

MINUTES

PETALUMA PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY MEETING



Wednesday, November 18, 2009
6:00 P.M.

27 Howard Street, Petaluma, CA 94952
(707) 778-4483 / Fax (707) 776-3602

1. ROLL CALL:

Committee: Arras, Asselmeier, Hatheway, Lofroos*, Renée, Tarr, Webster, Yetter
* Chair

Staff: Curt Bates

Absent: Ferguson, Hauswald

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approved minutes for October 14, 2009 with one correction to Item 7A, change "possibly adding new council members" to "possibly adding new commission members."

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Ryan Gorsiski came to watch the Committee as a part of his government class.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discussion of Project Completeness/Incompleteness Review

City Public Works and Planning staff has weighed in on the document and their comments have been incorporated. The final version of this document with a name change will be on the December agenda for approval.

B. Infrastructure: Identification of issues and status of follow-up on infrastructure concerns. (Committee)

Staff Member Bates checked into concerns raised by the Committee and reported back.

1. Crosswalk at Sixth and "A" Streets has been updated and many features have been added to make it safer. There was discussion about bicycle and pedestrian safety where Sixth St, "A" St. and Liberty St. come together.
2. Staff Member Bates reported that the timing for lights and pedestrian crossing at Bodega Ave and North Webster St. has been fixed.
3. As to Center Park there is no update as staff cutbacks and the weather have been slowing the project.
4. The Committee asked Staff to look at the trail from Casa Grande Ave to the Smart Station near 101 and Lakeville. Staff Member Bates reported on issues that would affect completing trail between those two points. Grants and right of ways would be necessary. The Committee asked Staff to pursue both.

5. The Committee asked Staff to look at the gate at Sartori blocking a path. The City doesn't own the right of way. The Committee asked Staff to pursue that right of way in the future.
 - C. Exploration and Discussion of Developing Bicyclist Self-Defense Class(es) for Petaluma Residents.

It appears that there is no "formal" class of this nature or that the sub-Committee is not reaching out to the correct people. Committee Member Renee volunteered to follow up with the Santa Rosa Councilwoman who was attacked on her bicycle and Staff Member Bates volunteered to bring it up with the police at their next meeting.
 - D. Regency/East Washington Place Project - Discussion and Project Review. Applicant will be making a presentation to the Committee.

Ryan from Regency partners presented four points to the Committee in response to our comments.

 1. He presented a new bicycle path idea. The Committee discussed at length but decided to stay with the Class I recommendation.
 2. There was a discussion of traffic flow from the Kenilworth freeway overpass to Johnson Drive. Ryan from Regency was firm that the project couldn't lose any parking spaces, which the Committee's project comments had suggested. After much discussion Regency asked for flexibility in designing bike paths through the project. The Applicant also asked the Committee to reconsider closing the car driving path from one side of the center to the other and promised car traffic calming measures in that area.
 3. The Applicant asked for the Committee's interpretation of the shower provision in the code. The Committee decided to let the City Council make that interpretation.
 4. The Committee asked for clarification on the truck route behind the shopping center. Regency can't commit on delivery times. Calming measures are planned where trucks and bicycles interact near the Kenilworth freeway overpass.
5. NEW BUSINESS:
- A. Consideration of PBAC's "Authorizing Resolution 2008-221 N.C.S" AND PBACs Statement of Purpose (Asselmeier/Committee).

Mission review underway, a revised draft will be presented at December meeting. Committee Member Arras found the original resolution (2099) that established the PBAC and determined that it had never made it into the Municipal Code. He brought this to the attention of the City Clerk who passed the issue to the City Attorney. Committee Member Arras suggested Committee members look at the resolution on the city website for purposes of "Mission" discussion.
 - B. Bicycle rack placement

Staff Member Bates reported that there are five post & loop bike racks at the City's Corporate yard that were paid for with PCDC funds and can be placed anywhere within the PCDC. Committee Member Webster suggested that the Marina would be an ideal spot for a bike rack or racks that could accommodate at least six bicycles. Committee Member Webster will explore this issue with the Harbormaster and report back. Committee Member Renee suggested a location on Washington St. between Payran St and Vallejo St on the north side of the street. A bike rack at that location would protect the trees. Racks in Walnut Park were also suggested.

C. PBAC letter of support for a Caltrans application to construct the Lynch Creek bike path from Sonoma Mountain Parkway to North McDowell Boulevard.
The Committee authorized Chair Lofroos to sign the letter of support.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: December 9, 2009

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Council Comment (Renée) - Asked the Committee to check out the newly released NCRA trail guidelines and to comment.

B. Planning Commission (Arras) - Reported that the "Silk Mill" project and the Urban Growth Boundary would be discussed at Tuesday's Planning Commission meeting.

C. Parks, Recreation & Music Commission (Ferguson) - No report.

D. Sonoma County BPAC (Album) - No report.

E. Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition (Maunder) - No Report

F. SCTA CBPAC (Bates) - No report.

G. Public Works (Bates) - Suggested that the Committee might consider changing meeting locations in order to save paper. In alternate locations Staff would be able to use projection to talk about projects rather than printing things out.

7. ADJOURN: 9:30 pm