

DRAFT
Bicycle Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 8, 2003

7:00 PM

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Conference Room
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Members Present:

Kem Akol, District 1, Chair
Ted Benhari, District 3
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Vice Chair
Michael Colombani, City of Scotts Valley
Piet Canin, Bike To Work
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz

Excused Absences:

Gary Milburn, At-large
Michael Moore, District 2
Rick Hyman, District 5
Tony Grant, CTSC

Unexcused Absences:

Manuel Rodriguez, City of Watsonville

Guests:

Richard L. Crocker

Vacancies:

District 1, Alternate
District 4, Voting & Alternate
District 2, Alternate
City of Watsonville, Alternate
Bike to Work, Alternate

Staff:

Sean Co
Kim Shultz

1. **Introductions** were made. Staff member Sean Co, introduced himself as the new bicycle coordinator for the Bicycle Committee.
2. **Oral Comments:** none.
3. **Changes to the Agenda:** Chair Akol added an item to about the CHP enforcement on the weekly Saturday ride. Staff, Kim Shultz added the 2004 SCCRTC Legislative Agenda. Ted Benhari noted that the packet contained boiler plate language from the previous agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA: (Kostelec/Fieberling)

4. **Minutes of the November 17, 2003 Meeting:** Approved.
5. **Summary of November, 2003 SCCRTC Meeting:** Accepted.
6. **Updated Committee Action Tracking Table:** Accepted.
7. **November Bicycle Hazard Reports:** Accepted.
8. **Miscellaneous Information & Correspondence:** Accepted.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 9b **2004 SCCRTC Legislative Agenda:** Kim Shultz gave an overview of the legislative agenda for 2004. This draft agenda was reviewed at the December Commission meeting and is being reviewed by all the Commission's committees in December. The Draft 2004 Agenda was distributed at the meeting in addition to the accompanying staff report. Comments on this agenda are due to staff at the January 12, 2004 meeting. Kem Akol wanted to know why working with Sam Farr to obtain \$5 million in federal funds for the rail right of way acquisition project was deleted from the Federal Issues agenda. Kim Shultz was unclear why this was deleted and will return back with a reason. Chair Akol also noted that there was no mention of the Proposition 116 funds or the rail acquisition and stressed that this was the highest priority for the Bicycle Committee. Daniel Kostelec wanted to know the process for making these changes and how these changes were adopted and eventually put together in this draft form. Kim Shultz did not know and would return with the process on this. At the next meeting, these changes will be integrated and brought back to the bike committee for action.

At this point a member of the public Richard Crocker wanted to discuss the rail-trail and the feasibility of actually putting a path along the rail road right-of-way. Chair Akol allowed this comment since the discussion of the legislative agenda had turned towards Proposition 116 and the rail trail. Mr. Crocker was concerned that the passenger rail service would be implemented but there might not be enough funds or space along the right-of-way for a continuous bicycle path. Kem Akol stated that this has been a topic of discussion with the bike committee before but committee felt that any amount of path would be preferred over no path at all. Staff received information about Alta design which conducts rail-with-trail planning.

- 10 **Update on Regional Transportation Plan Project list (oral report):** Staff gave a brief update on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project listing that was presented at the November 17, 2003 meeting. Committee members were reminded that projects listed on the constrained project lists were a higher priority than the projects on the unconstrained list. Projects on both lists do not have funds secured yet, however the constrained list represents projects for which there will likely be funding (because the City will actively pursue it) some time over the next 30 years. The deadline for jurisdictions to have their new project ideas to staff is December 12. Once these new projects and their corrections and updates to the RTP constrained and unconstrained project list are received, Commission staff will then compile all the projects and generate a draft project list for the RTP update and bring this to the Committee for review in February. Jim Langley commented that many of projects included bicycle lanes on streets were not needed, such as southbound Western Drive. Staff commented that the City of Santa Cruz lists for bicycle lane projects were consolidated to such a single lump sum bicycle project and these funds could be used to fund bicycle projects where necessary. Bill Fieberling, commented that it was good to show the lists by project description so the committee knew where bicycle improvement projects were planned.

