

**DRAFT**  
**Bicycle Committee Meeting Minutes**

Monday, April 12, 2004  
7:00 PM

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

**Members Present:**

Rick Hyman, District 5  
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Vice Chair  
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz  
Carlos Garza City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)  
Piet Canin, Bike To Work  
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)  
Michael Colombani, City of Scotts Valley  
Kem Akol, District 1, Chair  
Manuel Rodriguez, City of Watsonville  
Tony Grant, CTSC  
William Menchine District 3

**Excused Absences:**

Gary Milburn, At-large

**Unexcused Absences:**

Michael Moore, District 2

**Vacancies:**

District 1, Alternate  
District 4, Voting & Alternate  
District 2, Alternate  
City of Watsonville, Alternate

**Guests:**

Jack Sohriakoff County of Santa Cruz  
Tom Barnett Caltrans  
Russell Ellingworth Caltrans  
Joe Conners State Parks

**Staff:**

Sean Co

1. **Introductions** were made.
2. **Oral Comments:** Rick Hyman invited members to attend the April 26 and 29 public meeting on the Highway 1 High Occupant Vehicle widening project. Sean Co noted that at the April 1, 2004 Commission meeting, the TE projects were approved with the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) recommendations.
3. **Changes to the Agenda:** none

**CONSENT AGENDA:** (Langley/Grant)

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4. **Minutes of the March, 2004 Meeting:** Approved.
5. **Summary of March, 2004 SCCRTC Meeting:** Accepted.
6. **Schedule of Committee Meetings:** Accepted
7. **Updated Committee Action Tracking Table:** Accepted.
8. **March Bicycle Hazard Reports:** Accepted.
9. **Miscellaneous Information:** Accepted.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

10. **Oral Report on Existing and Proposed Wilder Ranch Bicycle Path:** Jack Sohriakoff from Santa Cruz County Public Works, Tom Barnett and Russell Ellingworth from Caltrans Maintenance, and Joe Connors from State Parks attended to discuss maintenance issues on the Wilder Ranch Bicycle Path. Committee members expressed their desire to see Old Coast Road open for bicycles. Mr. Sohriakoff stated that Randy Claton, the horse manager at Wilder Ranch, would like the gate closed to ensure that horses don't escape into Highway 1. Some members suggested that a turnstile gate be installed to allow bicycle access but not permit horses to enter. Mr. Connor stated this might be a possibility. The cultural center in Wilder Ranch didn't want cyclists traveling through so they were in favor of keeping Old Coast Road closed.

The committee addressed the issue of manure on the bicycle path from the horse barn to Wilder. Carlos Garza stated the dirt shoulders are 2' wide to allow horses to travel off the path. Kem Akol noted that there are trees and weeds growing on the shoulder so this cannot be used as a travel path. Mr. Sohriakoff noted that a few county employees who are horse riders volunteer and sweep the path on their own. Mr. Barnett stated that Caltrans has an Adopt-a-Trail program which will allow a horse rider or cyclist group to maintain that path since Caltrans does not have the resources to maintain the path. Committee members stated that signs for horse owners to clean up after animals might be useful. Daniel Kostelec asked Mr. Sohriakoff if there is enough right-of-way to allow 6' to 8' shoulders. Mr. Sohriakoff noted that this may be possible for 75% of the trail. Will Menchine noted that you may only need a path such as decomposed granite along one side of the path to allow horse travel.

The committee requested additional information on the Wilder extension. The county has not identified a route but the project is not scheduled for completion until 2008. It is possible the path could go along the rail line contingent upon the purchase by the RTC. Piet Canin stated that was a lack of coordination with stakeholders on the development of the first Wilder Path. Mr. Canin wanted to know which supervisors should be lobbied to improve the existing conditions to minimize horse/pedestrian/cyclist conflicts and maintenance. Mr. Barnett stated that Caltrans has only received one complaint of horse manure on the trail. To mitigate the weeds on the shoulder; pesticides would be sprayed on the patch because they lack the staff.

The committee assigned a sub-committee to provide input into the Wilder extension feasibility study consisting of members, Piet Canin, Kem Akol, Carlos Garza and William Menchine.

11. **Prioritization of Santa Cruz County Bike Projects:** The committee reviewed the list of bicycle projects from the 2000 Santa Cruz County Bicycle Plan and gave rankings of high, medium or low. The county will be updating the Bicycle Plan and seeks input from committee members. Due to time constraints, this item will be continued at the May 10, 2004 meeting.
12. **Officer Elections:** Due to time constraints this item will be postponed until the May 10, 2004 meeting.
13. **Bicycle Committee Annual Report:** This report will be submitted to the Commission at its May 6, 2004 meeting. Members can submit comments prior to April 23, 2004.
14. **Project tracking/Subcommittee Tasks:** Due to time constraints this item will be postponed until the May 10, 2004 meeting.

**Adjournment:** meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
Sean Co, Senior Transportation Planner

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