



BICYCLE COMMITTEE AGENDA - May 8, 2006

Members Present:

Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Chair
Kem Akol, District 1, Vice-Chair
Alex Anderson, City of Scotts Valley (Alt.)
Jim Langley, CTSC
Will Menchine, District 3
Mike Dalbey, City of Watsonville (Alt.)
Rick Hyman, District 5
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley
Gina Tufo (District 4 Alt.)
David Casterson, District 2 (Alt.)
Piet Canin, Bike To Work
Bruce Sawhill, City of Watsonville
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz
Theresa Rogerson, CTSC (Alt.)

Staff:

Cory Caletti
George Dondero

Excused Absences:

Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
Saskia Lucas, Bike To Work (Alt.)
Andy Ward, City of Capitola (Alt.)
Leo Moll, District 2
Michael Lewis, District 1 (Alt.)
Ben Vernazza, District 4
Ted Benhari, District 3 (Alt.)

Unexcused Absences:

Vacancies:

District 5 – Alternate

Guests:

Cheryl Schmitt, City of Santa Cruz
Christina Manriquez, California Highway
Patrol

1. **Introductions**
2. **Oral Comments/Announcement**

Cory Caletti reported that the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) is interested in emailing Committee members their monthly Central Coast Reporter (CCR) newsletter. She asked if any members do not wish to receive it. None asked to be removed from the list she'll pass on to AMBAG. Cory Caletti will send an email to members not in attendance asking whether they also wish to receive the newsletter. Cory Caletti also distributed an action alert she received from Bikes Belong regarding their request to call US senators to ask them to co-sponsor a Bicycle Commuters Benefits Act. Mike Dalbey thanked the California Highway Patrol for escorting the Rail Trail Day bicycle ride down Highway 9 for Bike Week.

3. **Changes to the Agenda**

No changes to the agenda were made. Kem Akol requested that Committee members' phone numbers be listed on the roster in the future.

CONSENT AGENDA (Fieberline/Akol)

4. **Accepted Highlights of the April 6, 2006 RTC Meeting**
5. **Accepted Minutes of the February 13, 2006 and the March 13, 2006 Bicycle Committee Meetings**
6. **Accepted Announcement of the Transportation Funding Task Force Meetings and Invitation to Participate**
7. **Accepted SCCRTC Staff Comments on the Arana Gulch Park Master Plan Draft EIR**

8. **Accepted Bicycle Committee Comments on the Arana Gulch Park Master Plan Draft EIR**
9. **Accepted Bicycle Hazard Reports**
10. **Accepted Bicycle Committee Roster**

REGULAR AGENDA

11. **Welcome SCCRTC's new Executive Director, George Dondero**

George Dondero introduced himself, gave a brief summary of his professional background, indicated that he is impressed with our active community, and is available if his input is needed. Mike Dalbey invited him to participate in Rail and Trail Day and gave him a ticket to the event.

12. **Officer Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair**

Daniel Kostelec is willing to serve as Chair for another term but cannot attend meetings to represent the Committee outside of the regular monthly meetings. A motion was made (Akol/Menchine) to nominate and elect Daniel Kostelec as Chair through March, 2007. Another motion was made (Canin/Langley) to nominate and elect Kem Akol as Vice-Chair. Both motions passed unanimously. Staff thanked Kem Akol and Daniel Kostelec for their service for the past year.

13. **Featured Jurisdiction: California Highway Patrol – Christina Manriquez, CHP Captain**

Captain Manriquez, CHP Captain, reported that bicycle collision statistics from 2004 and 2005 are fairly similar with 2005's numbers being slightly lower. The CHP developed a database to track bicycling complaints and incidents and other types of traffic complaints but it needs to be refined. CHP's educational outreach efforts have focused on youths and they need to do a better job with "share the road" messages. Captain Manriquez and members discussed phone numbers to call when reporting a complaint, assault or collisions and Cory Caletti and Piet Canin reported that they are working on a flyer with all law enforcement contact information that can be distributed to the cycling public. Other discussion topics included ways to better inform new CHP officers regarding cyclists issues, rights and safety concerns; the value of public service announcements from the CHP and possible campaign slogans; areas where cars park in bicycle lanes; hot spots where higher numbers of collisions occur; effective ways to increase CHP resources dedicated to bicycle safety issues and worthwhile grants to pursue; and efforts to post signs advising motorists to be cautious and aware of cyclists on Highway 1 north of Santa Cruz as a result of the recent fatality of a cyclist. Captain Manriquez indicated an interest in writing a letter of support for such signage on Highway 1.

14. **Approve Bike Secure Application for Santa Cruz High School**

Cory Caletti presented that staff report and indicated that this application requires an exception from the grant guidelines. Members deliberated the merits of the application. Kem Akol moved to deny the application. The motion failed due to no second. Another motion was made (Fieberling/Casterson) to approve the staff recommendation. The motion passed with Gary Milburn abstaining.

