DRAFT

SUNNYVALE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION
Special Meeting Minutes – May 26, 2011

The Sunnyvale Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission met at 6:35 p.m. on May 26, 2011 with Commission Chair Patrick Walz presiding. The meeting was held in the West Conference Room, City Hall, 456 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale.

ROLL CALL/CONSIDERATION OF ABSENCES

Members Present: Andrea Stawitcke
Angela Rausch
Cathy Switzer
David Gandrud
James Manitakos
Patrick Walz
Ralph Durham

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jack Witthaus, Transportation and Traffic Manager, Department of Public Works
Officer Scott Cortese, Department of Public Safety

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Walz announced that he and Commissioner Durham would be participating in a team triathlon.

Kevin Jackson, member of the public and the Horizon 2035 Committee, announced that transportation policies are being developed by staff and the Horizon 2035 Committee. He summarized events at a recent meeting of the Stevens Creek Trail Working Group.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A) Approval of Draft Minutes of the April 28, 2011 Meeting – Item pulled by Commissioner Durham

1.B) Approval of the 2011 BPAC Calendar Update

Commissioner Durham moved and Commissioner Stawitcke seconded the motion to approve Consent Calendar item 1.B.

Motion passed: 7-0.

1.A) Approval of Draft Minutes of the April 28, 2011 Meeting – Under Non-Agenda Items and Comments, Commissioner Durham clarified that he wants Share the Road signs on Tasman Drive replaced with Bikes Allowed Full Use of Lane signs.

The public hearing was opened. Kevin Jackson asked if it could be specified under item 2 that the road diet better accommodates adult tricycles and baby trailers. Under item 6, he asked if "all users" could read "all transportation users", and that moving vehicles should have higher priority.

Commissioner Durham moved and Commissioner Stawitcke seconded the motion to approve Consent Calendar item 1.A as amended by BPAC members and with public comments.

Motion passed: 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mark Aubin presented traffic concerns in his neighborhood at San Diego Avenue and Hemlock Street. He was concerned about vehicles parking on corners and at fire hydrants. He sought the Commission's support for allowing volunteers to paint red curb. He expressed concerns about speeding vehicles as well. Chair Walz directed him to the City's Traffic Calming Program and requested that staff provide information.

Patty Duke spoke on the same issue, and asked for a simple solution.

Michael Rose spoke on the same issue, and stated that utilizing volunteers is an opportunity for the City.

Steven Chan spoke on the same issue and relayed his observations of traffic.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. DISCUSSION: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Presentation and Discussion of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project along El Camino Real

Stephen Fisher and Adam Burger of the VTA staff gave a Powerpoint presentation on the scope and goals of the El Camino Real Bus Rapid Transit project. The project is in the conceptual engineering phase.

Commissioners asked questions regarding universal ticketing, supporting land uses, bicycle data, extension of the project to San Mateo, the type of buses, the uniformity of design from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and whether there would be a Citizens Advisory Board.

The public hearing was opened. Kevin Jackson stated that bikes on buses should be maximized. He believes that a lower number of travel lanes provides better accommodation for transit-friendly modes. He discouraged the use of bulbouts.

3. ACTION: Closing Murphy Avenue - Study Issue DPW 11-06 (Draft RTC)

Jack Witthaus gave the staff report. The Commission discussed the level of support from businesses, the effect of closure on access for the less mobile and for delivery vehicles, parking availability in the area, the type of bollards, creating drop off and delivery parking near Murphy Avenue, and a limited period closure or trial closure. Commissioner Rausch indicated that limiting use of the street for walking only was not a sufficient benefit for limiting overall access. Commissioner Gandrud stated that he believed additional contact to all Murphy Avenue businesses should be conducted.

The public hearing was opened. Kevin Jackson stated the he believes that closure supports bicycle and pedestrian use, issues with drop off and delivery could be addressed, and that there is a high number of supporters for a trial closure.

Commissioner Manitakos moved and Commissioner Durham seconded the motion to approve Alternative 1, Direct staff to prepare a specific proposal to close Murphy Avenue to automobile traffic at a time period designated by the City Council. Friendly amendment by Stawitcke to indicate a preference by the BPAC for a trial closure.

Motion passed: 5-2, with friendly amendment accepted. Commissioners Rausch and Gandrud opposed.

5. DISCUSSION: Draft BPAC Letter to DPS with regard to Traffic Enforcement

Item 5 taken out of order. Commissioners Durham and Switzer presented the output of a sub-committee formed to identify key traffic violations for bicyclists and pedestrians. The Commission discussed the contents of the draft letter and suggested additions. Commissioner Durham indicated that he would donate bike lights as incentive for the Department of Public Safety to promote conformance to traffic laws. Officer Cortese discussed current Department efforts and bicycle training.

The public hearing was opened. Kevin Jackson commented on bicycle lights.

Staff indicated that the sub-committee suggestions would be formatted into a memorandum from the BPAC liaison to the Department of Public Safety for a response. The BPAC requested that the memorandum be reviewed by BPAC prior to being sent to the Department of Public Safety.

4. DISCUSSION: Review of the Detailed Two-Year Budget

Jack Witthaus gave the staff report. The Commission discussed the pavement maintenance budget.

The public hearing was opened. Kevin Jackson supported increased pavement maintenance for bike lanes only.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

- BOARD MEMBERS OR COMMISSIONERS ORAL COMMENTS

Chair Walz commented on taking photos to be used for the utility bill stuffer. June 7 at 6 PM was indicated by consensus as a possible date for taking the photos.

Commissioner Manitakos relayed observations of low parking demand on Pastoria Avenue.

Chair Walz and Commissioner Switzer summarized participation and issues on Bike to Work Day.

Commissioner Durham commented on illegal u-turns at Moffett Park Drive and Caribbean Drive.

Commissioner Switzer commented on Share the Road signs on Tasman Drive.

- STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

Staff announced the retirements of Director of Public Works, Marvin Rose, and Public Safety Chief, Don Johnson.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

6. BPAC E-mail messages and/or letters since circulation of the agenda packet of the April 28th meeting.

7. BPAC Active Items List.

Accepted as submitted.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jack Witthaus
Transportation and Traffic Manager