



Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's BICYCLE COMMITTEE

Minutes - FINAL

Monday, February 13, 2012
6:30 p.m.

SCCRTC Office
1523 Pacific Ave
Santa Cruz CA 95060

1. Call to Order at 6:33 pm
2. Introductions

Members Present:

Kem Akol, District 1
David Casterson, District 2, Chair
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz
Rick Hyman, District 5
Leo Jed, CTSC (Alt.)
Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)
Lex Rau, Scotts Valley
Peter Scott, District 3
Holly Tyler, District 1 (Alt.)
Andy Ward, City of Capitola
Nick Mucha, Ecology Action/Bike-to-Work

Vacancies:

District 4 – Voting
District 5 – Alternate
City of Watsonville – Voting and Alternate
City of Capitola – Alternate

Staff:

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner
Kim Shultz, Senior Transportation Planner
Grace Blakeslee, Transportation Planner
Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner

Unexcused Absences:

Shahe Moutafian, District 4 (Alt.)

Excused Absences:

Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley (Alt.)
Eric Horton, District 2 (Alt.)
Jim Langley, CTSC

Guests:

Daniel Kostelec, Resident
Steph Nelson, AMBAG
Majid Yamin, City of Scotts Valley
Jack Sohriakoff, County of Santa Cruz
Steve All, Resident
Suzanne Sarro, Nolte Vertical Five

3. Announcements - Cory Caletti, RTC staff, provided the following announcements: 1) Brandon Kett, District 4 voting member, resigned; 2) vacancies now exist for seats representing District 4 (voting), District 5 (alternate), City of Capitola (alternate), and City of Watsonville (voting and alternate); 3) a number of seats expire in March of this year and staff is working on reappointments as well as recruiting new

members from the South County region in particular; 4) the Bike Secure parking subsidy program is on hold pending consideration of a grant extension request submitted to the Air District; 5) the 2012 California Manual of Uniform Control Devices (MUTCD) now allows wider use of the Shared Lane Pavement Markings (sharrows) and use of the Bikes May Use Full Lane signs; and 6) re-election of the Chair and Vice-Chair positions is scheduled for the April meeting.

4. Oral Communications – Andy Ward announced that Kathy Trissell, long time owner of the Sprockets Bicycle Shop and supporter of the bicycle community, passed away after a long battle with cancer. RTC staff will send a sympathy card on the Committee's behalf and will provide information on the planned memorial. Majid Yamin, Traffic Engineer for the City of Scotts Valley, thanked the Bike Committee for the letter of appreciation for the City's installation of sharrows.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agenda – Leo Jed asked to pull item #9. Chair Casterson moved item #9 to item #18a on the regular agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

6. Approved draft minutes of the November 14, 2011 Bicycle Committee meeting
7. Accepted Summary of Bicycle Hazard Reports
8. Accepted Bicycle Committee Roster
9. Pulled and re-assigned as item #18a - Accept letter from Caltrans to concerned citizen regarding Highway 1 speed limits and plans for rumble strip installation from Western Drive to Swanton Road
10. Accepted letter from RTC staff requesting extension of the Bike Secure grant funding from the Monterey Bay Air Pollution Control District
11. Accepted letter from Caltrans regarding call for applications for the Safe Routes to School Program
12. Accepted letter from the Bicycle Committee regarding reauthorization of the federal transportation act and inclusion of dedicated funding for Transportation Enhancement and Safe Routes to School programs
13. Accepted letter from the Bicycle Committee to City of Scotts Valley Public Works Director for placement of Shared Roadway Pavement Markings

REGULAR AGENDA

14. Monterey Bay Area Bicycle Travel Demand Modeling Project Data Collection Efforts Update – An oral presentation was provided by Steph Nelson, AMBAG Associate Analyst and Ginger Dykaar, RTC Transportation Planner on the Monterey Bay Area Travel Demand Model, its objectives, and data collection efforts including the cycletracks smart phone app and bike counts. Bike commute data is being drawn from the cycletrack app. Maps of bike count locations proposed by AMBAG's consultant were distributed and members were asked to identify additional locations that should be considered. Ms. Nelson also noted that between the three counties, a total of 40-50 counts would be conducted and about 15 of those will be in Santa Cruz County.

