



DRAFT

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2013

The Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission met at 6:32 p.m. on June 20, 2013 with Commission Chair James Manidakos presiding. The meeting was held in the West Conference Room, City Hall, 456 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale.

ROLL CALL/CONSIDERATION OF ABSENCES

Members Present: James Manidakos
Kevin Jackson
Richard Kolber
David Jones
Angela Rausch
Kyle Welch
Cathy Switzer

Members Absent: None.

Council Liaison Present: Jim Griffith, Vice-Mayor.

Staff Present: Jack Witthaus, Transportation and Traffic Manager, Department of Public Works

Visitors: David Simons, Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS

Vice-Mayor Griffith thanked the BPAC membership for their input to the Council and for their service to the City. His comments were echoed by Chair Manidakos.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Jackson announced Fun Nite at Ellis Elementary School, Bike Rodeo at Bishop Elementary School, and a helmet giveaway at Sunnyvale Middle School. Commissioner Jackson also announced that there have been many inquiries about school improvements, and encourages getting the word out. Commissioner Jackson also announced that Lawrence Expressway grade separation project meeting would be held on June 26th at 6:30 PM at Ponderosa Parl.

Commissioner Kolber commented on the Lawrence Station Area Plan being reliant on County expressway decision-making.

Commissioner Jackson cited Section 21 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) and stated that the code has precedent unless delegated to cities. He also stated that Senate Bill 949 changes the loophole, and discussed a car-sharing article that presents information on a service that is airport-related and promising based airport administration interest.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1.A) Approval of the Draft Minutes of May 16, 2013 Meeting
- 1.B) Updated 2013 BPAC Calendar

The consent calendar was approved, 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Simons summarized a workshop on county issues such as bike shoulders to the right of right turn lanes and the overuse of solid bike lane lines.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

- 2. ACTION: Review and Make a Recommendation on an El Camino Real Street Space Allocation Study

Chair Manidakos stated that he supports the staff recommendation.

Commissioner Jackson stated that the recommendation is justified based on low parking demand along the rest of El Camino Real but that start-and-stop bike lanes are not really a viable alternative.

Commissioner Kolber inquired about the possibility of a future project on additional segments of El Camino Real in one or two years.

Commissioner Jackson inquired about the potential interaction with Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Staff stated that there had been VTA pushback from the BRT staff

Commissioner Switzer proposed reformatting the tables.

Commissioner Welch clarified the construction technique and budget.

Motion by Chair Manidakos, seconded by Commissioner Kolber to support the staff recommendation. Friendly amendment by Jackson accepted to encourage staff to pursue additional bike lanes on other segments of El Camino Real. Motion approved 7-0.

Commissioners asked additional clarifying questions.

- 3. DISCUSSION: Bicycle Support Facilities for City Employees

Commissioner Switzer stated that the City should encourage employees to ride bicycles or use alternative transportation, and inquired about how to approach the idea.

Staff, and Vice-Mayor Griffith suggested a budget or study issue. Staff presented the status of current TDM efforts for employees.

Commissioner Switzer inquired about the status of consideration of a new City Hall. Vice-Mayor Griffith provided a status update.

Commissioner Jackson suggested a survey of employees prior to constructing a new City Hall to determine specific alternative transportation support facility needs.

Commissioner Jones stated that there should be lockers for City employees. He noted that often provision of showers is associated with job duties.

Commissioner Jackson stated that green building considerations should include provisions for alternative transportation.

4. ACTION: Utility Bill Stuffer Concept Approval

Chair Manidakos summarized the staff report.

Commissioner Jackson expressed disappointment that art could not be produced.

Staff clarified that the art was not within the budgetary constraints.

Commissioner Welch inquired about what the Los Angeles version looks like, and presented a Hawaii bike league example of a informational pamphlet about bicyclist's rights and responsibilities.

Commissioner Jackson stated that the stuffer needs to be eye-catching.

Commissioners Switzer and Welch suggest the stuffer be based on Hawaii's model.

Commissioner Jones expressed concern about the effectiveness of bill stuffers, and encourages consideration of other media. He stated that staff can work with the media relations officer.

Motion to endorse use of the Hawaii Bicycle League stuffer as a model with modifications to account for California laws and rules. Motion approved, 7-0.

5. ACTION: Sunnyvale Library Bicycle Lockers

Chair Manidakos summarized the staff report.

The BPAC liaison added that City staff will support moving the bike locker to the parking lot if BPAC supports. There is an inability to provide active administration of parking and removal of non-bike related stuff.

Commissioner Jackson related an incident with derelict car being towed from library. He supports moving the locker if the new location has plenty of clearance - 8' long on either end. He encouraged use leveling feet so the locker doors don't scrape when opened. He supports installation of more lockers.

Commissioner Jones suggests considering Bike-Link pay per use lockers.

Commissioner Rausch stated that she does not use lockers and sees the need for more bike racks. Commissioner Rausch does not think library staff should be responsible for the parking lot. She question whether this was an issue for the BPAC or rather for the Library Commission with respect to library operations, or the Housing and Human Services Commission for the homeless issues.

In response to Commissioner Rausch's inquiry as to why bike lockers are being considered when bike racks are in demand, Commissioner Jackson stated that lockers reduce theft and vandalism. The commissioners had a discussion about the benefits of each.

Commissioner Jackson thanked the staff and stated that the suggestion is not robust, but is an improvement. Commissioner Jackson motion to support the staff recommendation, second Chair Manidakos with encouragement of additional bike parking.

Motion approved, 6-1, Angela Rausch dissenting.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Switzer requested utility cover repairs after re-surfacing and presented examples.

Staff provided a response that a specification has been identified and will be adopted soon.

Commissioner Jackson encouraged a review of Palo Alto standards for tree roots, gutters, etc.

Chair Manidakos stated that utility covers in bike space are difficult to see and avoid. He also noted that only bikes are on the Share the Road signs, and thinks the signs should show both cars and bikes.

Commissioner Switzer stated that there was a pedestrian collision at Washington and Frances and requested an investigation of pedestrian safety improvement possibilities.

Commissioner Jackson inquired about a new Sunnyvale Stevens Creek Citizens Working Group member. Staff announced that Camie Hackson is the new member. Commissioner Jackson also requested consideration of sidewalks on Tasman between East Channel and Lawrence Expressway. He objected to "Traffic Yield to Bikes" construction signs, and thinks that the 49ers stadium traffic issue should address bikes and pedestrians. He also requested a review of proposed study issue papers within 30 days, questioned the process, and requested the review in advance.

Staff announced that Supervisor Cortese is hosting a bike facilities meeting, Staff also announced that the County will experiment with expressway ramp monitoring system for oncoming cyclists.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

1. Board and Commission Orientation
2. BPAC E-mail messages and/or letters since circulation of the agenda packet of the April 18, 2013 meeting.
3. BPAC Active Items List.

Commissioner Jackson inquired about email, and the schedule, plan details and OBAG project details for Mary Avenue bike lanes. He also inquired about requirements for matching funds.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jack Witthaus, Transportation and Traffic Manager