



## Final

### BICYCLE COMMITTEE MINUTES – April 9, 2007

**Members Present:**

Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola, Chair  
Rick Hyman, District 5  
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley  
Kem Akol, District 1, Vice-Chair  
Michael Lewis, District 1 (Alt.)  
Leo Moll, District 2  
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz  
Andy Ward, City of Capitola (Alt.)  
Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)  
Jim Langley, CTSC  
Peter Scott, District 3  
Piet Canin, Bike To Work

**Vacancies:**

District 3, 4 and 5 – Alternates  
City of Scotts Valley – Alternate  
City of Watsonville – Alternate

**Staff:**

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner  
Tegan Speiser, Sr. Transportation Planner

**Excused Absences:**

Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)  
Saskia Lucas, Bike To Work (Alt)  
Bruce Sawhill, City of Watsonville  
Ben Vernazza, District 4  
Theresa Rogerson, CTSC (Alt.)  
Lex Rau, Committee Applicant  
David Casterson, District 2 (Alt.)

**Unexcused Absences:**

None

**Guests:**

Debbie Hale, TAMC Executive Director  
Maria Esther Rodriguez, City of Watsonville  
Conrad Menchine, Guest  
Phil Shipley, Guest  
Ed Price, Committee Applicant  
Jean Brockelbank, Guest  
Hilary Thompson, United Way/Jovenes  
SANOS  
Lee Otter, Coastal Commission

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Kostelec welcomed everyone.
2. **Introductions:** Introductions were made.
3. **Oral Comments/Announcement:**  
Cory Caletti distributed a news release listing the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Augmentation projects selected by the Regional Transportation Commission. The list closely matches the Bicycle Committee's recommendations, which were forwarded to the Commission.
4. **Additions and Deletions to the Agenda:**  
Cory Caletti distributed an add-on page for Item 7 with additional background information for the City of Watsonville's presentation.
5. **Approved Consent Agenda (Akol/Langley)**
  - 5.1 Approved Highlights of the March 1, 2007 RTC Meeting
  - 5.2 Approved Minutes of the February 12, 2007 and March 12, 2007 Meetings

- 5.3 Accepted Letter from RTC Staff to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Regarding Monterey County's Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Master Plan
- 5.4 Michael Lewis pulled Item 5.4 - Accept April 2007 Roster. The item was moved to the end of the Regular Agenda and designated as Item # 11.
- 5.5 Piet Canin pulled Item 5.5 regarding Appointments and Reappointments to the Bicycle Committee. The item was moved to the end of the Regular Agenda and designated as Item #12.

#### **6. Officer Elections for the 2007 Chair and Vice-Chair**

Chair Kostelec opened nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair for 2007. Daniel Kostelec was nominated for Chair for another term (Akol/Canin). The motion passed unanimously. Gary Milburn was nominated for Vice-Chair (Canin/Hyman). Piet Canin was also nominated for Vice-Chair (Akol/Langley) but declined the nomination. Michael Lewis suggested that an alternate Committee member be considered for the role of Vice-Chair. This is not possible under the Committee's bylaws which state that in the presence of a voting member, alternates serve in the same capacity as members of the public would. Nominations were closed and the motion to elect Gary Milburn for Vice-Chair passed unanimously. Michael Lewis requested that the role of alternates be discussed at the next meeting and their ability to serve as Vice-Chair be explored as well as modifications to the by-laws to allow this. He also requested that parameters of their roles be better delineated. Chair Kostelec agreed.

#### **7. Featured Jurisdiction: City of Watsonville – Oral Presentation from Maria Rodriguez, Public Works Principal Engineer**

A presentation was given by Maria Rodriguez, Public Works Principal Engineer for the City of Watsonville, regarding bicycle improvement projects in the City of Watsonville. She highlighted Walker Street improvements, Watsonville Slough Bridge bike lanes, Struve Slough Bridge bike lanes, Harkins Slough Bridge re-construction, Green Valley Road rehabilitation, Freedom Boulevard rehabilitation and Highway 152 rehabilitation. Maria Rodriguez added that the Highway 152 Project Engineer would like to add bike lanes to the road and pedestrian rehabilitation to the project and that the Bicycle Committee's support would be helpful. A motion was made (Fieberling/Akol) to write a letter of support to Caltrans in support of the installation of the bike lanes along Main Street. The motion carried unanimously.

Members proceeded to ask questions and discuss interest in seeing additional bicycle access to Pajaro Valley High School, the pros and cons of thermo plastic use, grant funding opportunities available to fund bicycle and pedestrian projects and the City's planned update of the Bicycle Plan to qualify for Bicycle Transportation Account funding.

#### **8. Monterey County's Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Master Plan – Oral Presentation from Debbie Hale, Transportation Agency for Monterey County Executive Director**

– Debbie Hale, Executive Director for TAMC, gave a presentation about the Monterey County's portion of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail and the Draft Master Plan. She pointed out the North Monterey County segments in which Bicycle Committee members might be interested. She presented slides of each segment highlighting features, constraints, possibilities, potential users, and agencies involved in the planning document. Ms. Hale stated that Congressman Farr is very interested in this project and has secured federal funding, and that there is a lot of initial public support.

