

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chairperson Brinsfield in Conference Room B-104, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), 3331 North First Street, San José, California.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
David Almeida	City of Gilroy	Absent
Jim Bell	City of San José	Absent
Wes Brinsfield, Chairperson	City of Los Altos	Present
Kristal Caidoy, Vice Chairperson	City of Milpitas	Present
Barry Chaffin	City of Monte Sereno	Absent
Paul Goldstein	City of Palo Alto	Present
Jesus Gomez	County of Santa Clara	Absent
Peter Hertan	Town of Los Gatos	Present
Breene Kerr	Town of Los Altos Hills	Present
Dale Schouten	City of Santa Clara	Present
Mary Seehafer	City of Morgan Hill	Absent
David Simons	City of Sunnyvale	Absent
Jim Stallman	City of Saratoga	Present
Herman Wadler	City of Campbell	Present
James Wiant	City of Cupertino	Present
<i>VACANT</i>	<i>City of Mountain View</i>	N/A
Colin Heyne	Ex-Officio, SVBC	Present
Shiloh Ballard	Alternate Ex-Officio, SVBC	Absent

A quorum was not present and a Committee of the Whole was declared.

2. ORDERS OF THE DAY

Chairperson Brinsfield introduced new Member Hertan who gave a brief introduction of himself. Mr. Hertan expressed his excitement about the formation of a BPAC in the Town of Los Gatos as well as being part of VTA's BPAC.

Vice Chairperson Caidoy arrived at 6:34 p.m.
and a quorum was established.

Member Goldstein expressed concern about the following: 1) items that were on the May 12, 2015 BPAC Agenda which were not acted upon because a quorum was not present; and 2) the BPAC mission statement not being on the Agenda. Stephen Flynn, Advisory Committee Coordinator, replied that the mission statement issue applies to all Advisory Committees, noting the reason why the mission statements were not on VTA's Advisory Committee Agendas. He indicated that the mission statements would appear on the Agendas in early 2016.

M/S/C (Goldstein/Wadler) to approve the Orders of the Day and Consent Agenda.

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Doug Muirhead, Interested Citizen, expressed concern with BPAC being excluded from the dynamic transit service pilot. He commented that there was a potential conflict with cyclists bringing their bicycles onto the buses.

Mark Chou, Interested Citizen, expressed concern with bike safety at the new Almaden Expressway/State Route 85 interchange. He commented that he was looking for votes to take the issue to Caltrans and other agencies to get funding, so it is a safer intersection for bicyclists and pedestrian. Mr. Chou expressed concern that the issue was not on the Agenda even though he sent an email in June 2015 requesting that the issue be agendized and again a few days ago.

Member Stallman requested that the issue be agendized as an information item. Chairperson Brinsfield clarified that it would be addressed as part of the Santa Clara County Staff Report.

Richard Coolman, Chairman of the San José BPAC, introduced himself.

The Agenda was taken out of order.

12. Santa Clara County Staff Report

Dawn Cameron, Santa Clara County Roads and Airports, explained that the Almaden Expressway/State Route 85 interchange is not a Santa Clara County (County) project. The builder applied for an encroachment permit with the County and other agencies.

Ms. Cameron introduced Masoud Akbarzadeh, County Traffic Engineer, who clarified that the intersection of concern belongs to Caltrans. The intersection meets and exceeds all guidelines for safety and there is ample time for bicycles to cross the road safely. The County has plans to approach Caltrans encouraging them to install a sign warning vehicles making a right turn of bicycles. Mr. Akbarzadeh acknowledged the potential problem where bicycles and cars are mixed between the Almaden Expressway/State Route 85 interchange and turning into the shopping center. The complication with this area is that there are three agencies involved (City of San José, Santa Clara County, and Caltrans) and each have a say in what happens in the intersection. The County has identified some enhancements involving signage, striping, and shoulder buffering that will be implemented.

Ms. Cameron provided a report highlighting the following: 1) there is no new information on the Stanford trail; and 2) will inquire with the responsible agency if there will be a ribbon cutting event for Loyola.

On order of Chairperson Brinsfield and there being no objection, the Committee received the Santa Clara County Staff Report.

4. Update on Envision Silicon Valley

Melissa Cerezo, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an update on Envision Silicon Valley, highlighting: 1) the goals and strategies; 2) evaluation criteria per stakeholder input; 3) basic requirements for each project submitted; 4) VTA will be sponsoring some projects; and 5) polling of likely voters shows support for multi-modal projects.

On order of Chairperson Brinsfield and there being no objection, the Committee received an update on Envision Silicon Valley.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2015

M/S/C (Goldstein/Wadler) to approve of the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2015.

6. Receive the County Workshop Meeting Summary of June 10, 2015

M/S/C (Goldstein/Wadler) to receive the County Workshop Meeting Summary of June 10, 2015.

7. Receive the Development Review Quarterly Report for April - June 2015

M/S/C (Goldstein/Wadler) to receive the Development Review Quarterly Report for April to June 2015.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Receive the One Bay Area Cycle 2 Program Development Information

Marcella Rensi, Transportation Planning Manager – Planning and Grants, provided a brief overview, highlighting: 1) grant program for fiscal years 2018-2022; and 2) upcoming events.

On order of Chairperson Brinsfield and there being no objection, the Committee received the One Bay Area Cycle 2 Program Development Information.

9. Transit Passenger Environment Plan

Public Comment

Mr. Muirhead commented on the following: 1) the name of the plan is misleading; and 2) priority for new stops is correlated to the current high volume stops.

