

DRAFT
Bicycle Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 10, 2005

7:00 PM

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

Members Present:

Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Vice Chair
Kem Akol, District 1, Chair
Rick Hyman, District 5
William Menchine, District 3
Tony Grant, CTSC
Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
Gary Milburn, At-large
Piet Canin, Bike To Work
Ted Benhari, District 3 (Alt.)
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz
Saskia Lucas, Bike To Work (Alt)

Excused Absences:

Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)
Michael Colombani, City of Scotts Valley
Michael Andalora, City of Capitola (Alt)
Vince Waskell, City of Scotts Valley (Alt)

Unexcused Absences:

Manuel Rodriguez, City of Watsonville
(term expired)

Staff:

Cory Caletti
Kim Shultz, SCCRTC Staff

Guests:

Cheryl Schmitt, City of Santa Cruz Staff
Jack Sohriakoff, County of Santa Cruz Staff
Mike Dalbey, Self/Bike Committee Applicant
Tom Sharp, City of Santa Cruz Staff
Debbie Bulger, Self/Bike Committee Applicant
Raymond Kaupp, Self/Bike Committee Applicant
Alex Anderson, Self/Bike Committee Applicant
Bruce Sawhill, Self/Bike Committee Applicant
David Casterson, Self/Bike Committee Applicant
Phillip Lee, Self/Bike Committee Applicant
Jean Brocklebank, Self
Michael Lewis, Self/Bike Committee Applicant

Vacancies:

District 1 - Alternate
District 4 - Voting & Alternate
District 2 - Voting & Alternate
City of Watsonville – Voting & Alternate
District 5 - Alternate

1. **Introductions** were made. Vice Chair Kostelec welcomed guests and Bicycle Committee applicants to the meeting.
2. **Oral Comments:** Daniel Kostelec explained the Bicycle Committee appointment process. SCCRTC staff will forward Bicycle Committee applications to RTC Commissioners representing areas for which vacancies exist and ask that s/he appoint an applicant to the Bicycle Committee within the next 2-3 weeks.

Jean Brocklebank reported debris in the bike lane on Portola Avenue. Jack Sohriakhoff of the County of Santa Cruz Public Works department will send his maintenance crew out the next day to sweep up the reported debris.

Mike Dalby brought information regarding “Shared Lane Pavement Markings” (commonly referred to as “Sharrow”), a program legitimizing bicycle travel and shared use of roadways. The Committee will review this at a following meeting and possibly recommend the program to local jurisdictions.

3. **Changes to the Agenda:** none. A handout was provided for item #5. Add-on pages for item # 12 were distributed.

CONSENT AGENDA: (Fieberling/Milburn)

4. **Minutes of the September and December, 2004 Meetings:** Approved with a minor change to reflect that the February 15th meeting will be held in 2005.
5. **Summary of December 2, 2004 SCCRTC Meeting:** Accepted.
6. **Schedule of Committee Meetings:** Accepted with two changes. UCSC is scheduled for March 14, 2005, as is “Shared Lane Pavement Markings.”
7. **Committee Action Tracking Table:** Accepted.
8. **December Bicycle Hazard Reports:** Accepted.
9. **Miscellaneous Information:** Accepted.

REGULAR AGENDA:

10. **County of Santa Cruz Draft Bike Plan:** Jack Sohriakoff of the County of Santa Cruz Public Works Department presented another Draft Santa Cruz County Bike Plan and requested that Bicycle Committee members accept the Plan. Given that not all changes previously requested by the Bicycle Committee had been incorporated, Committee members asked that the Bike Plan be brought back for final approval as a Consent Agenda item in February. Jack Sohriakoff assured the Committee that all requested and discussed changes and projects have been or will be incorporated before the Bike Plan is submitted to Caltrans. Completed projects have been added to a “completed projects” table. Submittal of the Bike Plan will ensure that the County will be eligible for Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) funding. Applications are due on February 1st and the Board of Supervisors will consider and hopefully approve the plan on January 25th. RTC staff will review the final Bike Plan and submit a letter to Caltrans indicating its compliance with state bike plan requirements. **Committee members took no action** but will vote on the final at its February 15th, 2005 meeting.

The County will submit 3 Bicycle Transportation Account applications for the following projects: Amesti Road, Calabasas Road and Sims Road. Curb, gutter, sidewalk and bike lanes will be improved or added should the County’s applications be successful.

11. **City of Santa Cruz Beach Street Bike Plan:** Tom Sharp, City of Santa Cruz Public Works Engineering Associate, is working on designing the permanent Beach Street bikeway and presented the latest plan. Cheryl Schmitt, City of Santa Cruz Staff, was also in attendance.

Tom presented the permanent Beach Street project with a 2-way bikeway between Bay Avenue and Third Street and discussed the Spring completion date of the design work

and post-Labor Day construction time frame. Tom indicated that no final decision has been made but current plans call for a shared 2 way bike/ped path with no physical separator between the two users. A physical separator will exist between the bike/ped lane and vehicle traffic. The City Council mandated that on-street parking not be removed necessitating a narrower design than originally hoped. Committee members discussed the issue at length expressing serious concern about co-mingling of bike and pedestrian traffic in an area with high volumes of foot, bike and motor vehicle traffic.

Tom noted that the minimum foot width on West Cliff is 8 feet, with a 12 foot minimum planned for the Beach Street segment. Effective width after utility poles are considered would be 10.5 feet approximately. No road demarcations for bikes and peds are planned. A round sign with peds and bikes with a red line dividing the two is being considered. Members discussed the merit of this versus the generally accepted practice of keeping to the right.

A similar shared bike/ped design is being considered for the Coast Hotel remodel. Coast Hotel designs were reviewed. Members discussed this segment as well as the need for an improved Left turn lane onto North-East West Cliff Drive.

Piet Canin made a motion to have SCCRTC staff write the City of Santa Cruz a letter advocating for a 2-way bikeway facility for bikes separated from a pedestrian facility. Additionally, the letter should state that the Committee would like to see parking removed, if possible. Bill Fieberling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Piet Canin made a motion to have SCCRTC staff write the City of Santa Cruz a letter advocating for a 2-way separated bikeway from Pacific Ave to Bay Ave. He suggested stating that the Committee is pleased to know that City staff is exploring separate facilities. Additionally, the letter should state Bicycle Committee members are interested in seeing an improved turn lane onto North-East West Cliff Drive over the train trestle. Bill Fieberling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

12. **SCCRTC Legislative Agenda:** Kim Shultz, SCCRTC staff, presented the 2005 Draft Legislative Agenda. Handouts were provided regarding federal and state bicycle advocacy organizational legislative priorities. Rick Hyman moved, and Bill Fieberling seconded, to recommend that the RTC incorporate federal and state priorities as stated in the League of American Bicyclists and California Bicycle Coalition handouts (excluding National Parks issue) into the SCCRTC's legislative agenda. The Final Legislative Agenda will be considered by the SCCRTC at the February 3rd, 2005 meeting.
13. **Highway One Widening: Interchange Designs, Frontage Road Plans and Schedule for Input on Bike/Ped Overcrossings:** Kim Shultz, SCCRTC Staff and Highway 1 Project Manager, presented material regarding Highway One Widening issues of concern to Bicycle Committee members. A broad cross-section of community representatives, including Bicycle Committee members, will be invited to a Stakeholder meeting regarding Bike/Ped Overcrossings. Committee members asked that they be noticed regarding this meeting, and that draft recommendations be presented to the group as a whole before they are presented to the RTC so that Committee members may provide expert feedback. Rick Hyman noted that similar considerations should be given to other

areas of concern to bicyclists (for example frontage road designs, interchange design changes, etc) while Bill Fieberling volunteered to participate in Stakeholders meetings.

14. Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks

a. City of Santa Cruz: Tom Sharp updated Bike Committee members on the K-Rails located on Mission Street Extension that members have expressed concern about previously. Tom explained the history of the existing K-Rails, the nearby housing development, the original plan for a closed road in the location, and the current faulty street lighting. The City Council approved a different plan for the housing development EIR and later changed direction regarding the road closure. The developer was not held responsible for Mission Street Extension since originally the road was to be closed.

Bill Fieberling made a motion to request Commission staff to send a letter to the Santa Cruz City council notifying them of the existing safety issues and deficiencies in the completion of the roadway and take whatever steps necessary to rectify the situation. Committee members want a written reply from the City requested as part of the letter. Bill Menchine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

b. City of Capitola: none

c. City of Scotts Valley: none

d. City of Watsonville: none

e. County Project Tracking: Piet Canin asked Jack Sohriakoff about the San Lorenzo Feasibility Study. Jack reported that the County was working on a paper of traffic volumes and traffic collision data and wants the "Working Paper #2" to be released to the public for at least 2 weeks before another meeting is held. He anticipates the next meeting to take place in or after March, 2005.

f. Bike to Work Update: none

g. CTSC Update: none

h. Improving School Bicycle Access: none

i. Vision: none

j. San Lorenzo Valley Trails: Jack Sohriakoff will notify Committee members regarding the date and location of the next planning meeting.

k. Wilder Ranch Path: No update.

l. UCSC: none

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 9: 40 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by _____
Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner