

CITY OF MERCED
Planning Department

TO: Bicycle Advisory Commission
FROM: Bill King, Principal Planner
DATE: August 23, 2016
SUBJECT: "M" Street Bikeway between 16th Street and 18th Street

BACKGROUND

City Staff is requesting input from the Bicycle Advisory Commission (BAC) concerning the placement of a bikeway on M Street between 16th Street and 18th Street. Three options are presented for consideration and include: 1) a road diet converting the street from four travel lanes to three travel lanes with bike lanes; 2) extensive modification of the sidewalk and planter areas resulting in the creation of a bike lane; or 3) addition of sharrows. At this stage, the options are very conceptual; no drawings have been prepared. Staff is leaning toward use of sharrows.

DISCUSSION

Between 16th Street and 18th Street, there is no bikeway on M Street. In this area, it is illegal to ride bikes on sidewalks. Bike lanes exist on M Street both north of 18th Street and south of 16th Street. Sharrows are signed and marked on Main Street, both east and west of M Street. The absence of a bikeway in the central core of Merced hinders adequate bike travel, especially north-south movements.

ACTION

City Staff seeks a formal recommendation from the BAC.

Attachment:

1. MUTCD Standards and 2013 Merced Bike Transportation Plan Standards