



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's

BICYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes - Draft

Monday, December 13, 2010 6:30 p.m.

SCCRTC Office
1523 Pacific Ave
Santa Cruz CA 95060

1. Call to Order – 6:38 pm
2. Introductions
 - Members Present:**
 - Piet Canin, Bike to Work
 - David Casterson, District 2, Vice Chair
 - Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz
 - Leo Jed, CTSC (Alt.)
 - Brandon Kett, District 4
 - Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Chair
 - Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)
 - Lex Rau, Scotts Valley (Alt.)
 - Peter Scott, District 3
 - Holly Tyler, District 1 (Alt.)
 - Staff:**
 - Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner
 - Vacancies:**
 - District 4 – Alternate
 - District 5 – Alternate
 - City of Watsonville – Alternate
 - Bike to Work – Alternate
 - Unexcused Absences:**
 - Bob Montague, City of Watsonville
 - Excused Absences:**
 - Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
 - Rick Hyman, District 5
 - Jim Langley, CTSC
 - Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley
 - Andy Ward, City of Capitola (Alt.)
 - Kem Akol, District 1
 - Eric Horton, District 2 (Alt.)
 - Guests:**
 - Stephen All, Santa Cruz Resident
 - Cathy Crowe, UC Santa Cruz
 - Marvin Davis, Member of the Public
 - Micah Posner, People Power
 - Theresia Rogerson, Community Traffic Safety Coalition
3. Announcements - Cory Caletti announced that a very full agenda is scheduled for the February, 2011 Bicycle Committee meeting and thus, a special meeting may be called if all items can't be considered at the time. She announced that Cliff Walters from Sierra Northern, the company that currently operates freight service on the Union Pacific line, will present information regarding plans for future recreational rail service and bike carrying capabilities. Cory announced that two positions on the Bicycle Committee will expire in March of the coming year. She is working on re-appointments and soliciting applications for a few vacancies. She finally noted that elections for the Chair and Vice-Chair will take place in April. Chair Daniel Kostelec added that he won't be able to attend the February meeting and that this would be his last meeting due to retirement and his new part-time residence in Santa Fe. Members congratulated Daniel on his retirement and expressed gratitude for his exemplary service. Daniel requested that Vice-Chair David Casterson preside over the current meeting.

4. Oral Communications - Micah Posner announced that People Power is endorsing candidates David Casterson, Keresha Durham and John Howerton for the upcoming Sierra Club Executive Committee election. Peter Scott indicated that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) will act on the RTC's final rail acquisition funding allocation request at the January, 2011 meeting. Cory Caletti added the RTC had previously solicited letters of support for the funding request and mentioned that if members wished to send any additional letters, this would be an appropriate time. Micah Posner suggested that letters should focus on the rail acquisition and not the possibility of a bicycle/pedestrian trail adjacent to the rail line.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – Item 12 Pulled

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion (Fieberling/Kostelec) to approve items 6 through 11 passed unanimously.

6. Approved draft minutes of the October 18, 2010 Bicycle Committee meeting
7. Accepted Hazard Reports
8. Accepted Bicycle Committee Roster
9. Accepted letters from the Bicycle Committee to Caltrans regarding support for re-alignment of the Pacific Coast Bicycle Route within the City of Santa Cruz; and to the City of Santa Cruz Transportation Manager regarding recommended improvements to the Mission Street Extension Bike/Ped Path
10. Accepted copy of correspondence sent from Committee member Rick Hyman to the Governor's Office of Research and Planning regarding the draft "Update to the General Plan Guidelines: Complete Streets and the Circulation Element" document
11. Accepted 2011 State and Federal Legislative Programs
12. Approve Bikes Secure Parking Subsidy Program applications and request from Staff of Life and Goodwill Industries – *item was pulled*

REGULAR AGENDA

Pulled Item #12 – Micah Posner requested that the Committee consider approving the full number of racks requested by Staff of Life even though the 14 racks requested exceed the maximum limit of 8. The Bicycle Committee has the authority to approve such requests. Staff of Life hired People Power to assist them with appropriately locating bicycle parking facilities and providing other bicycle amenities. The health food store is expected to have a very high bicycle ridership patronage. After some discussion about the Bike Secure Program and the nature of past exemptions a motion (Kostelec/Scott) to approve the application for 14 bicycle racks for Staff of Life passed unanimously. Another motion (Kostelec/Scott) to approve the application for 6 bicycle racks for Goodwill also passed unanimously.

13. Discuss and approve 2011 Bicycle Committee Calendar – Cory Caletti presented the draft 2011 Bicycle Committee Calendar. She explained that some meeting dates fall on special days or holidays and requested Committee feedback. Members discussed the two meeting dates in question, Monday, February 14th (Valentine's Day) and October 10th, 2011 (Columbus Day Holiday). Members agreed that the February meeting should be rescheduled to the special date of Tuesday, February 15th and that the October meeting should be rescheduled to the following Monday, October 17th and that the later meeting be held at the City of Capitola as has been the tradition.

14. Receive *2010 Bicycle Safety Observation Study* and *2009 Bicyclist Injury and Fatality Report for Santa Cruz County* – Theresia Rogerson, Health Services Agency staff, presented two reports regarding bicycle related injuries in Santa Cruz County and observed riding practices. In May and June of 2010, with the help of volunteers, the Community Traffic Safety Coalition of the HSA, conducted a county-wide bike-safety observation study to evaluate the impact of educational efforts on cyclist's behavior. She compared data from this study with studies from previous years. Cory Caletti thanked Theresia for including data interpretation footnotes in the report as was previously requested by Bicycle Committee members. The *2009 Bicyclist Inquiry and Fatality Report* was also discussed. The report presents data provide by the California Highway Patrol. Theresia explained the methodology by which counties are ranked and indicated that the report now includes UCSC as a separate jurisdiction. Members suggested that rankings of similarly sized cities with high bicycle ridership numbers (such as Berkeley, Palo Alto, and Davis) be included in the future for better contextual analysis.
15. Ecology Action's Boltage Program – Piet Canin, Ecology Action Program Director, gave a presentation about the Boltage Program which uses a radio frequency identification reader that records children wearing tags as they pass through a detection area. The name of the child is recorded and associated trip length and bicycle or walking mode information is collected. The program is currently in place in 30 schools throughout the country. Locally, the program was kicked-off at Gault Elementary School in Santa Cruz as part of the Bike-to-Work/School Day event in October. The program is partially funded through the Monterey Bay Air Pollution Control District and supplemented through private sources. Piet presented the current statistics already recorded and the positive impact on the environment due to program participants. The Boltage program will expand to Starlight Elementary School in Watsonville in Spring 2011 with funding from the Pajaro Valley Community Trust, Specialized Bicycles and the Spokesman bicycle shop. Additional schools will be added as funding becomes available.
16. Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks: Oral Reports
 - a. City of Santa Cruz Project Tracking: Bill Fieberling indicated that the City of Santa Cruz's Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the City Transportation and Public Works Commission have ceased meeting. He provided an update regarding the Arana Gulch Master Plan and tasks to be completed prior to the California Coastal Commission's reconsideration; the planned Branciforte Creek underpass study to close the river way path gap at the Soquel bridge; and the U shape ramp planned to connect the Boardwalk to the west side of the San Lorenzo River.
 - b. City of Capitola Project Tracking: Daniel Kostelec said that restriping of the City's bike lanes began in the fall and that the project will include re-alignment of the centerline on Wharf Road. The Public Works Director also wanted to inform the Committee that parking will be removed on one side of 38th Avenue in order to provide a bicycle lane. Daniel said that work has slowed due to the acquisition of the right-of-way necessary to complete the project. Daniel informed members that he will not be working for the City of Capitola after 12/31/10 and will not reapply to serve on the Bicycle Committee. He thanked members saying that he enjoyed serving on the Committee.
 - c. City of Scotts Valley Project Tracking: Lex Rau indicated that no new capital projects are underway in the City of Scotts Valley. The City's draft Bicycle Plan is being updated and will be presented to the Committee in February, 2011.
 - d. City of Watsonville Project Tracking: Brandon Kett announced that bicycle lanes were added back into the Manabe Ow project when it was approved by the City of Watsonville City Council.

- e. County of Santa Cruz Project Tracking: No report was given.
- f. Bike-to-Work Update: Piet Canin announced that the 24th annual spring Bike Week will be held May 9th to 15th, 2011.
- g. CTSC and the South County Bike/Pedestrian Work Group Update: Theresia Rogerson said that CTSC along with the South County Bike/Pedestrian Work Group is working on developing an inexpensive media campaign designed for bicycle/pedestrian safety. She said that she is soliciting a volunteer or intern for digital media assistance from UCSC and Cabrillo. Theresia said that the Ride 'n Stride education program has, thus far, provided 29 presentations at 13 schools, reaching 1000 children.
- h. UCSC: Cathy Crowe reported that a bicycle ride was offered through UCSC's recreation department to promote safe bike riding. Approximately 15 students participated despite rainy conditions. Another ride is scheduled for February. Piet Canin mentioned that Ecology Action, with assistance from the Transportation and Parking Services department, distributed 100 bicycle lights to students riding on the UCSC bike path prior to the end of daylight savings time.
- i. Legislative Tracking: Leo Jed met with Andy Ward, Rachel Moriconi and Cory Caletti of the RTC to review the state and federal legislative agendas for 2011.
- j. Sanctuary Scenic Trail: Cory indicated that the East Cliff Drive bike/pedestrian pathway project between 41st Avenue and 27th Avenue is due to go to construction in the Spring of 2011 and that the segment had been preliminarily identified as part of the core segment of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail.
- k. Committee Effectiveness: The RTC started a quarterly *Transportation Café* program to be aired on Community TV in order to highlight Commission activities. Cory and Veronica Else, an Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee member, were interviewed recently regarding bicycle and pedestrian programs and projects. She will inform members when the program and future programs will air.
- l. Technical Subcommittee: No report was given.
- m. Bicyclist/Motorist Safety Education: No report was given.
- n. RTC Packet Monitoring Subcommittee: No report was given.
- o. Safe Routes to School: Eric Horton, via an email to Cory Caletti, reported that bicycle parking facility improvements at Rio del Mar Elementary School are in process but that school administrators have not yet approved the concrete pad.

17. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for the **Special Meeting Date of Tuesday, February 15, 2011** at the **Special Meeting Time of 6:30 p.m.** at the RTC office, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:

Cathy Judd, Administrative Assistant II and Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner