe movement through intersections is critical for all circulation modes, but especially for pedestrians ... This study recommends improvements including marked crosswalks on all legs of controlled intersections, . . .

WALKSacramento encourages people to walk and bicycle in their communities. The benefits include improved physical fitness, less motor vehicle traffic congestion, better air quality and a stronger sense of cohesion and safety in local neighborhoods. WALKSacramento is working to support increased physical activity such as walking and bicycling in local neighborhoods as well as helping to create community environments that support walking and bicycling.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 709-9843 or [cholm@walksacramento.org](mailto:cholm@walksacramento.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Holm". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey rectangular background.

Chris Holm  
Project Analyst

WALKSacramento  
909 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite #122  
Sacramento, CA 95814

cc: Hector Barron, City of Sacramento Department of Transportation  
Anne Geraghty, WALKSacramento