
PETALUMA PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008
6:00 – 8:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 2
11 English Street, Petaluma, CA 94952

1. ROLL CALL:

Committee: Arras, Asselmeier, Barrett, Lofroos*, Tarr, Webster, Yetter * Chair
Absent: Hatheway, Hauswald
Staff: Craig Spaulding, public works

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approved minutes of September 10, 2008.

3. 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 Chair 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.

Members of Public present: Jezra Lichter, Bernie Album, Griffen and Scott [last name]?

- 1) Lichter: Passing along a complaint from a member of the public regarding the safe use of "segways" downtown (a motorized two-wheeled vehicle capable of travel up to 10-12 mph). Safety issue with pedestrians when used on the sidewalks downtown. Council Member Barrett to ask the City Council to forward this concern on to Petaluma police.
- 2) (Scott & Griffen): Bike commuters and members of the Casa Grande bike club. Concerned with the safety of crossing East Washington Street at the trail by Prince Park.

This intersection is a high priority for a signal and crosswalk. *Note: The City has received a grant from the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) to install an enhanced pedestrian crossing on East Washington Street at the airport entrance. The improvements will include a pedestrian refuge and overhead warning lights.*

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A) Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

- 1) Helmet safety document - Spanish translation (Barrett): Review by translator pending.

- 2) "Effective Cycling" DVD (Lofroos): Price inquiry pending. PBAC agrees to use their funds for purchase; quantity, and possibly book purchase, depending on cost.
- D) Update on City Staff Inclusion of PBAC Comments and/or Conditions of Approval. Councilmember Barrett reported speaking with both Irene Borba and Frank Penry that the comments submitted by the PBAC Committee have historically been forwarded AS SUBMITTED to the next reviewing body, rather than being edited and folded into staff reports. PBAC comments will go forward as submitted in the future.
- E) Compliance & Safety:
 - 1) Bilingual bicycle safety leaflet: (Webster) Committee approval to cover printing costs using PBAC funds.
 - 2) Public member complaint: (Webster) Cars continue to speed through the intersection of Petaluma Boulevard & C Street, and at transit mall (Copeland & East Washington intersection), disregarding in-pavement crosswalk lighting. Solutions/suggestions: Paint curbs red; installation of flashing yellow diamond pedestrian crosswalk indicator signs.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- A) SPARC and Planners' Zoning Requirements in Regards to Bicycle Parking
 - Reconstruction vs. new construction: (Barrett) - In the new development code, does reconstruction require compliance to bicycle code? Has the term "reconstruction" itself been redefined? Will meet with Irene Borba to clarify.
- B) Pedestrian & Bicycle counts for 2008:

Agreement not to count at 'D' Street & Copeland location, due to bridge closure.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A) Council Comment (Barrett) September 15th, 7 p.m. meeting:
 - 1) El Rose/Hayes Street neighborhood Appeal re: SPARC approval of Northbridge orthodontic offices. Went back to staff for review under terms of new General Plan.
 - 2) There were twelve Community Development Department employees laid off. The department was not abolished, the positions were.
- B) Parks, Recreation & Music Commission (Tarr) - Sept. 17 meeting:
 - 1) Recommended proposal of a new ordinance, which bans smoking in parks. Will need to be put on City Council Agenda for approval.
 - 2) Request letter drawn up stating pollution concerns re: Dutra Asphalt plant - Discussed preventative measures to reduce potential sound, air and water pollution necessary to protect Schollenberger Park (and surrounding marsh environment). Accepted recommendation by Bob Dire to construct a second

- rookery south of plant location. (Present rookery is slated to be dismantled when 101 ramp is constructed).
- 3) At Wednesday October 15th meeting, PBAC was invited to participate to tour parks by bicycle in vicinity of Ely Road/Casa Grande Road (not as a voting entity, but to make recommendations) in discussing trail improvements.
- C) Planning Commission (Arras)
- Hash property development on 'T' Street: Previous (2005) PBAC review will be available for discussion at next meeting.
- D) Petaluma Development Code Committee (Barrett): Interrupted? Disbanded? Hoping for one last meeting to compile/complete recommendations on development procedures, in preparation for Council approval.
- E) Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition (Album)
- 1) Measure 'M' funding: County staff states Petaluma should be getting 36% of total annual funds for projects such as Sonoma County's section of River Trail. Lawyers will petition for its distribution to appropriate agencies.
 - 2) On-ramp to 101 at Airport Boulevard [(ongoing) design safety issue. Need to make it safe for bike access. No engineers have come up with a solution and it is very dangerous in present condition.
 - 3) Petaluma safety officer Ken Savano and SCBPC's Chris Culver have joined forces to create a Bicycle Traffic Safety Diversion Program (one class to be offered every few months). Traffic ticket fees will go towards program attendance fees. Non-traffic-violators can also attend for a nominal (\$10-\$20) fee.
- F) Public Works (Spaulding) Westridge Trail and Wiseman Park Trail
- 1) Grant applications in progress: \$75,000 in matching funds (publicly- raised) will be required for the grants if successful. (Barrett)
 - 3) Ask Larry Zimmer in Public Works if there will be bike passage from the Twin Bridges to Shasta on Petaluma Blvd. North while repaving. Bike lanes are slated for inclusion in this project.

8. ADJOURNED: 7:55 p.m