

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 7, 2010

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chairperson Simons in the Conference Room B104, VTA, 3331 North First Street, San Jose, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jim Bell	City of San Jose	Present
Ray Cosyn	City of Saratoga	Absent
Aaron Faupell	City of Milpitas	Absent
Carl Hagenmaier	City of Los Altos	Present
Breene Kerr	Town of Los Altos Hills	Present
Jerri-Ann Meyer	City of Mountain View	Present
Thomas Muniz	City of Gilroy	Present
Richard Ruh	City of Monte Sereno	Present
David Simons	City of Sunnyvale	Present
John Sullivan	City of Santa Clara	Absent
Richard Swent	City of Palo Alto	Present
Herman Wadler	City of Campbell	Present
James Wiant	City of Cupertino	Present
Erik Wilhelmsen	Town of Los Gatos	Absent
Corinne Winter	SVBC	N/A
Paul Goldstein	Alt Ex-Officio, SVBC	Present

A quorum was present.

2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

There were no Orders of the Day.

Member Wiant took his seat at 6:06 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

John Carpenter, Interested Citizen, referred to the High Speed Rail (HSR) Alternative Analysis and expressed concern that the alternatives will negatively impact the ease of use of the Mountain View and Palo Alto Caltrain stations for bicyclists. He added the public should be made aware of all Caltrain open and public meetings.

Jim Stallman, Interested Citizen, expressed concern regarding San Jose Airport bicycle and pedestrian issues including: “No Bikes Allowed” road signs, missing sidewalks, and wrong lane lines. He expressed interest in reviewing the Transportation Impact Analysis for the Airport.

4. **Committee Staff Report**

- **School-based Vehicle Emissions Reduction Program**

Celeste Fiore, Transportation Planner II, provided an overview of the draft Santa Clara County School-based Vehicle Emissions Reduction program including fund source and availability, program description and purposes, eligibility requirements evaluation criteria and procedures, and schedule. Ms. Fiore urged Members to forward their comments and suggestions to staff.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the following: minimum request for grant should be lowered from \$500,000 to \$250,000; and infrastructure improvements scoring on project readiness should be further evaluated. The Committee also expressed it will be better if there is coordination of funding.

- **Capital Program Update**

Michelle DeRobertis, Senior Transportation Planner, reported VTA, Air District, and the Counties of San Mateo and San Francisco will submit a consolidated Bike Share Proposal to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s Climate Initiative Grant Program. If the proposal is accepted, VTA will be able to procure more bikes for its Bike Share Pilot Program. Ms. DeRobertis noted the next Bike Share working group meeting will be next week.

- **County Report**

Dan Collen, Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department, introduced Steven Levin, the upcoming Santa Clara County representative to the BPAC.

On order of Chairperson Simons and there being no objection, the Committee received the Committee Staff Reports.

5. **Chairperson’s Report**

The Members introduced themselves and welcomed Mr. Levin. Mr. Levin noted he served on Santa Clara County’s Roads Commission for approximately seven years.

Some Members expressed concern regarding the impacts of reduced meeting frequency at their respective city’s Bicycle Advisory Committees. Members noted the methods they have used to mitigate these impacts.

Chairperson Simons expressed interest in creating a subcommittee to participate in HSR and BART public meetings. He requested interested Members to volunteer and contact him.

6. **BPAC Subcommittee Reports**

Member Hagenmaier took his seat at 6:37 p.m.

- **Santa Clara County Special Event Ordinance Subcommittee**

Chairperson Simons noted BPAC's action last year that empowered the BPAC County Special Event Ordinance Subcommittee to develop a recommendation to the County.

Alternate Ex-Officio Member Goldstein reported the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors met on June 22, 2010 and directed staff to revisit the ordinance and bring it back for action in August 2010. Alternate Ex-Officio Member Goldstein noted the main issues are: the Special Event Ordinance's language is confusing; it in effect regulates traffic as well as events; and there is no definition of "special event". Since then, at the request of the County, the subcommittee edited the document the County provided including a definition of "special event" that is consistent with the vehicle code. A copy of the subcommittee report and corrected draft ordinance were e-mailed to the Members and are available at the table. Alternate Ex-Officio Member Goldstein urged Members to forward their comments to the subcommittee upon their review of the subcommittee report and draft ordinance. He added there is great concern that if the originally written ordinance is passed, it will be a precedent for other cities or counties.

- **BPAC Bylaws Subcommittee**

Member Bell noted new BPAC Members should be given orientation to help them better understand the roles and responsibilities of BPAC. He solicited input from Members and requested them to send him e-mail regarding their suggested corrections to the BPAC Bylaws. Other Members expressed the following concerns regarding the BPAC bylaws: Article V, Section 5.4 Quorum, Vote, and Committee of the Whole; and changing the time or date of the meeting.

On order of Chairperson Simons and there being no objection, the Committee received the BPAC Subcommittee Reports.

CONSENT AGENDA

7. **Regular Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2010**

M/S/C (Wadler/Bell) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2010.

Upon inquiry of Vice Chairperson Meyer, Elaine Baltao, Board Assistant, responded that staff reviewed the recording of the May 12, 2010 meeting and determined that the minutes accurately reflected what was said. The recording was also sent to the County for their review and staff has not received any feedback from the County to date.

NOTE: M/S/C MEANS MOTION SECONDED AND CARRIED AND, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. 2010 CMA Block Grant Awards

Ms. Fiore provided an overview of the staff report. Ms. DeRobertis noted any project which receives Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) monies must keep the trails open 24 hours.

Ms. DeRobertis noted some Counties (e.g. Sonoma) assume responsibility for the operation of all bike paths in the County and they are open 24/7. Members asked if that could be done in Santa Clara County as well. Members noted trail operation hours is an important issue in Santa Clara County as each city has different set of rules, hence different operating hours. It was suggested there should be discussion with city staff who is applying for this grant funding. This will determine the existing rules and develop ways on how to initiate a policy review which could lead to opening trails 24/7.

M/S/C (Swent/Wadler) to recommend the 2010 CMA Block Grant program of projects that includes the Local Streets and Roads Program, Community Design and Transportation Program, and Bicycle Expenditure Program and forward to the VTA Board of Directors for approval.

OTHER

9. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and 2000 Measure A Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) Report

There was no CAC/CWC Report.

10. Local Jurisdiction Project Review Section

Member Bell referred to the San Fernando Bike Project and noted the draft design will be reviewed in August 2010.

Alternate Ex-Officio Goldstein reported Stanford University Hospital is asking for a major expansion which will include mitigation for congestion management, transit programs, parking programs, and bicycle undercrossing at Caltrain.

Vice Chairperson Meyer referred to Mountain View's BPAC discussion about the operating hours of the Stevens Creek and Permanente Creek Trail extensions. She noted their Committee was informed by the Mountain View City staff that these trails (including the bridge on both trails) are to be operated during park operating hours only as specified in the Mountain View Municipal Code. She solicited help from other Members as to how to approach this issue.

Member Muniz announced the Gilroy Bicycle Pedestrian Commission conditioned a large commercial project across Gilroy Foods plant to support bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. He stated the Police Department can also condition a project for safety reasons.

Member Kerr solicited ideas or suggestions on how to improve the condition of the 280/Page Mill Road/ Arastradero Road for bicyclists.

11. BPAC Work Plan

Ms. DeRobertis briefly discussed the following future agenda items: Bike Share Implementation Plan; and Update of Bike Technical Guidelines. Ms. DeRobertis also noted the Committee of Transit Accessibility's (CTA) request to hold a joint presentation/meeting.

On order of Chairperson Simons and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the BPAC Work plan.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chairperson Meyer noted Mountain View residents are pleased to have the Bus Line #34 stop at the senior center beginning July 12, 2010.

Member Muniz invited everyone to the Gilroy Garlic Festival.

Member Swent announced the second phase of the Charleston/Arastradero Corridor project will commence this summer.

Member Wiant reported the Cupertino City Council directed the city's Public Works Department last May 2010 to apply for Bicycle Friendly Community. He added the City of Cupertino released the Bicycle Transportation Plan to the public.

Member Wadler reported about 90 percent of City of Campbell's stoplights have countdown timers, except for those on railroad tracks.

Alternate Ex-Officio Goldstein reported Palo Alto had one response for their Bike and Pedestrian Plan Request for Proposal. Once approved, the work will begin in the next few months.

Chairperson Simons announced there were major changes in the Sunnyvale BPAC as many of its members were termed out.

13. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Simons and there being no objection, the Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine F. Baltao, Board Assistant
VTA Office of the Board Secretary