Lauren Ledbetter, Senior Transportation Planner and Staff Liaison; provided a brief overview of the report, highlighting: 1) Bus Stop Improvement Program; 2) Transit Passenger Environment Plan; and 3) New Shelter Design.

Members of the Committee provided the following comments: 1) benches and shelters are located where they are needed most based on analysis; 2) customers want transit information, seating, and shelter at bus stops; 3) putting transit information in an app will reach a large number of people; 4) the plan is designed to be used as guidance for cities and developers not at transit centers owned by VTA; 5) how riders access the stop should be taken into consideration when designing new stops; 6) the new shelters will need to be a balance of branding, maintenance needs, and the surrounding environment; and 7) discussed waste management.

On order of Chairperson Brinsfield and there being no objection, the Committee received a presentation on the Transit Passenger Environment Plan.

10. Proposed Design Guidelines for Bike Lanes at Bus Stops

Ms. Ledbetter provided a brief overview, highlighting: 1) Current Bicycle Technical Guideline Recommendations for Bike Lanes at Bus Stops; 2) Why do we need new guidelines?; 3) Bike Lane Operations: Regulations, Operator Training, and Bicyclists; 4) What is the Road User Expectation?; 5) Existing Guidelines for Bike Lanes at Bus Stops; 6) Proposed Designs Guides: Standard Bike Lane, Green Bike Lane, and Buffered Bike Lane; 7) Dashed Green Pavement on Bus Pad; 8) Buffered Green Bike Lane, San Fernando St., San Jose; and 9) Next Steps.

Members of the Committee discussed the following: 1) green bike lanes placement; 2) the bumpiness of the green bike lanes; and 3) where a buffer zone is appropriate.

On order of Chairperson Brinsfield and there being no objection, the Committee reviewed the Proposed Design Guidelines for Bike Lanes at Bus Stops.

OTHER

11. Committee Staff Report

Ms. Ledbetter provided a report, highlighting the following: 1) the monthly bicycle and pedestrian webinar entitled “Streetscape Design to Improve Walking and Bicycling” to be held on August 29, 2015; 2) Silicon Valley Bicycle Summit to be held on Wednesday, August 26, 2015, noting several members of VTA staff will be speaking; 3) request for proposals went out for a bicycle plan with the hope of having a consultant in October 2015; 4) complete streets workshops for city staff focusing on: a) forthcoming guidelines from the Institute of Transportation Engineers for accommodating bicyclists and pedestrians at interchanges; and b) legal issues related to complete street designs; 5) Fremont Boulevard Bay Trail Connections; and 6) encouraged Members to take the pedestrian plan survey to their city and to distribute to riders on buses.

On order of Chairperson Brinsfield and there being no objection, the Committee received the Committee Staff Report.

13. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Brinsfield provided a brief report on the following: 1) disbanding the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) effective immediately; and 2) Stevens Creek feasibility study is currently available with suggested alternatives.

14. Reports from BPAC Subcommittees

Chairperson Brinsfield reported that the Anti-Harassment Subcommittee is still making its way through the Housing, Land Use, Environmental Transportation (HLUET) Subcommittee. Their next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2015.

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

Member Wadler reported that Nuria I. Fernandez, VTA General Manager, spoke at the CAC meeting and received good feedback from the Members.

16. BPAC Work Plan

Members of the Committee requested that the following topics be added to the work plan for future meetings: 1) adopt Across Barrier Connections (ABC) rosters; 2) OBAG updates; and 3) bike racks on buses.

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

17. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ex-Officio Member Heyne announced that the Silicon Valley Bike Summit will be held on August 26, 2015, at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) in Palo Alto. The focus will be on safety and vision zero. Ms. Fernandez and Jim Hartnett, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager at San Mateo County Transit District, will be keynote speakers. Ex-Officio Member Heyne also announced the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition is partnering with Google for their Bike Vision. A handout was provided with details of the visionary plan.

Member Wadler reported that bicycling is doing well in the Grand Canyon on the South Rim.

Member Herten noted he was pleased that the Town of Los Gatos received a grant in the amount of \$40,000 from VTA. The Town requested \$80,000 to develop a bicycle plan.

Member Kerr announced he was recently in Montana where the road shoulders become wider when roads are repaved. The widened shoulders make it possible to have two bikes side by side without going into the road.

Member Stallman mentioned that Facebook opened an underpass on Willow Road at Highway 84 to connect their two campuses to promote safety. He announced that Bay Trail will receive money to fund the Ravenswood portion of the trail around the South Bay through three counties.

Member Goldstein announced the following: 1) he rode his bike to the meeting utilizing the Bay Trail and has never seen so many bikes on the trail; 2) Former BPAC Chairperson Jerri-Ann Meyer was involved in a bike accident; 3) monthly webinars are now being shown at Palo Alto City Hall and suggested Members talk to their city staff to see if they are willing to do broadcast the webinars in their City; 4) Stanford is currently building perimeter trails around the campus; and 5) the City of Palo Alto is instituting residential permit parking downtown, which will change the character of parking and the pattern of commuting.

Chairperson Brinsfield announced that Los Altos is also in the midst of figuring out downtown parking. Loyola Corners bridge replacement and Fremont bridge replacement are currently under construction.

18. ADJOURNMENT

On order of Chairperson Brinsfield and there being no objection, the Committee meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thalia Young, Board Assistant
VTA Office of the Board Secretary