

MINUTES



PETALUMA PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday October 14, 2009

6:00 P.M.

27 HOWARD STREET

11 English Street, Petaluma, CA 94952

1. ROLL CALL:

Committee: Arras, Asselmeier**, Ferguson, Hauswald, Lofroos*, Renée, Webster, Yetter
* Chair, ** Vice Chair

Staff: Curtis Bates, Scott Duiven

Absent: Hatheway

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approval of August 12 and September 9, 2009 minutes.

3. PUBLIC comments

1. Jezra Lichter - Standards for bike racks? Are developers aware of them? For example, the two new racks at Raley's, are they compliant with city standards? (See PBAC's recommendations on pages 36-38 of pedestrian/bike plan).
2. Dogs' off-leash are a public hazard/nuisance and dog poop on trails also. This has been brought up at Parks & Recreation committee meeting also. Ideas to fix this?
3. Eric Feidler - Follow up of September's discussion of "Sharrows" and locating of bike racks. (See item 5C) Suggested that any extra bike racks that can be located be used at the public parks, esp. Walnut unless their use is restricted to another area.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Review of Project Completeness/Incompleteness Template. (Asselmeier/Lofroos)
Planning and Public Works approval was sought. This template is more comprehensive, amplified to be consistent with the new General Plan. PBAC plans to use it as a tool when reviewing projects in determining if applicant has provided sufficient information. Staff Bates to check with City Attorney for comment. Template also aims to help retain historic knowledge of committee on types of conditions appropriate to development.
- B. Infrastructure: Identification of Issues and Status of Follow-up on Infrastructure Concerns. (Committee)
(Bates) Council meeting discussion of Highway Safety Improvement Program update: Road diet from Washington Boulevard south to 'D' Street shelved. HSIP funds will instead fund three crosswalks, located on Crinella Dr, Spoonbill Ave, and Howard (St Vincent's School) Street. Public Works staff will pursue funds for Petaluma Boulevard's future road diet. Outreach to build a better understanding of the benefits of the road diet is needed, such as with the Downtown Business Association members, to gain support. Benefits include increased parking, decreased speed, and deterrence of highway traffic as through-way alternative, as well as increased safety; more room for bicyclists. Signal modifications and addition of turn lanes make traffic flow more easily through town.
(Feidler) The light at intersection of Webster & Bodega; Triggered by bikes. The momentary

red light stops Bodega traffic briefly, but the Webster Street green doesn't come on to indicate when it's safe to cross.

(Arras) Check the timing; it seems like an exceptionally long wait to cross. Public Works to look into this.

(Album) Letter from Bernie asks City to consider detector loops to provide left turns at specific intersections. The request is being evaluated by Public Works (Bates).

(Arras) Waiting for a response from Ron DeNicola, on possible tree removal of ailing Sequoia; the possible use of this space for motorcycle parking in the future. Use of in-house resources?

Sartori Dr. at Casa Grande Road (Adobe Creek near Del Oro Park) needs a bollard instead of a fence. Public Works looking into it.

- C. Development of Bicyclist Self-Defense Class(s) for Petaluma Residents. (Lofroos) Awaiting responses from Sonoma County Bike Coalition about sponsoring classes here, (with Martin Clinton) and Petaluma Police Department.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Ferrin Subdivision- Review of 2832 "I" Street – Presentation by Diane Allen (developer)

Mrs. Allen presented a pictorial and oral history of original development at Lavio Dr., as intended access for Westridge Subdivision, lots 4 & 5. Upon purchase of land by prior developer, to create Grevillia Dr., Mrs. Allen reports that city council approved it as the singular access for 'I' Street; Lavio Dr., was barricaded off, with access for transport, bike/pedestrian use, water and drainage to remain. Black Oak Dr., was stubbed out for access for drainage, water and sewage; resolution of Westridge Dr., interface with Ferrin Lane: to develop Ferrin Lane as a public street, privacy insured by having the owners be responsible for maintenance. Westridge Drive has sidewalks, gutters, and is a better route to Purrington Road for bikes and peds. Concerned about loss of privacy and liability issues.

(Arras) Privacy is a concern which applies to any project. Liability issues can be addressed by Conditions of Approval spelling out who would accept responsibility for those passing through on foot or bike. Insurance available on private market.

(Bates) Public works would like to see a cross section and road structure mapped out. Westridge Dr. at 'I' Street as it's only through access is overloaded with 24 lots, in violation of ITE policy for evaluating connection design for public streets. Public access along Ferrin Lane can be used as EVA and blocked with bollards, allowing bike/ped access without necessarily allowing cars through. Other evaluations, such as grade issues, must be made. Changes to Lavio Dr. would resolve ITE issue, but it's difficult to change public access that has been long established. Developer has no plans or rights to change use of Lavio Dr. as EVA/multiuse path only.

(Lofroos)The needs and expectations of the community in the surrounding area must also be considered. PBAC's concern is to develop the safest and most logical, convenient, and direct access for pedestrians and bicyclists, especially where relevant to public facilities such as schools and parks.

- B. Consideration of PBAC's Authorizing Resolution 2008-221 N.C.S for Repealing and Updating Enabling Legislation for the PBAC and PBAC's Statement of Purpose. (Asselmeier/Committee)

1) What is a quorum? A change recently was made when a resolution (for a different committee?) established the definition as having 5 present out of 9 committee members.

2) We changed to once monthly meetings when project activity was slow. Permit streamlining presently requires a 30-day turnaround for completeness. Should we meet twice monthly to resolve timing issues regarding project reviews? The subcommittee meets to address projects that come to PBAC with short timelines and cannot be

accommodated at regular meeting. Process is working fine.

- 3) The initial mission statement of PBAC includes interaction with Sonoma County Transportation Agency. Should we be looking at their agenda and how it affects us? The PBAC's current mission statement under Resolution 2008-221, doesn't really fit as a description of all of what we do and perhaps we need to update with changes and new language that accurately describes what we do. Subcommittee formed to redefine our purpose, and then bring to committee and then council for approval (Asselmeir, Webster). (Ferguson) Parks and Recreation Committee did this same task about four years ago.
- C. Bicycle Rack Placement (Committee) Walnut Park is one obvious place for at least a couple of the 5 racks waiting for placement in the PW yard (design is a post topped by a loop with an egg on top) unless they are dedicated for 'downtown improvements' only.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: November 18, 2009 to include 4 A-C, 5 B & C.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A) Council Comment (Renée) November 4th meeting to review possibly adding new commission members.
- B) Parks, Recreation & Music Commission (Ferguson) Bike racks for downtown parks to be addressed.
- C) Planning Commission (Arras) North River Landing project approved. Looking for new grant opportunities, such as DOT's bicycle transportation improvements funding; Public Works staff is going after funds for connecting Lynch Creek Trail from Maria Drive to Sonoma Mountain Parkway.
- D) Sonoma County BPAC – (no report)
- E) Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition – (no report)
- F) SCTA/SCBPAC (Bates) - Sonoma Transportation Plan is up for adoption this Monday 10/19/09.
- G) Public Works (Bates) Western Avenue was re-stripped. NCRA rail improvements will include upgraded ramps and domes. When SMART comes through, ped/bike improvements will be included.
Future committee discussion - Parallel to Lakeville, right-of-way along the Rocky Memorial Dog Park/South McDowell needs safe access to industrial park and Kaiser Permanente. Plan for a multiuse path? Sheraton parking lot path already developed: Can Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) funds be pursued to continue this trail?

8. ADJOURN 8:15 p.m.