15. *Draft 2010 City of Scotts Valley Bicycle Transportation Plan and Project Updates* – Presentation from Majid Yamin, City Traffic Engineer. Cory Caletti summarized the staff report Mr. Yamin thanked the City of Capitola's former intern, Ariana Green, who drafted the original plan after which Scotts Valley's was modeled. He also thanked RTC staff for extensive assistance. The project list, was discussed, as were possible projects for which the City of Scotts Valley may submit a Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) application. Glen Canyon Road bicycle lanes were mentioned as a possibility since the project was identified last year and the Bike Com voted to submit a letter of support at that time. Mr. Yamin also discussed a navigational problem from Mt Hermon to El Rancho in the City of Scotts Valley that a Bike Committee member identified. Mr. Yamin indicated that this location is within Caltrans' right-of-way. Holly Tyler, Lex Rau, and possibly Gary Milburn and Rick Hyman, agreed to meet with Mr. Yamin on site and brainstorm some recommendations with signage to facilitate navigation down El Rancho being a possibility. Staff was asked to agendize the discussion for the April meeting.
16. Update on Highway 1 Morrissey to Soquel Auxiliary Lanes project and Bicycle Committee recommendations, and Highway 1 Chanticleer Overcrossing Preliminary Design – An oral report was presented by Kim Shultz, RTC Senior Transportation Planner, and Suzanne Sarro, Consultant Design Engineer regarding the Hwy 1 Chanticleer Overcrossing. Ms. Sarro detailed design issues related to the bridge including its classification mandates to design to a 25 mile/hour travel speed, the right-of-way required for such a structure, the prohibitive and invasive features of such a structure, as well as the "design exception" that may have to be sought from Caltrans, to reduced project costs and the amount of right-of-way required. While members did not object to "switchbacked" ramps, concern was expressed for any design that requires cyclists to dismount. Members expressed concern that the design as shown offered awkward access to the ramp from the Chanticleer/Soquel intersection for cyclists coming from the south legs of the intersection. Mr. Sohriakoff, Mr. Shultz, and Ms. Sarro pointed out that access will be awkward for at least one movement for most of the design. Ms. Sarro will consider the comments and investigate a few other suggestions mentioned such as including a stairway for pedestrians and an approximate cost of an undercrossing instead.

Mr. Shultz provided a status report on the current Hwy 1 Morrissey to Soquel Auxiliary Lanes project and summarized responses to the bicycle committee's previous recommendations (see November 14, 2011 packet, pages 16-18). He indicated that 1) the pathway between La Fonda & Park Way, including curb cuts at Park Way, will be improved; 2) a curb cut at the northwest corner of Fairmont and Morrissey will be included pending Caltrans confirmation of adequate right-of-way; 3) the La Fonda/Soquel intersection has detection loops and cameras and no problems have been identified; 4) City of Santa Cruz's Public Works and Police Departments will closely monitor traffic when the LaFonda bridge is down and respond as needed, with modification to signal timing and/or traffic control during peak periods; 5) the student shuttle project is being pursued to include bicycle carrying capability; 6) and the "Recommended Guidelines to Protect Safety of Bicyclists, Pedestrians, and Disabled Traversers during Road Construction" has been forwarded to the Construction Engineer to be shared with the contractor and enforced. Additionally, he noted that the City claims insufficient street width prohibits the installation of bicycle lanes on Goss Ave, Gilbert, Rooney, Morrissey and La Fonda but that sharrows will be considered. Finally, he noted that the two-

way bicycle access on Brookwood Drive proposal has been discussed at length with Caltrans, the City of Santa Cruz and the County of Santa Cruz Public Works Departments as well as the City of Santa Cruz Police Department and City Manager. Due to a number of prohibitive issues, the proposal is unlikely to be implemented at the current time but a more formal response will be provided to the RTC and will be forwarded to the Bicycle Committee. After some discussion, a motion was made (Hyman/Akol) to write a letter to the Santa Cruz City Council requesting bicycle lanes on Rooney Street between Elk Street and Pacheco Avenue/Morrissey Boulevard. The motion passed unanimously.