11 Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks:

City of Capitola

- *Bike Lane Striping*: Daniel Kostelec reports that they are awaiting two continuous weeks of dry weather to complete this project.

City of Scotts Valley

- *Glen Canyon Bike Lanes*: close to completing expected in January.
- *Vine Hill Bike Lanes*: close to completion but they have not been actively working on it.
- *Green Hills Ped Path and Bike Lanes*: over budget and sent back for redesign.

City of Watsonville

- Daniel Kostelec wanted to know why there are no bike lanes on Main St and 152 in front of the Target. Staff will ask public works on an update for this project.

County of Santa Cruz

- *San Lorenzo Valley Trails Feasibility Study*: the Request for Proposals was sent out for the Environmental Impact Report.

Bike to Work Update:

- Piet Cannin reported that they are looking for artists for the Bike to Work poster. Samples of their work are due January 6, 2004. Bike to Work week is May 16-22, 2004 and Bike to Work Day is May 20, 2004.

CTSC Update:

- Kitty Chavez is looking for volunteers to present to schools once a month.
- Watsonville High School has a subcommittee for bicycle and pedestrian issues.

- 11n. **CHP Enforcement on the Saturday Bicycle Ride:** Kem Akol brought the issue of the CHP stopping the Saturday Ride on San Andreas road on November 29, 2003. A cyclist was given a ticket for holding up traffic where there was reportedly no vehicles being impeded. Chair Akol thought the CHP was unfairly harassing the cyclists on the bike ride as they target cyclists specifically on the section of San Andreas where there are no bike lanes. Members reported that there were other incidents such as on September 20, 2003 where an officer was driving his vehicle in the middle of the group of cyclists with no more than a few inches on either side. Jim Langley noted that the members discussed writing a detailed letter to the officer's supervisor reporting this unsafe behavior as the supervisor may be unaware of the actions by their officers. The committee directed staff to write a letter to the CHP detailing these actions and inviting back Captain Pat Camara to the bicycle committee meeting.

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by _____
Sean Co, Senior Transportation Planner

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DRAFT
Bicycle Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 12, 2004

7:00 PM

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Conference Room
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Members Present:

Kem Akol, District 1, Chair
Ted Benhari, District 3
Michael Moore, District 2
William Menchine District 3 (Alt.)
Rick Hyman, District 5
Emily Champlin District 5 (Alt.)
Gary Milburn, At-large
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Vice Chair
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz
Carlos Garza City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
Tony Grant, CTSC

Excused Absences:

Piet Canin, Bike To Work
Michael Colombani, City of Scotts Valley

Unexcused Absences:

Manuel Rodriguez, City of Watsonville

Vacancies:

District 1, Alternate
District 4, Voting & Alternate
District 2, Alternate
City of Watsonville, Alternate
Bike to Work, Alternate

Guests:

Jack Sohriakoff, County Public Works

Staff:

Sean Co
Kim Shultz

1. **Introductions** were made.
2. **Oral Comments:** Staff, Sean Co noted that a number of committee members' terms were set to expire in March. If committee members wished to be re-appointed then staff will be contacting the nominating agency for a letter of appointment. These re-appointments will be brought to the bike committee and to the RTC for approval. Sean Co also announced that re-prints of the bicycle map were currently at the printers and would be available in the next two weeks. This re-print reflects changes on the map since the last printing.
3. **Changes to the Agenda:** none.

CONSENT AGENDA: (Fieberling/Benhari)

4. **Minutes of the December 8, 2003 Meeting:** Approved.
5. **Summary of December, 2003 SCCRTC Meeting:** Accepted.
6. **Schedule of Committee Meetings:** Accepted
7. **Updated Committee Action Tracking Table:** Accepted.
8. **December Bicycle Hazard Reports:** Accepted.

