



Consent Calendar 1.A)

DRAFT

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2009

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission met at 6:30 p.m. on February 19, 2009 with Commission Chair Kevin Jackson presiding. The meeting was held in the West Conference Room, City Hall, 456 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale.

ROLL CALL/CONSIDERATION OF ABSENCES

Members Present: Kevin Jackson
Ralph Durham
Andrea Stawitcke
James Manidakos
Richard Warner
Patrick Walz

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Heba El-Guendy, Senior Transportation Planner

Visitors: Commissioner David Simons, VTA BPAC
Arthur Schwartz, Sunnyvale resident
Keith Ward, Sunnyvale resident

There were no Commission members absent.

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION

VTA BPAC Commissioner David Simons – Indicated that the VTA BPAC is in the process of developing scoring criteria for projects included in the Bicycle Expenditure Plan (BEP). Noted that the BEP has somewhat limited funds within the next 30 years, and that VTA staff will review projects every two to five years and reallocate funds as appropriate. Requested that Sunnyvale staff seek letters of support when applying for grant funds, and noted example agencies and community groups that could consider providing such letters.

Chair Jackson – Thanked Commissioner David Simons for his presentation, and noted that the provision of bike lanes on Mary Avenue south of Evelyn Avenue was rated by City Council as a first priority which emphasizes the need for including the project in the BEP.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Jackson – Noted that City Council eliminated Policy 2.2.C.5 of the General Plan Open Space and Recreation Element which prevented extending the Stevens Creek Trail on the Sunnyvale side of the Creek, and subsequently closed out the 2008 Study Issue. City Council also removed the speech restriction, thereby allowing all board and commission members to speak at the Council's public hearings. Chair Jackson expressed BPAC's appreciation of the Council's decisions.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1.A) Approval of Draft Minutes of the January 15, 2009 BPAC Meeting
- 1.B) Approval of the February 19, 2009 Meeting Agenda
- 1.C) Approval of the 2009 BPAC Calendar Update

Commissioner Ralph Durham moved a motion seconded by Commissioner Richard Warner to approve Consent Calendar items 1.B) and 1.C). Motion was passed 6-0.

Commissioner Warner – Requested revising the fourth paragraph on Page 2 to indicate “Commissioner Manidakos noted that there are now durable and cheap bicycles (each bicycle costs less than \$50) produced in China for the African market Africa that could minimize the maintenance and theft issues associated with a bike sharing program”.

Chair Jackson – Requested revising the last phrase of the fifth paragraph on Page 2 to indicate “Chair Jackson also noted that the provision of bike lanes along Mary Avenue is on the cross county route network (#15) now ranked #15 on the regional program and inquired if it can be added on the Bicycle Expenditure Plan (BEP)”. Also requested revising the first paragraph on Page 5 to indicate “.....Chair Jackson requested that the Council reconsider such restriction on speech, and questioned the wisdom of the speech restriction even though the constitution rights do not impose such restriction behind the constitution rights used to establish this speech restriction.”. Also requested removal of the reference to the County Board of Supervisors from the sixth paragraph on Page 6.

Commissioner Ralph Durham moved a motion seconded by Commissioner Richard Warner to approve Consent Calendar item 1.A) as amended. Motion was passed 6-0.

STAFF RESPONSE TO PRIOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None. No public comments were raised during the BPAC meeting held on January 15, 2009, and comments later raised through the City's web site were addressed in writing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. DISCUSSION: Utility Bill Stuffer Concepts

A number of ideas were mentioned such as encouraging the public to help their health/hearts through walking and cycling, discouraging drivers from stopping in the bike lanes to use cell phones, and some safety tips and reference to ongoing safe routes to schools initiatives.

Chair Jackson – Suggested illustrating the scene inside of a typical fitness center with a large window showing the center's parking lot full of parked cars. TV on the wall with newscaster read: Another Spare the Air Day declared in the Silicon Valley as pollution reaches hazardous levels, traffic congestion continues to worsen throughout the Bay Area, oil imports push U.S. trade deficit to record high thereby deepening recession, and scientists warn immediate action needed to combat global warming. The room is full of center patrons exercising on stationary bikes and treadmills with their eyes on the TV and thinking: "I wonder if there is anything that the average person can do to help solve all these problems?". Then note that this message is brought by the Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission along with contact information to submit suggestions, obtain maps, get safety tips, etc.

