

FINAL

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2009

The Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission met at 6:30 p.m. on July 16, 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
Andrea Stawitcke
Cathy Switzer
James Manidakos
Patrick Walz
Ralph Durham
Richard Warner

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Heba El-Guendy, Senior Transportation Planner, PW Department

Visitors: Fritz Stawitcke, Sunnyvale resident

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION

Lieutenant Discher forwarded his regrets for not being able to attend recent BPAC meetings. While parked for traffic enforcement, Lieutenant Discher was hit by a DUI motorist. He is now working a reduced schedule due to his injuries.

Chair Kevin Jackson and all Commission members welcomed Commissioner Cathy Switzer who became a new member of BPAC.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fritz Stawitcke – Indicated that an event celebrating the opening of 3.6 new miles of the Bay Area Ridge Trail is scheduled for August 15, 2009. The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the new trailhead by Tully Community Branch Library & Ball Fields in San Jose. The Coyote Creek Trail will ultimately stretch from San Francisco Bay to Morgan Hill, of which over 2/3 will be the Bay Area Ridge Trail. Also indicated that the City of Santa Clara hosted an event at the corner of Monroe Street and San Tomas Expressway to celebrate the opening of Reach 3 of the San Tomas Aquino/Saratoga Creek Trail. Reach 3 is approximately 1.25 miles in length extending from Scott Boulevard to Monroe Street

along the west bank of the creek.

In addition, Mr. Stawitcke noted the launching of the Sunnyvale Trail Group web page, which was developed to provide an open forum for people interested in trail and greenway issues in Sunnyvale. Present areas of interest include John W Christian Greenbelt, Calabazas Creek Trail, Stevens Creek Trail, Bay Trail and the Sunnyvale East and West Channels. Interested persons can post a message at Sunnyvaletrails@yahoogroups.com, and subscribe at Sunnyvaletrails-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Chair Jackson – Noted that the City of Cupertino opened a new section of the Stevens Creek Trail on July 4, 2009.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1.A) Approval of Draft [Minutes of the June 18, 2009 Meeting](#)
- 1.B) Approval of [Agenda of the July 16, 2009 Meeting](#)
- 1.C) Approval of the 2009 BPAC Calendar Update

Commissioner Durham moved a motion seconded by Commissioner Stawitcke to approve Consent Calendar items 1.B) and 1.C). Motion was passed 7-0.

- 1.A) Approval of Draft Minutes of the June 18, 2009 Meeting

Chair Jackson – Requested revising the last phrase of the second paragraph on Page 2 of the minutes as follows: “Also that there is a continued need for BPAC inspection and oversight until there is awareness on all levels of the pedestrians and cyclists needs ~~the need for improvements is diminished~~”. Also requested revising the fourth paragraph on the same page as follows: “Noted that there is an essential need for accommodating bicyclists on roads to allow for efficient access to all destinations ~~higher speeds cycling~~ rather than the recreational cycling on trails shared with pedestrians, baby strollers, etc”. In addition, requested revising the third paragraph on Page 4 of the minutes as follows: “Chair Jackson noted that the ordinance will be the controlling document rather than staff. So, it must be stated in the ordinance language since the staff report will probably be forgotten along with associated clarifications ~~will live long after the current Public Works and Public Safety staff.~~ Added that downtown events although mentioned in the RTC, they are not mentioned in the actual ordinance amendment. Chair Jackson noted his concern that the amended ordinance may be misinterpreted and misused, and that duration of special events is the wrong time to relax parking restrictions that could have adverse safety impacts.....”

Commissioner Durham moved a motion seconded by Commissioner Walz to approve Consent Calendar item 1.A) as amended. Motion was passed 6-0. Commissioner Stawitcke abstained from voting due to her absence of the June 18th BPAC meeting.

STAFF RESPONSE TO PRIOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Fritz Stawitcke – Indicated that the Parks of the Future Study was considered by Council on July 14, 2009 (Public Hearings/General Business item #3 on the Council agenda). Consistent with the Study with regard to the provision of amenities, noted that the Stevens Creek Trail extension goes through areas with a considerable amount of open space that can be utilized for accommodating amenities. Noted that intergovernmental coordination concerning the Stevens Creek Trail extension will be

facilitated by the formed four cities committee. Added that there is also a need for coordination between City staff and BPAC. Mr. Stawitcke also noted his concerns with regard to the traffic control plan implemented on Washington Avenue and the lack of pedestrian access. Raised concerns with regard to presence of debris within bicycle lanes which could cause a safety hazard, and inquired about the sweeping schedule of Caribbean Drive.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. DISCUSSION: Annual Review of the Boards and Commissions Policy – Council Policy Manual

Heba El-Guendy – Noted the update on Pages 5 and 6 of Council Policy 7.2.19 with regard to attendance of Boards and Commissions members. Also noted the change in reporting to Council on members' attendance, which is now twice a year rather than quarterly.

