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PETALUMA PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
APPROVED MINUTES

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

LIBRARY ROOM

11 English Street, Petaluma, CA 94952

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Roll Call: Committee: Album, Arras, Asselmeier (chaired due to illness of B. Choi\*), Lofroos, Tacy, Tarr,  
Webster  
Staff: Frank Penry, City Traffic Engineer \* Chairperson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 24, 2007 Minutes, Approved with no modifications.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Committee will hear public comments only on matters over which it has jurisdiction. There will be no Committee discussion or action. The Chairperson will allot no more than five minutes to any individual. If more than three persons wish to speak, their time will be allotted so that the total amount of time allocated to this agenda item will be 15 minutes.

1. Larry Zimmer, Capital Improvements Division Manager gave an update on CIP projects, including: (1) the Copeland Street Transit Center for which 2 racks providing parking for 4 bikes each is already planned, and the need for additional bicycle parking was noted and more racks will be added after further assessment; (2) River Trail update- the section on the east side of the river, north of E. Washington is not going to be built at this time due to failure of sufficient right-of-way through the Dairymen's Feed property. Upon future development of that property, the City will likely have the opportunity to revisit seeking trail construction at this site. The west side of River Trail, along Poultry Street, could be built out in 2007 as it is currently under bid.

PROJECTS: (Committee members should familiarize themselves with the project site prior to the meeting.)

*THERE WERE NO PROJECTS UP FOR REVIEW*

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

1. Regarding the Mobility Element of the General Plan, the City Council was expected to take up this element at its 2/28/07 meeting.
2. Bodega Street Improvements- Frank reported that this street between Webster and Howard is currently torn up in the effort to improve it with new paving, etc, but that the street in certain sections was very narrow and would not allow Class II bike lanes, two way traffic and parking on both sides. The Committee discussed the possible benefits and limitations of any reduction in street side parking to allow safer travel. It was noted that there are two schools in the near vicinity and school kids would greatly benefit from designated lanes on street as this is a very busy section of road when the school day commences (with drop offs by parents), and at the end of the school day. The cobble curbs would be going back in. A decision to install Class II lanes in this section would take a strong commitment by City Council.

3. Petaluma Blvd Bike Lanes – PBAC discussed the merits of installing Class II lanes north of Sycamore up to Twin Bridges. The consensus of PBAC was that such installation was well warranted as soon as possible. It was reported that since the Blvd crosses into the County for a section, that there were certain issues to be worked out with close coordination as the City’s and the County’s requirements are different for lane width (County requires a wider lane for motorized vehicles).
4. Butter and Egg Days parade April 28th- the Committee consensus was to ride/walk in the parade, obtain a permit and share or staff a booth possibly with the City or other governmental organization. PBAC could sell remaining T-shirts at this event.
5. Grants/Funding- Frank was asked if PBAC volunteers or other interested persons could give the City additional assistance in the application for grants that benefit bike/ped facilities. Frank indicated he would keep on eye on when additional help may be needed and whether unpaid volunteers offering a few hours at a time might be of benefit to the City.
6. Reports
  - A. Walk and Bike to Work Day- the committee discussed that a subgroup was making efforts to obtain donations of cash/merchandise from downtown/city merchants and shop owners. More volunteers are needed to offer to take on specific tasks to provide logistics support for this year’s event. Please contact Bernie and Becky with your interest in volunteering for specific tasks. There will be 4 energizer stations this year; more volunteers needed this year to help with food distribution the morning of the event. It was suggested that the local Rotary, Kiwanis or Lions Club etc. be contacted to find more volunteers and possibly for donation. We need volunteers to contact such clubs/nonprofits.
  - B. Planning Commission- Has been focusing on the General Plan and has reviewed no project since the water moratorium became an issue.
  - C. Public Works-
    - i. Traffic calming (i.e. the road diet) planned for the section of the Blvd just north of downtown has been delayed due to issued presented by the Historic District zoning overlay and additional review triggered under CEQA and slow response by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Bike Route signs at the intersection of the Blvd with E. Washington were not considered appropriate as it is not a designated bike route. Only one parking spot is expected to be lost at the Blvd/E Washington intersection, as road markings for lane changes need to be implemented.
    - ii. Traffic claiming was requested by the neighbors in the south section of Mc Dowell between Casa Grande and Baywood; the City will proceed with a reduction in lanes here and install a roundabout at Baywood as this area was previously identified as one which would greatly benefit from traffic calming measures due to its excessive width and the high speed of drivers. Frank met with the SRJC and together with strong encouragement from outside advocates, the SRJC has agreed to install an 8 foot wide A/C path behind the JC.
7. New Business
  - A. March meeting schedule. Will likely return to regularly meeting schedule unless there are no projects and little other business.
  - B. Mayor’s Ride is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, May 13. Lisa Irwin, past PBAC member, has offered to take a role in planning this event, but she will need help. Lisa should be invited to future meeting to identify issues and plan the event. The goal in part being to showcase the premier Class I and II routes in the city and provide visibility to the wonderful trails we have in town.

ADJOURNMENT