She pointed out areas of the proposed trail that will need further study and discussed all segments and options of the proposed trail. She informed the Bicycle Committee that the plan will be presented to the public at an open house on May 3, 2007 at the Castroville Library and that the Master Plan will be circulated to other jurisdictions.

Members made comments and asked Ms. Hale questions related to use and aesthetics of the trail plan, plans for environmental review of the plan and if review in segments would assess the cumulative impact of all segments on wetlands, as well as, sensitive, endangered or threatened species. Ms. Hale indicated that Caltrans advised TAMC that no environmental review was needed on this planning document.

#### **9. Legislative Actions: AB60 Update**

Cory Caletti updated the Committee on the status of the Bicycle Committee's recommendation that the RTC take a support position of AB 60. She indicated that staff took the recommendation to the RTC's Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) for their input since use of local roadways would be impacted. Ms. Caletti updated the Committee on recent changes to the bill's language and the Assembly Transportation Committee hearing scheduled for April 17, 2007. Since ITAC had concerns regarding the bill and directed staff to monitor the bill and research other states' experience with similar bills, the bill has not been brought to the RTC for their support and would not be brought in the near future. She indicated, however, that the Bicycle Committee could write its own letter of support for the bill. After some debate about the value of the bill, a motion was made (Canin/Fieberling) to write a letter of support for the bill. The motion failed. A continued discussion of other bicycle related legislative actions was proposed for the next meeting.

#### **10. Project Tracking/Subcommittee Tasks:**

- a. City of Santa Cruz – Bill Fieberling commented on his concerns regarding repaving of Murray Street and the uneven lip between the pavement and gutter. He made a motion, seconded by Milburn, to write a letter to the City of Santa Cruz asking the Public Works department to address the sections of non-conforming asphalt to gutter levels. The motion carried unanimously.
- b. City of Capitola – Chair Kostelec said that the Public Works Department is soliciting bids to repave sections of 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue and will also be repaving Park Avenue.
- c. City of Scotts Valley – Gary Milburn reported that the east-bound direction of the Granite Creek overpass is scheduled to be closed on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.
- d. County of Santa Cruz – Kem Akol said that the Board of Supervisors approved the East Cliff rehabilitation project between 32<sup>nd</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> Avenues and is actually two projects. Bill Fieberling asked, and staff provided, an update on approval of funding for the Mar Vista Bridge project by the RTC.
- e. Bike-to-Work – Piet Canin brought posters for the upcoming Bike-to-Work Week event and asked that they be shared with the public. He highlighted the 15 events planned for this year and invited members to attend. Hillary Thompson from the United Way in Santa Cruz County said that she is working on a physical activity campaign related to the Bike to School program event in Watsonville and will be conducting a survey to assess participants' ability to ride their bicycles to the

school they attend. She asked the Bicycle Committee for help and input regarding the survey. She commented that she is interested in having schools in the Watsonville area participate in the United Way physical activity campaign program and she'd appreciate the encouragement of principals of Watsonville area schools to involve their students in these activities.

- f. CTSC – Jim Langley gave an update on the Bicycle Traffic School. He stated that the project ran into some opposition with the City of Santa Cruz police chief who was concerned about the loss of revenue to the City from cyclists going to traffic school instead of paying a ticket. A motion was made (Hyman/Canin) to write a letter to the City of Santa Cruz Mayor in support of the Bicycle Traffic Safety School. The motion passed with Jim Langley opposing. Jim went on to update the Committee on a Bike and Hike Program, bicycle/pedestrian safety presentations for students and parents in middle and high schools and at UCSC and Cabrillo College, and a planned bicycle safety observation survey in the spring.
- l. Transportation Funding Task Force – In David Casterson's absence, Piet Canin provided an update on the Transportation Funding Task Force's activities and mentioned that only \$11 million was being recommended for bicycle projects and \$1 million for Safe Routes to School for a 30 year sales tax measure. He stated that the Task Force is still reviewing projects and funding amounts and will be reconsidering their funding plan proposal again before a final recommendation to the RTC.
- m. San Lorenzo Valley Trail Committee: This Committee was removed from the Tracking and Subcommittee list.
- n. Committee Effectiveness – Postponed to the Bicycle Committee's May 2007 meeting.

**11. Item 5.4 moved from the Consent Agenda – Accept April 2007 Roster**

Michael Lewis asked for consistency on how terms are indicated on the Roster. Cory Caletti said that she would provide the information as available.

**12. Item 5.5 moved from the Consent Agenda – Accept Appointments and Reappointments to the Bicycle Committee**

Piet Canin indicated that he was appointing Elaina Ramer, an applicant to the Bicycle Committee who was not appointed to the district for which she applied, as the Bike to Work voting member to replace himself. Cory Caletti updated her staff report by saying that she did receive Rick Hyman's appointment to the Committee by Commissioner Stone. Chair Kostelec asked for a motion to accept both items that had been moved from the consent agenda. A motion was made (Akol/Fieberling) and passed unanimously.

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

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:

Cathy Judd / Administrative Assistant

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