15. **Discuss and Consider Action on the Draft San Lorenzo Valley (SLV) Feasibility Study**

Cory Caletti provided an add-on page of a press release she received that day and mentioned that Jack Sohriakoff, County of Santa Cruz Public Works, was unable to attend to recap the project report he presented at the March meeting. She noted that another public meeting will be held on

May 16th and that the deadline for comments was May 22nd. Piet Canin provided a summary of the SLV Trail public hearing that he attended in March and indicated that the County of Santa Cruz's consultant, LandPeople, conducted some good analysis of route options to SLV and the feasibility of a preferred route. Consultants identified the Graham Hill ridge as the preferred route even though some constraints exist. The merits of the consultant identified preferred route were discussed versus committee members preference to see Highway 9 improved to better accommodate bicycle travel. A motion was made (Anderson/Canin) to write a letter opposing the recommended route and recommend Highway 9 as the preferred route. Members recommend either modifying Highway 9 to be a one-way auto travel lane and create enough width for two-way bicycle travel or adding a cantilevered trail along side the highway where enough width does not currently exist. Committee members additionally support bike lanes on Graham Hill but not as the recommended route for the SLV Trail. The motion passed unanimously. Kem Akol volunteered to attend the final public meeting on May 16th and represent the Committee's position.

16. **Bike Parking Ordinances: Presentation of Survey by Daniel Kostelec, Committee Chair**

Daniel Kostelec presented an informal survey he conducted of bike parking ordinances throughout the county and other jurisdictions in an effort to develop a recommendation for a similar ordinance for the City of Capitola. Cheryl Schmitt reported that the City of Santa Cruz has been working with the Planning Department to encourage enforcement of existing ordinances. For larger developments, Cheryl noted that it's difficult to meet the requirements delineated in the ordinance but she likes to see developers make a good effort. Cheryl recommends developing attainable ordinances so that requirements don't get disregarded. Daniel Kostelec appreciated the Committee's feedback and will bring back a matrix with sample text before taking his recommendations to the Capitola Planning Commission.

17. **Review Subcommittee Structure** – continued to next meeting

18. **Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks:** Oral Reports (actions may be taken at the meeting)

a. **City of Santa Cruz Project Tracking:** Fieberling/Garza

Cheryl Schmitt, City of Santa Cruz, presented a draft design for the Highway 1 under-crossing portion of the Highway 1/9 project. While no construction funding exists for the under-crossing, the City Redevelopment Agency paid for environmental analysis as part of the Hwy 1/9 work. Cheryl also updated the Committee on some upcoming City projects including the installation of protected left turn pockets along the Laurel Street corridor, final Soquel Avenue bike lane details, an overlay project on Murray Street, undergrounding of utility lines on Mission Street, and traffic diversions to Mission Street due to water main work on High Street. Observations were made about City related bicycle facilities followed by a motion (Canin/Langley) to write a letter to the City of Santa Cruz regarding the disruption and danger caused by the brick red thermoplastic markings on the Beach Street bikeway at conflict zones (color is too muted and the thermoplastic is too raised) and the poor drainage on the same bike path between Riverside and Leibrandt Avenues. The motion passed unanimously.

b. **City of Capitola Project Tracking:** Kostelec/Ward – no report

c. **City of Scotts Valley Project Tracking:** Anderson/Milburn – no report

d. **City of Watsonville Project Tracking:** Sawhill/Dalbey – Bruce Sawhill has been looking into sources to fund improved access to the new Watsonville High School and suggests Hazard Elimination funds.

e. **County of Santa Cruz Project Tracking:** Akol – no report

f. **Bike To Work** Update: Piet Canin reported on all Spring Bike Week events happening during the week of May 13th through May 21st. He noted the Rail and Trail Day event and said that he still had tickets for sale but expects the event to sell out. There is also a \$1,000 cash drawing for Clean Air Month that Bike to Work participants are eligible for.

g. **CTSC:** Update: Theresia Rogerson gave the Community Traffic Safety Coalition update noting that almost 4,000 youths have received bike/pedestrian safety presentations to date. The CTSC is about to do another round of bike observations surveys and could use volunteers. She will email Committee members a request for help through RTC staff. She also reported that sidewalks, intersections, and curb cuts will be improved on Highway 152 through Watsonville and members should be aware of this as they travel through that area.

h. **UCSC:** Dalbey/Benhari - Mike Dalbey addressed the bike hazard Kem Akol had reported and his correspondence with Wes Scott, Transportation and Parking Services Director, regarding the matter. More information will be provided. Piet Canin reported that a UCSC intern is completing a Draft Bike Plan and that it should come to the Bicycle Committee for review soon. Cory Caletti will check with Teresa Buika from UCSC on the timing.

i. **Rail Acquisition:** Dalbey/Moll – no report

j. **Wilder Ranch Path:** Canin/Akol/Garza/Menchine – no report

k. **Sanctuary Scenic Trail:** Canin/Vernazza – no report

l. **Transportation Funding Task Force:** David Casterson explained the format of the Task Force and reported that the public meetings were going well. He feels that Fred Keeley is doing a good job and that most people at the last meeting he attended were bike friendly. Piet Canin announced that an abbreviated TFTF workshop will be held after the Rail and Trail event on May 21st.

m. **San Lorenzo Valley Trail Committee:** Akol/Canin – covered as part of earlier item

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:



Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner/Bicycle Coordinator