



## Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's

### BICYCLE COMMITTEE

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#### Minutes - Draft

**Tuesday, February 15, 2011 6:30 p.m. (special date and time)**

**SCCRTC Office - 1523 Pacific Ave; Santa Cruz CA 95060**

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions

**Members Present:**

Kem Akol, District 1  
David Casterson, District 2, Vice Chair  
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz  
Eric Horton, District 2 (Alt.)  
Rick Hyman, District 5  
Leo Jed, CTSC (Alt.)  
Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)  
Lex Rau, Scotts Valley (Alt.)  
Peter Scott, District 3  
Andy Ward, City of Capitola (Alt.)

**Vacancies:**

District 4 – Alternate  
District 5 – Alternate  
City of Watsonville – Alternate  
Bike to Work – Alternate

**Unexcused Absences:**

Bob Montague, City of Watsonville

**Excused Absences:**

Brandon Kett, District 4  
Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)  
Jim Langley, CTSC  
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Chair  
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley

**Guests:**

Cathy Crowe, UC Santa Cruz  
Katie DeClerg, Member of the public  
Cheryl Schmitt, City of Santa Cruz  
Cliff Walters, Sierra Northern Railway  
Nick Mucha, Bike-to-Work

**Staff:**

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner

3. Announcements - Cory Caletti shared information about a goodbye/retirement party for out-going Chair Daniel Kostelec scheduled for Sunday, March 13, at Will Menchine's home. The Commission will present Mr. Kostelec with a Certificate of Appreciation at the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Three-year terms on the Bicycle Committee will expire in March and Ms. Caletti is processing appointment requests. Adoption scheduling for the Capitola Bicycle Plan prohibited staff bringing the plan back to the Bicycle Committee for further review. Committee members' comments and feedback were addressed in the plan. Bicycle Plans for all jurisdictions will be posted on the RTC's new website.
4. Oral Communications - Cheryl Schmitt gave an overview of the Mission Street Extension project noting that the \$50,000 in allocated Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds are insufficient to complete the project. The City of Santa Cruz will apply for a Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grant to implement additional improvements as recommended by the Bicycle Committee. The TDA funds will serve as a match for the BTA grant.

Peter Scott said that he talked to Tegan Speiser about the new RTC website and the Bike Hazard page. Cory Caletti added that features for the online submission form are being developed. Uploading photographs and dropping a pin on a map to indicate the exact location of a hazard will likely be available. Launch of the new website is scheduled for April 2011.

5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda - Cory Caletti addressed an update to Item 13 which addressed the Bicycle Committee schedule for the remainder of the calendar year. A change was needed for the April meeting and members agreed to hold the next meeting on the special date of Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion (Scott/Fieberling) to approve the consent agenda passed unanimously.

6. Approved draft minutes of the December 13, 2010 Bicycle Committee meeting
7. Accepted Hazard Reports
8. Accepted Bicycle Committee Roster
9. Accepted letter to Caltrans regarding RTC certification of the 2011 City of Capitola Bicycle Transportation Plan
10. Accepted Bicycle Transportation Account grant application acceptance notice
11. Accepted Bikes Secure/Bicycle Parking Subsidy Program grant extension request letter to the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District
12. Accepted miscellaneous correspondence regarding items of potential interest
13. Accepted 2011 Bicycle Committee meeting schedule

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

14. Sierra Northern Railway's preliminary plans for recreational rail service and bicycle accommodations – Cliff Walters of Sierra Northern discussed preliminary plans for recreational service on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. Service will be ADA compliant and will accommodate bicycles. Wilder Ranch and Four Mile Beach being considered as the northern terminus points at this point in time. Cliff addressed the rail purchase being contingent on recreational rail service provision and indicated that service from the yacht harbor to Davenport has been approved. Members raised questions about passenger service, track clean up, track safety, how tickets would be sold, and planned crossing improvements. Cliff also discussed the possibility of a multi-use trail adjacent to the rail line and indicated Sierra Northern's support for such a project. He mentioned that a well designed trail would enhance user safety and provide good accessibility for law enforcement, as well as being a great community asset. He stressed the importance of good planning at the onset since moving tracks is costly and suggested that a split trail be considered for certain segments. Drainage is an important issue to plan for and he suggested the trail be designed to allow proper runoff.
15. Review the City of Scotts Valley Bicycle Transportation Plan's project list – Cory Caletti introduced the item and indicated that the City of Scotts Valley is in the process of updating the Bicycle Transportation Plan. The plan may be submitted for this year's Bicycle Transportation Account funding cycle or may be delayed until next year. Majid Yamin, City Engineer, is working on the draft plan and presented the project list. He indicated that the full draft plan would be presented at a later date. He went on to discuss each proposed project and identified Glen Canyon Road from Camp Evers Park to

Green Hills Road as the City's highest priority bicycle project. He also addressed details and assigned priorities of each project listed. Members recommended some changes such as assigning a lower priority for project #7, Glenwood Drive from Casa Way to the City limit. Additional re-prioritizations were discussed as was adding the Santa Cruz County Bicycle Signage Program to the project lists. A motion (Hyman/Rau) to write a letter of support for the City of Scotts Valley's BTA application for Phase II of the Glen Canyon project passed unanimously. Members were asked to submit additional comments on the project list directly to Majid by February 18th.