Following a brief discussion, the BPAC members did not recommend additional revisions to the updated Council Policy Manual – Policy 7.2.19 on Boards and Commissions.

3. DISCUSSION: Development of Study and Budget Issues

A discussion took place among the BPAC members regarding whether or not they should take the cost of performing study issues into account when choosing and rating the issues with the desire to increase the likelihood of having the issues selected by Council and performed by the relevant City department within available means.

Commissioner Manidakos – Requested clarifications regarding Study Issue DPW 02 "Plan Line Study to Accommodate Bicyclists and Pedestrians". The Issue was documented as a multiple year project with a capital expenditure range of \$501k or more. However, all staff hours (a total of 525 hours) are shown in the first cycle and the data base is set up not to add the consultant's hours (a total of 1000 hours) to the staff hours in the first and second cycles.

Chair Jackson – Requested the following:

- Combining Study Issues DPW 03 (Update/Review Corner Vision Triangle Municipal Code Ordinance) and DPW 06 (Impacts of Traffic calming on Cyclists) in order to cover current practices near, and on public right-of-way that affect all road users. This would cover construction practices, pavement and maintenance standards, utility work and trenching, parking on and off street, and other storage uses that narrow the lanes or affect sight lines.
- Adding a study/budget issue to improve BPAC's internet presence including the restoration of the BPAC e-mail address, as well as general improvements to insure that the web page is informative, inviting, intuitive and easy.
- Add to Budget Issue "Enforcement Campaign of Bicycle and Pedestrian Related Traffic Violations" to also cover vehicular traffic in order to utilize enforcement for deterring motorists from performing traffic violations and unsafe driving practices.

4. ACTION: Election of Officers

This item was carried out at the end of the meeting. Commission member Kevin Jackson was elected as the Chair, and Commission member Patrick Walz was elected as the Vice Chair. The BPAC members voted 7-0 in the election of each of the officers. Both the Chair and Vice Chair are planning to attend the Chair's training to be scheduled by the City Clerk's office.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

· BPAC ORAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Stawitcke – Noted the guided tour that took place on July 5th of the Stevens Creek Trail from El Camino Real to Sleeper Avenue in Mountain View.

Commissioner Durham – Indicated that house values along trails tend to be higher as experienced in the cities of Davis, Walnut Creek and Danville. Added that now in Davis, there is an attempt to eliminate unnecessary bollards along trails/paths. In addition, Commissioner Durham noted his inability to attend the August 20th BPAC meeting due to a personal leave.

Chair Jackson – Raised concerns with regard to glass and trash observed on the Borregas pedestrian and bicycle bridge over-crossing US 101. Also inquired about the collection of usage data of the Borregas pedestrian and bicycle bridges, as well as other traffic data that could warrant enhanced traffic controls at nearby locations including intersections. Chair Jackson referred to earlier communication with VTA and City staff with regard to the referenced post bridges opening data collection. Chair Jackson also requested that staff consider a demonstration with regard to the posting of construction related signage on existing poles (such as hydro poles, street sign posts, street light poles, etc.) rather than placing them in the shoulder travel lanes and bike lanes.

The Borregas pedestrian and bicycle bridges over-crossing US 101 and SR 237 are manually cleaned and checked for graffiti once a week. The post bridges opening data collection is scheduled to take place in October and November of 2009. This schedule is determined based on the staff's workload and equipment commitments. Also to insure that the traffic data is collected during the school season. Crosswalk and stop control warrants will be reviewed where appropriate.

· STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

Staff liaison, Heba El-Guendy, provided feedback on the received requests with regard to bike detection as follows:

- Northbound left-turn lane on Fair Oaks Avenue at Ahwanee Terrace – Repaired; and,
- Southbound left-turn lane on Fair Oaks Avenue at Cliente Drive – Replaced.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

5. Ongoing staff work on the LUTE update

Heba El-Guendy – Provided a brief update on the work currently being performed by the City's Planning and Transportation and Traffic Divisions including:

- Brainstorming meetings on policy issues and updates;
- Scoping of a City Climate Action Plan;
- Update of the land use data;
- Update of the project schedule and divisions of work with regard to consulting services to perform the EIR, traffic modeling and data collection;
- Prepare an Existing Traffic Conditions report documenting available data, associated operational analysis, and additional data and analysis needed; and,
- Update of land use and transportation related maps and plans.

Chair Jackson – Inquired about the Council approved policy with regard to street space allocation and whether the general plan update and associated environmental analysis will be conducted as part of the LUTE update or earlier.

The environmental clearance of the street space allocation policy was completed and approved by Council on April 28, 2009, and the General Plan was amended accordingly.

6. New bike lanes on the missing sections of Weddell Avenue and Morse Avenue as described in the Agenda packet.
7. Copies of the updated Handbook for City of Sunnyvale Boards and Commissions were handed out to the Commission members during the meeting.
8. BPAC E-mail Messages and/or Letters as provided in the Agenda packet.
9. Active Items List as provided in the Agenda packet.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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