9. **Miscellaneous Information:** Accepted.
10. **Bike Secure Application for New Leaf Community Market:** Approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

11. **2004 SCCRTC Legislative Agenda:** Kim Shultz gave a follow-up to the Legislative Agenda given at the December 8, 2003 meeting. Mr. Shultz followed up to the committee concern that there was no mention of the Proposition 116 funds for the purchase of the rail line. SCCRTC staff has received positive response from the California Transportation Commission (CTC), to access these funds for passenger rail service. Since these funds are from a state proposition, there is no need to lobby for them. The committee also discussed with staff why working with Congressman Sam Farr for \$5 million in federal funds for the rail right of way acquisition was deleted. Rick Hyman stated that Congressman Farr uses a competitive process to look for funding in this area. The possibility of using these funds should be left in the legislative agenda. Kim Shultz and Carlos Garza stated that using federal money increase the cost of a project. No additional committee action was taken on the legislative agenda.
12. **TDA Article 8 Allocation Claim:** Jack Sohriakoff from the County of Santa Cruz Public Works presented the Transportation Development Act (TDA) claim in the amount of \$165,681. The projects for the claim are Sims Road Pedestrian Path, Amesti Road School Pedestrian/Bike Safety Project and the San Lorenzo River Watershed Bike Trail Feasibility Study. The committee approved unanimously the staff recommendation for the TDA Article 8 claim in the amount of \$165,681 (Fieberling/Grant).
11. **Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks:**
 - a. City of Santa Cruz: Carlos Garza reported that the city installed about a dozen inverted "U" racks on the wharf. The City Transportation Committee has recommended that the suspension of the City Bicycle Committee meetings. Cost savings are the reasons cited for this suspension. Mr. Garza added that the City may be willing to compromise and hold the meetings every 2 months or quarterly to save costs as the committee does not take much staff time.
 - b. City of Capitola
 - *Bike Lane Striping:* Daniel Kostelec reported that the City is awaiting the for contractor to begin work. He will continue to follow up with this project.
 - e. County of Santa Cruz
 - *San Lorenzo Valley Trails Feasibility Study:* The Trail Steering Committee will be meeting shortly. This committee will be composed of representatives from public works, RTC, parks and the supervisor's office. The consultants have been selected and will be working with Rails to Trails Conservancy. The County has received a 1 year extension from May 2004 to complete the study.
 - *Mt. Hermon/Graham Hill Rd. Intersection Improvements:* The proposed improvements include a dual right turn to southbound Highway 9. The committee discussed safety concerns with these right turn lanes as well as signal timing and the calibration of traffic signal loop detectors for bicycles. Mr. Sohriakoff will

bring plans back to the bicycle committee to receive input for this intersection improvement.

- Tony Grant stated that a pedestrian crosswalk was need on Capitola Road past Chanticleer. In the area where there are 2 bus stops almost directly across from each other, pedestrians cross illegally. Mr. Sohiakoff noted that it is a county policy to not put in crosswalks mid-block. Pedestrians can legally cross at an intersection even if there is not a signal or striping.

g. CTSC Update:

- University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) will be continuing to review their policy on allowing bicycles with internal combustion engines on the bicycle path to UCSC. Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS) is against the policy but is a decision with the police department who interprets the motor vehicle code. The committee made a motion to direct staff to write a letter to the UCSC police department stating their opposition to the use of gas powered vehicles on the UCSC bicycle path (Grant/Kostelec).
- The CTSC annual report has been released and distributed.
- Bicycle safety presentations were continued at Amesti for 150 students and Soquel for 20 students. Toys for Tots received helmets along with training on proper fit and safety.
- Training for school volunteers will be ongoing with more training for volunteer presenters set for January.

i. Improving School Bicycle Access:

- *Airport Boulevard Bicycle Lanes:* The City of Watsonville has finished the bicycle lanes on Airport Boulevard but has not completed lanes to the new Watsonville high school. The committee made a motion to direct staff to write a letter to the City of Watsonville to extend the bicycle lanes to the high school (Kostelec/Fieberling). The motion passed unanimously with Rick Hyman abstaining.

h. Policies and Guidelines:

- This item will be removed from Project Tracking/Subcommittee Task list but will be visited on a regular basis.

i. San Lorenzo Valley Trails:

- Jack Sohiakoff from the County Public Works gave this update under the county projects. This will be revisited in the next few months as the Trail Steering Committee will be meeting.

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by _____
Sean Co, Senior Transportation Planner

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