Commissioner Manidakos – Suggested sending a positive message to the public, and utilizing the opportunity to publicize the opening of the Borregas bridges overcrossing US101 and SR237 along with a few relevant photos, possibly a map, and brief information.

It was agreed to capture both of the two suggestions described above, one on each side of the utility bill stuffer, and the staff liaison was asked to prepare a draft for BPAC's review.

3. DISCUSSION: Bike to Work Day Planning

The Commission members noted their preference to retain their assignments at the five stations used on the 2008 Bike to Work Day. Also noted the need for additional supplies such as writing pens, cups if coffee is donated, and sufficient water and/or other drinks.

Chair Jackson – Requested the provision of sign-up sheet at each of the stations to enable cyclists to write their questions and/or comments with regard to bicycle routes, bicycle maintenance, safety classes, etc. Noted that copies of the Bike to Work Day flyer need to be posted at City facilities such as City Hall, the library, and community center enough time in advance of the event. In addition, requested that bicycle maps for the City of Sunnyvale, neighboring cities and the overall county be made available at the different stations.

Commissioner Durham – Will attempt to obtain copies of the Stanford Bike maps which covers the City Palo Alto.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

- BPAC ORAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Walz – Extended invitation to the recently hired City Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, Mr. Dustin Clark, to attend a future BPAC meeting. In addition, inquired if BPAC needs to take any action to proceed with implementation of the streets space allocation policy.

- STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

Staff liaison, Heba El-Guendy, noted the following:

1. Provided feedback on ongoing inquiries and requests including the frequent monitoring of the bike lockers fronting the library by staff of the Parks and Recreation Department, and improvements to the BPAC web site and link by the Information Technology Department.
2. Noted that both City of Sunnyvale applications for CDT grants were selected by the multi-agency scoring committee and that the decision is now proceeding through the approval process within VTA for a total funding of \$300,000 (\$150,000 for each of the projects). One of the applications is regarding the redevelopment of the Lawrence Rail Station area which includes improvements to bicycle and pedestrian connections within one half mile radius of the station. The second application is for developing the El Camino Real Multi-Modal Design Guidelines in light of the City's plan to improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities along the corridor including the provision of bike lanes.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

4. FY 2009/10 Curb Ramp Installation List

A list of locations of the scheduled 2009/10 Curb Ramp Installation was included as part of the Agenda packet.

5. FY 2009/10 Road Resurfacing List

A list of the scheduled 2009/10 Road Resurfacing segments was included as part of the Agenda packet.

Chair Jackson – Requested that staff consider the provision of bike lanes on Pastoria Avenue between Maude Avenue and its southerly end when resurfacing this road segment in 2010.

6. Update on Upcoming Events (Earth Week and Health and Safety Fair)

Staff liaison, Heba El-Guendy, provided a brief update on the upcoming events including their dates.

7. Brochure on Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety for Parents and Youth published by Traffic Safe Communities Network (TSCN)

A photocopy of the brochure was included as part of the Agenda Packet. Original copies of the brochure were made available during the BPAC meeting.

Staff liaison, Heba El-Guendy, noted that additional copies have been requested from TSCN to utilize in relevant educational and promotional events such as the Health and Safety Fair.

8. BPAC E-mail Messages

A copy of the received messages was included in the Agenda packet. Received e-mail messages are regularly addressed by staff either verbally or in writing.

9. Active Items List

The updated Active Items List was provided as part of the Agenda Packet.

In addition, copies of the staff RTC titled “Reconsider City’s Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials Based on Council Action of February 3, 2009” scheduled for consideration by City Council on February 24, 2009 were provided to all BPAC members during the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Heba El-Guendy
Senior Transportation Planner
Division of Transportation and Traffic