

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chairperson Walton in Auditorium, Building A, VTA, 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Cheryl Bunnell	City of Milpitas	Absent
Bruce Entin	Town of Los Gatos	Absent
Chris Fernandez	County of Santa Clara	Present
Carl Hagenmaier	City of Los Altos	Present
Nancy Gintzon	Town of Los Altos Hills	Present
Jerri-Ann Meyer	City of Mountain View	Present
Thomas Muniz	City of Gilroy	Present
Marian Sacco	City of Morgan Hill	Absent
David Simons	City of Sunnyvale	Present
Jim Stallman	City of Saratoga	Present
John Sullivan	City of Santa Clara	Present
Richard Swent	City of Palo Alto	Present
Herman Wadler	City of Cupertino	Present
Joseph Walton	City of Cupertino	Present
Corinne Winter	SVBC	Absent
Jana Zavala	City of San Jose	Absent

A quorum was present.

2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no Public Presentations.

4. **Committee Staff Report**

Michelle DeRobertis, Senior Transportation Planner, reported the following:

- There will be an Orientation for Members who have been appointed in the last 12-18 months on May 2009. Other Members are welcome to participate;
- Staff met with Chairperson Walton and Vice Chairperson Stallman and discussed the following: No Bike Left Behind Subcommittee, Complete Streets, Trails Status Update, Funding for Pedestrian Improvements on Expressways, Potential Guest Speakers at BPAC Meetings, Project Monitoring and Delivery, BART/SVRT Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues, and bike accommodation on New Bus Purchase;
- Staff conducted a press release for the Bicycle E-lockers;
- BRT Strategic Plan will be forwarded to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for review;
- The 2009 Bicycle Expenditure Plan (BEP) Project List will be updated to include the Page Mill/I-280 Interchange Improvement Project. As a result, Project B28 - McKean Road Shoulder Improvement Project will be underfunded;
- Transit to Trails Magazine will be available at VTA and Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) energizer stations on Bike to Work Day; and
- The BART Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is now available for public comment. There are currently 17 streets that cross the right-of-way. All will be grade separated in the future with the exception of Able and Calaveras and North of Tradezone Boulevard.

Member Simons referred to the Member Orientation and suggested VTA have a regular schedule of Orientation for new members in the future.

Vice Chairperson Stallman referred to the BART Project and suggested staff contact the Cities of Milpitas and San Jose to ensure they are aware of the potential crossing issues. He noted of ensuring compliance to Routine Accommodations to roadway projects.

- **Highway Program Update**

There was no Highway Program Update.

- **Conditions of Approval Update**

There was no Conditions of Approval Update.

- **County Report**

Dan Collen, Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department, reported the ongoing efforts within the Santa Clara County Counsel's Office regarding a potential change to the Parade Ordinances to deal with special events such as the Tour of California. He suggested the proposed changes to be reviewed by BPAC.

5. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Walton reported the following:

- The Flat Tyre Newsletter announced the opening of the Mary Avenue Bridge on April 30, 2009;
- He made the following suggestions to Corinne Winter, SVBC: a) conduct a VTA sponsored SVBC countywide study of bicycle and pedestrian accidents in the last five years to determine factors that lead to the accident and preventive measures that could be taken to avoid accidents; and b) conduct a VTA sponsored SVBC Bicycle Education and Training for children and Bicycle Safety Refresher Courses for Adults; and
- He suggested VTA to include a bicycle safety information in its website and requested staff to agendize the topic for discussion next month.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Minutes of March 11, 2009

M/S/C (Simons/Stallman) to approve the Minutes of March 11, 2009.

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Advisory Committee Enhancement Update: April

Jennie Loft, Public Information Officer, reported the Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) Task Force selected the following as the top three priorities: 1) include Advisory Committee vote and major comments and concerns to all Board Memos; 2) Advisory Committees should be able to submit for Board consideration future trends or future areas of concern; and 3) Advisory Committees should review and provide input to projects/issues earlier in the process. The fourth ACE Task Force will meet on April 29, 2009, 11:30 a.m. and will discuss the possible strategies for the identified priorities. Board Vice Chairperson Liccardo will be in attendance at that meeting.

On order of Chairperson Walton and there being no objection, the Committee received a brief update on the status and progress of the ACE Process to date.

8. BPAC Advisory Committee Enhancement (ACE) Subcommittee Report

Member Simons reported the low priorities at the ACE Task Force are: 1) proposal to combine the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC); and 2) Put term limits for all Advisory Committees with the exception of CAC.