16. Update on City of Scotts Valley's upcoming bicycle projects – Majid Yamin, City Engineer, addressed this item in conjunction with Item 15.
17. Request for Letter of Support from the City of Capitola for a Bicycle Transportation Account Grant Application for \$147,500 for Video Detection System and Bicycle Parking – Derek Johnson, City of Capitola Community Development Director, reported that the Capitola Bicycle Plan was approved by City Council at their February board meeting and the Council authorized the City to submit a BTA application for \$147,500 for video detection system and bicycle parking in Capitola Village. He said that the City plans to remove parking meters in Capitola Village and replace them with pay stations. Details of bicycle parking locations as well as functionality of video detection systems for traffic light actuation were discussed. A motion (Scott/Ward) to write a letter of support for the City of Capitola Bicycle Transportation Account Grant carried unanimously.
18. Draft Update to the Monterey Bay Public Participation Plan- Cory Caletti, RTC Senior Transportation Planner, gave an overview of the Draft Monterey Bay Area Public Participation Plan indicating that the RTC has been working on the plan in conjunction with the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG), as well as San Benito and Monterey Counties. AMBAG is required by state and federal mandates to periodically update the Public Participation Plan, to address how the public may participate in planning projects and to discuss how greenhouse gas emission mandates will be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan. The Draft Plan is available for review and comments are due by March 30<sup>th</sup>. Key sections such as those outlining outreach strategies currently in use and potential new strategies were provided in the packet. Cory suggested that Bicycle Committee members provide feedback by the deadline.
19. Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks: Oral Reports
  - a. City of Santa Cruz Project Tracking: Members discussed the BTA grant application request for Mission Street Extension improvements that the City of Santa Cruz is submitting. Cory informed members that proposed improvements are based on recommendations made by the Bicycle Committees' technical subcommittee. Should the City's grant application be successful, design plans will be provided for Bicycle Committee review prior to construction. A motion (Fieberling/Ward) to send a letter of support in favor of the City of Santa Cruz BTA Grant Application for the Mission Street Extension Improvement project passed unanimously. Rick Hyman said that the City of Santa Cruz is also planning a new 32 home housing project at Market/Isabel Street that will impact cyclists. He described specific issues and told members that the plan is going to the City Council on March 6. Members discussed possible amendments to the current traffic proposal that would make bicycle travel safer. A motion was made (Jed/Fieberling) to send a letter to the City of Santa Cruz City Council asking for bicycle facility improvements to facilitate safe travel in both directions. The motion included a request for the City and developer to analyze improvements to the entire corridor in conjunction with the development. The motion passed unanimously.

Rick Hyman also brought attention to the bicycle licensing ordinance that the City of Santa Cruz is considering amending. Local jurisdictions are allowed by state law to require licenses but the practice is not uniformly applied in California making for a confusing situation for cyclists who are unaware of applicable local laws. Rick sent a letter to the City asking that the program be changed to be optional. A motion was made (Jed/Scott) to send a letter to the Santa Cruz City Council requesting that the City consider an optional licensing program and to request that ITAC review the ordinances for regional coordination and recommend optional programs in the jurisdictions which currently have mandatory programs. The motion passed.

- b. City of Capitola Project Tracking: Derek Johnson said that the City of Capitola is kicking off development of its General Plan on February 16. He indicated that the circulation element will focus on a Complete Streets approach with sustainable growth and design being a major component. He also mentioned that an analysis is in the works for transforming 41<sup>st</sup> into a more bike friendly corridor. The City is also very interested in pursuing a multi-use path adjacent to the rail line once the RTC has complete purchase of the facility. Derek reported that the City finished a study for a parking structure behind City Hall and information about the report as well as the General Plan is available on the City's website. In response to a member question, Derek will check with the Public Works Director, Steve Jesberg, regarding the 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue project and forward information to Cory.
- c. City of Scotts Valley Project Tracking: Discussed previously during the meeting.
- d. City of Watsonville Project Tracking: No report given.
- e. County of Santa Cruz Project Tracking: No report given.
- f. Bike-to-Work Update: Nick Mucha told members that a Bike-to-Work e-newsletter campaign is underway.
- g. CTSC and the South County Bike/Pedestrian Work Group Update: A summary report was briefly provided regarding education and outreach efforts conducted since the last meeting.
- h. UCSC: No report given
- i. Legislative Tracking: No report given.
- j. Sanctuary Scenic Trail: No report given.
- k. Committee Effectiveness: No report given.
- l. Technical Subcommittee: No report given.
- m. Bicyclist/Motorist Safety Education: No report given.
- n. RTC Packet Monitoring Subcommittee: No report given.
- o. Safe Routes to School: No report given.

20. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for the **Special Meeting Date of Tuesday, April 4, 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