

FINAL

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2010

The Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission met at 6:30 p.m. on February 18, 2010 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
James Manidakos
Patrick Walz
Richard Warner

Members Absent: Cathy Switzer
Ralph Durham

Staff Present: Heba El-Guendy, Senior Transportation Planner

Visitors: Carlos Babcock – Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition staff and Sunnyvale resident
Isaac Porras – Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition member and Sunnyvale resident

Commissioner Switzer and Commissioner Durham informed the BPAC Chair and staff liaison in advance of their absence on personal leave. There were no objections by the BPAC members and both absences were excused.

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION

None.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carlos Babcock – Noted that Full Circle Farm will be having a third annual Earth Day event at the Farm on Dunford Way. Mr. Babcock would like to encourage patrons to cycle to the event.

Chair Jackson – Mentioned an article published in the Mercury News regarding the Historical Society planning to install historical markers along the Stevens Creek Trail in the City of Cupertino, and encouraged a similar practice within the City of Sunnyvale. In addition, noted that the timed parking ordinance for special events was approved unanimously by Council on February 9, 2010.

Commissioner Walz – Indicated that the original work plan for the LUTE update had more considerable

involvement from BPAC including hosting own public meetings and joint sessions with the Planning Commission. Presently he believes that staff may have changed such work plan and instead recommending for Council consideration on February 23rd to form a Citizen Advisory Committee. Commissioner Walz emphasized the need for the BPAC to be involved in the LUTE update, and encouraged the commissioners to apply to become members on the new proposed Advisory Committee.

Chair Jackson – Noted that he believes that the proposal is to form an additional Citizen Advisory Committee for the LUTE and Climate Action Plan, but it does not supersede the work plan that was initially prepared for the LUTE update including BPAC's involvement. In addition, noted his agreement that the BPAC members need to apply for and participate on the proposed Committee.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1.A) Approval of Draft [Minutes of the January 21, 2010 Meeting](#)
- 1.B) Approval of [Agenda of the February 18, 2010 Meeting](#)
- 1.C) Approval of the 2010 BPAC Calendar Update

Commissioner Walz moved a motion seconded by Commissioner Stawitcke to approve Consent Calendar items 1.A), 1.B) and 1.C). Motion was passed 5-0.

STAFF RESPONSE TO PRIOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Isaac Porras – Noted that the business plan of the high speed rail shows mostly grade separation along the route and commencement of construction in 2012. Requested consideration of establishing bike lanes along the rail line within the affected jurisdictions, which he believes is supported by Ms. Yoriko Kishimoto who is running to become an Assembly Member. Noted that Ms. Kishimoto referenced a similar layout in Japan.

Chair Jackson – Noted the need for coordinating City projects with the construction schedule planned by the High Speed Rail Authority. Also referenced a currently unfunded project to grade separate Bernardo Avenue at the railway tracks which is already on the VTA Bicycle Expenditure Plan (BEP). In addition, noted that the high speed rail project is still in the planning stages, and having a trail along the railway corridor may be constrained by right-of-way and other issues. Added however the need to continue to be aware of the project progress and to express ideas and requests whenever possible.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

- 2. MOTION: Appointment to the VTA Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Following a brief staff report and comments by the BPAC members, **Commissioner Stawitcke moved a motion seconded by Commissioner Warner to reappoint Mr. David Simons to the VTA BPAC. Motion was passed 5-0.**

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

BPAC ORAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Stawitcke – Noted that she will be unable to attend the March 18th BPAC meeting.

Commissioner Walz – Noted that the General Plan Consolidation Committee met for the first time on February 16, and will be meeting monthly for the next five months. Also noted that he was selected to

Chair the Plan Consolidation Committee. Added that Commissioner Durham also attended the meeting.

Chair Jackson – Indicated that the four-city Stevens Creek Trail working group committee met on February 5th. Noted that Jack Witthaus, Manager of the Sunnyvale Transportation and Traffic Division, presented during the meeting the draft Request for Proposals (RFP) to conduct the feasibility study. The committee members strongly supported the RFP and will bring it forward to their Board/Councils. The RFP is planned for circulation in March 2010. Added that this four-city initiative increases the opportunity to be awarded grant funds for the study. Also noted that Ms. Jerri-Ann Meyer, the Mountain View representative/Co-Chair of the VTA BPAC, invited Sunnyvale BPAC members to join the Over and Under Tour which visits all pedestrian/bicycle tunnels and bridges that have been recently constructed in the area. The Tour is planned to take place in a weekend in May. Chair Jackson also suggested the following ideas for the 2010 Utility Bill Stuffer:

1. Truth in Advertising: Shows a motorist day dreaming about driving a convertible on a deserted mountain road with the wind in his hair, while the reality is that he is stuck on a congested freeway with head lights in his eyes and breathing smog. At the same time, a bicyclist is crossing the freeway on a bike/pedestrian bridge day dreaming about a hassle free commute and her reality is exactly the same.
2. Nouveau Destitute: A family sitting around the kitchen table with a stack of bills overdue and a bill collector knocking on the door. They have a giant SUV and a mini van parked on the driveway, while their bicycles are covered in cob webs and the VTA bus is passing by empty. The family are conversing that they are already cutting down on food and cloth expenses, and that there is nothing else to economize on.
3. Then and Now: For the Then, a person dressed in dated disco cloth trying to enjoy his music using a large boom box that he is carrying on his shoulder while the Now has a lady who is strolling while listening to her I-Pod. The second example for Then is a motorist with a giant SUV at a gas station imagining and worrying about the dollars flying off of his wallet, while the Now is for a cyclist cruising along on his bicycle with a smile on his face.
4. The Road Hog: A giant SUV with smoke and fumes coming out leaving a trail of destruction of damaged plants, animals, pedestrians and cyclists and its driver speaking on the phone and indicating that "It is true that it costs a fortune to run this thing, but you cannot put a price on safety".

Chair Jackson encouraged the BPAC members to think about these and other ideas, and to try to prepare the graphic work if possible. Also requested that the staff liaison check on the possibility of hiring a professional graphic person who could perform the work with a low fee for the City.

STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

E-mail inquiries received from the public were provided as part of the Agenda packet.

Staff liaison briefed the BPAC members on the Health and Safety Fair planned to take place at the Columbia Middle School on Saturday, May 22, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and inquired about the possibility of their participation. Commissioner Manidakos indicated his participation from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Chair Jackson from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Walz is free to attend if needed.

With regard to the Bike to Work Day planned by the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition which will take place on May 13, 2010, Chair Jackson and Commissioners Manidakos, Stawticke and Walz showed interest in participating. Commissioner Manidakos will search the possibility of obtaining donations for the event.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

3. Council Ranking of Study Issues accepted as submitted in the Agenda packet.

4. 2010 Curb Ramp Locations: With regard to the Standard Operating Procedures referenced in the Invitation for Bids, Commissioner Manidakos requested to give clear direction not to close the bike lanes and to ensure providing advance notice for pedestrians approaching closed sidewalks and crosswalks. Chair Jackson suggested to provide the Standard Operating Procedures in a noticeable section in the beginning of the document rather than on Page 189, and to avoid the duplications between "Warning sign types and locations" and "Bike lane closures". Chair Jackson also noted the importance of adding information about the pavement treatment standards such as closing trenches and man holes.
5. US Bike Route System accepted as submitted in the Agenda packet.
6. 2010-11 Expressway Pedestrian Projects Program. Staff liaison informed the BPAC members that the County received interest letters for four projects in different jurisdictions with a total cost of \$1,683,000 including grant requests for \$911,500. Since the County only has \$300,000 available each year, only one project was selected which is located in the City of Santa Clara. The project plans to extend the San Tomas Aquino Creek Spur Trail adjacent to San Tomas Expressway until El Camino Real.
7. 2010 Earth Day: Commissioner Walz noted his participation in the event. Chair Jackson will also participate from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
8. BPAC E-mail Messages and/or Letters: In response to the inquiries, staff Liaison informed the BPAC members of the following:
 - The intersection of Murphy/Evelyn has been reviewed and does not currently warrant signalization. In addition to the existing enhanced signing and marking, a lighted crosswalk will be established across the westerly intersection leg.
 - Provision of a bike path along the high speed rail corridor would potentially be constrained by right-of-way issues. Contact information for the California High Speed Rail Authority was provided.
 - A draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Mary Avenue Study has been prepared by the Transportation and Traffic Division and is currently under internal review.
 - A capital project for constructing sidewalks on Gary Avenue and Gail Avenue among other network improvements has been approved and is currently under development.
9. Active Items List: Chair Jackson requested to revise Items #11 and #25 to clarify that the bike lanes will be reviewed for Mary Avenue south of Maude Avenue (not Evelyn Avenue).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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