17. Article 8 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claim and Project Updates from the County of Santa Cruz – Jack Sohriakoff, Senior Civil Engineer for the County Public Works Department, and Cory Caletti presented the TDA claims. Mr. Sohriakoff described bicycle/pedestrian safety improvements planned for Calabazas Road in the vicinity of Calabazas School. He also summarized the bicycle lane maintenance request and noted that the Board of Supervisors ruled that TDA funds be distributed throughout the supervisorial districts based on total number of road miles. Additionally, Mr. Sohriakoff agreed to replace the “Share the Road” signs on the Aptos bridge approaches where sharrows are stenciled with “Bikes May Use Full Lane” signs. Finally, he indicated that Soquel Drive is scheduled for a full overlay from State Park Drive to Porter Gulch Road. In response to previous requests from Bicycle Committee members, the segment in front of Cabrillo College will be stenciled with inside and outside bicycle lanes so that a division is demarcated between the parking spaces and bicycle travel zones. A motion was made (Hyman/Fieberling) to recommend that the RTC approve the County’s TDA allocation claim. Members also requested that the County provide an update within the next 4-6 months on the costs allocated for each category of bike maintenance tasks (bike lane re-striping vs. minor repairs vs sweeping, etc). The motion passed unanimously.
18. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Sustainability Framework and Regional Complete Streets Initiative – Grace Blakeslee, RTC Senior Transportation Planner provided a presentation summarizing the staff report and progress towards adoption of the 2014 RTP. She discussed the role of a sustainable framework within the RTP and indicated that she would return in April with a list of draft goals and policies for the Bicycle Committee to review.
- 18a. Pulled from Consent Agenda (formerly item #9) - Accept letter from Caltrans to concerned citizen regarding Highway 1 speed limits and plans for rumble strip installation from Western Drive to Swanton Road. Leo Jed requested that the item be agendaized for the April 9th Bicycle Committee meeting, addressed wide-ranging concerns regarding the impacts of rumble strips to the comfort and safety of bicycling, and asked that staff provide background information on the project at the next meeting. He indicated that he spoke with Caltrans’ project manager and implementation is not planned for 6-12 months. He, Jim Langely, Lex Rau, and Kem Akol indicated interest in forming a subcommittee to search this issue further. Leo Jed indicated that Piet Canin is also interested.
19. Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks: Oral Reports
 - a. City of Santa Cruz Project Tracking: Bill Fieberling indicated that the Coastal Commission approved the Arana Gulch Master Plan and that the City of Santa

Cruz is taking steps to bring the project to construction by working to meet the Coastal Commission's conditions.

- b. City of Capitola Project Tracking: No update was provided.
- c. City of Scotts Valley project Tracking: The Vine Hill Road bike lane project was completed and vegetation was trimmed back on Green Hills Road.
- d. City of Watsonville Project Tracking: No update was provided.
- e. County of Santa Cruz Project Tracking: Covered as part of earlier item.
- f. Bike to Work Update: This spring marks the 25th anniversary of the Bike to Work event. Bike Week is scheduled for May 6th through May 12th.
- g. CTSC and the South County Bike/Pedestrian Work Group Update: No update was provided.
- h. UCSC: No update was provided.
- i. Legislative Tracking: Leo Jed indicated that there are plans for a 3-foot passing law to be re-introduced in the legislature this year.
- j. Sanctuary Scenic Trail: Cory Caletti reported that the first set of public workshops were attended by over 200 members of the public and good feedback was received on the opportunities and constraints maps shown. Rick Hyman requested a dedicated Bicycle Committee meeting to receive information about the project's planning efforts and to review the maps in greater detail. Staff indicated that an appropriate time for such a presentation is after the Draft Plan will be released and that staff resources are not available to dedicate an extra meeting to such an exercise at this point in time. Ms. Caletti did note that the maps are available online and that Committee members may provide feedback, either individually or through the Technical Subcommittee.
- k. Technical Subcommittee: No report was provided.
- l. Bicyclist/Motorist Safety Education: No report was provided.
- m. RTC Packet Monitoring Subcommittee: No report was provided.
- n. Safe Routes to School: Cory Caletti mentioned that a concrete pad was poured at Rio Del Mar Elementary School and that the approved bike racks will be installed shortly.

20. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 9th, 2012 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:

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner

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