Vice Chairperson Stallman referred to the timing of Committee reviews to projects/issues and expressed concern the BART EIS and the New Bus Procurement were not brought to BPAC for review. Members Ginzton and Wadler noted BPAC can provide input on bike accommodation on the new buses.

Ying Smith, Transportation Planning Manager and Staff Liaison, noted BPAC's focus are bicycle and pedestrian issues. However, the Committee can comment on bike connection and accommodation in buses. She added the public can make comment on the BART EIS during the public comment period.

Paul Goldstein, SVBC and Interested Citizen, commented there should be more education on the distinct responsibilities and functions of each Advisory Committees.

On order of Chairperson Walton and there being no objection, the Committee received the BPAC ACE Subcommittee Report.

9. Regional Transit-Oriented Bike Share Pilot Program Update

Ms. DeRobertis noted John Brazil from the City of San Jose indicated the City remains interested in the Bike Sharing Pilot program with Diridon Station as a possible site. VTA does not have the actual cost of the study to date. To reduce costs, VTA staff will be the prime consultant for the study and will focus on market study, bike sharing models evaluation, and determination of funding partners.

On order of Chairperson Walton and there being no objection, the Committee received the Bike Sharing Pilot Program Update.

10. BPAC Over and Under Tour - Bike to Work Week Event

Member Meyer noted the objective of this Tour is to provide awareness to the public about the existing and new bicycle facilities available. She requested volunteers help plan the route and act as a liaison for their respective cities.

Chairperson Walton, Members Simons, Sullivan, and Stallman volunteered.

Member Simons requested staff provide the Tour route to the VTA website, if possible.

11. Report from the Traffic Safe Communities Network

Travis Smith, Santa Clara County Public Health Department Bicycle and Pedestrian Working Group, discussed the Traffic Safe Communities Network. He noted elementary and middle schools can apply for the 2009-2010 Traffic Safety Mini-Grant. Up to \$3,500

can be awarded to schools for projects that will encourage its students to either bike or walk to school.

Upon inquiry of Member Simons, Mr. Smith responded the grant is limited to public schools at this time. Member Simons suggested coordination with private schools in the future.

Member Swent commented traffic conditions and driver behaviors affect the decision whether to bike or walk to school. He noted public schools need more assistance and added there are creative and technological ways to encourage students to bike or walk to school.

On order of Chairperson Walton and there being no objection, the Committee received the report on the Traffic Safe Communities Network.

12. County Roads Capital Projects Update

Mr. Collen announced the following:

- The Capitol Expressway Pavement Rehabilitation Project between Highway 87 and Seven Trees Boulevard opened for bids on March 26, 2009 and received 18 bids. The lowest bid was 23 percent below engineer's estimate.
- Oregon-Page Mill Expressway Pavement Repair and Foothill Expressway Loyola Bike Pedestrian Improvements Projects bid openings are scheduled for April 9, 2009 and target award date for both contracts is slated on May 5, 2009.

OTHER

13. BPAC Work Plan

Ms. DeRobertis noted the Funding strategies for County Expressways and Bike Capacity on Buses will be discussed in May 2009. She informed the Committee VTA submitted a \$200,000 grant application to Caltrans to enhance the Complete Streets Program.

Vice Chairperson Stallman inquired when the Highway Semi-Annual report will be forwarded to BPAC. He requested staff to invite Yves Zutty regarding connections of trails.

On order of Chairperson Walton and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Work Plan.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Meyer announced the Mountain View BPAC will organize the energizer station for Bike to Work Day and it will be at Downtown Mountain View Transit Center.

Member Simons announced the dedication of Sunnyvale's Borregas Avenue Bridge on April 22, 2009.

Member Swent noted the efforts to convert Park Boulevard into a Bike Boulevard. Palo Alto is also moving forward with the Sign Project with possible Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 funding.

Member Sullivan noted the Reach 3 of the San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail construction is expected to finish by the end of April 2009, with the ribbon cutting event slated for May 2009. Bids for the first part of Reach 4 (pedestrian path along San Tomas Expressway from Monroe to Cabrillo) have been received.

Member Muniz announced Gilroy's next BPAC meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2009.

Member Stallman noted the City of Saratoga's City Council will be presented with the updated Bike Map next week. The updated map includes Class 1 route proposals such as the Saratoga Creek Trail between Hakone Gardens and where Pierce Road meet Big Basin Way.

Chairperson Walton noted Cupertino will have two energizer stations on Bike to Work Day in front of Community Center and entrance to Mary Avenue Bridge.

15. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Walton and there being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine F. Baltao, Board Assistant
VTA Board of Directors