

# Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's

# **BICYCLE COMMITTEE**

# Minutes - Draft

Monday, February 10, 2014 6:00 p.m.

# RTC Office 1523 Pacific Ave Santa Cruz, CA 95060

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Introductions

# **Members Present:**

Kem Akol, District 1
David Casterson, District 2, Chair
Jim Cook, District 2 (Alt.)
Peter Scott, District 3
Will Menchine, District 3 (Alt.)
Amelia Conlen, District 4
Rick Hyman, District 5
Bill Fieberling, City of Santa Cruz
Andy Ward, City of Capitola, Vice-Chair
Lex Rau, City of Scotts Valley
Leo Jed, CTSC

# Staff:

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner Rachel Moriconi, Sr. Transportation Planner Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner

# **Unexcused Absences:**

# **Excused Absences:**

Holly Tyler, District 1 (Alt.)
Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola (Alt.)
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley (Alt.)
Myrna Sherman, City of Watsonville
Rob Straka, Ecology Action/Bike to Work
Piet Canin, Ecology Action/Bike-to-Work (Alt.)
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)

#### **Guests:**

Steve All, Citizen, State of CA Chris Schneiter, City of Santa Cruz Michael Lewis, Resident Jean Brocklebank, Resident

#### Vacancies:

District 4 and 5 – Alternates City of Watsonville – Alternate

3. Announcements – Cory Caletti introduced Jim Cook, a newly appointed Bicycle Committee alternate for District 2. She notified members that \$5.3M in funding was allocated to the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network project in December 2013, and that at the February 6<sup>th</sup> RTC meeting, a revision to the Master Plan was adopted. She also noted that a Preliminary Draft of the County-wide Bike Route Signage Plan was released late last year and that the plan will be officially released this upcoming Spring. She finally noted that a new state law requires members' votes to be recorded.

- 4. Oral communications Amelia Conlen summarized a recent independent critical review of Caltrans and recommendations for greater agency feasibility. Bill Fieberling commented on the revision to Segment 17 of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Master Plan adopted by the RTC and spoke in favor of a commitment to develop a continuous rail trail. Steve All provided a new version of CycleNet.
- 5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas Leo Jed moved and Amelia Conlen seconded a motion to add an agenda item to discuss changes to the RTC Rules and Regulations to be considered by the Commission's Budget and Administration Commission at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. The short time frame requires time sensitive action. The motion passed with Casterson, Ward, Fieberling, Akol, Hyman, Scott, Conlen, Rau, and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition. Chair Casterson added the item as #17a.

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion (Fieberling/Ward) to approve the consent agenda as amended passed with members Casterson, Ward, Fieberling, Akol, Hyman, Scott, Conlen, Rau, and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.

- 6. Accepted draft minutes of the November 18, 2013 Bicycle Committee meeting
- 7. Accepted summary of Bicycle Hazard reports
- 8. Accepted 2014 schedule of meetings and tentative agenda items
- Accepted letter of support for the County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency's Office of Traffic Safety Grant
- 10. Accepted the "RTC 2013-at-a-glance" report

# **REGULAR AGENDA**

- 11. Active Transportation Program (ATP) Rachel Moriconi, RTC Senior Transportation Planner, summarized the draft ATP guidelines and the timeline for a soon-to-be-issued call for projects. A motion (Hyman/Akol) was made to 1) request that all local jurisdictions with bike plans submit applications for at least one high priority project; 2) write a letter to the California Transportation Commission recommending that projects reviewed and supported by Bicycle Advisory Committees receive higher scoring; and 3) report back to the Bike Committee what projects are being submitted if RTC staff has that information available. The motion passed with Casterson, Ward, Akol, Hyman, Scott, Conlen, Rau, and Jed voting in favor and Fieberling voting in opposition.
- 12. City of Santa Cruz Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claim Cory Caletti summarized the City of Santa Cruz TDA claim and referred questions to Chris Schneiter, City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department Assistant Public Works Director. A motion (Akol/Fieberling) to recommend that the RTC approve the City of Santa Cruz's TDA claim passed with Casterson, Ward, Fieberling, Akol, Hyman, Scott, Conlen, Rau, and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.
- 13. Arana Gulch Multi-Use Pathway interface at 7<sup>th</sup> and Brommer St Chris Schneiter, City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department Assistant Director, provided construction drawings and detailed plans for the merge of the multi-use path with the on-street network at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave and Brommer Street. Bike Committee members and members of the public expressed concerns regarding user

conflicts and appropriate directional flow. Mr. Schneiter indicated that specifications meet design and permitting standards and the project will be built as planned. A motion was made (Casterson/Scott) to write a letter to the City of Santa Cruz encouraging the placement of signage to guide appropriate behavior, avoid user conflict and reduce liability. The motion passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Hyman, Scott, Conlen, Rau, and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.

- 14. Santa Cruz harbor bicycle connections Chris Schneiter, City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department Assistant Director, responded to inquiries into possible bicycle connections to the Harbor. A motion was made (Akol/Fieberling) to form an ad-hoc committee to review options and propose bike connections from Murray Street to the Santa Cruz Harbor and Arana Gulch. The motion passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, and Jed voting in favor and Hyman abstaining. No votes were cast in opposition.
- 15. Draft 2014 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Ginger Dykaar, RTC Transportation Planner, summarized the Draft RTP and timeline for adoption. After some discussion regarding bike facility scoring and safety considerations, a motion was made (Conlen/Akol) to form an ad-hoc committee comprised of Leo Jed, Rick Hyman and Jim Cook to review the Draft RTP and provide recommendations to the Bicycle Committee. The motion passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, Hyman and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition. The deadline for comments is April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and therefore the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting was moved up by a week to April 7<sup>th</sup> to allow the full committee to consider recommendations.
- 16. Mission Street Extension After project and process review, a motion was made (Hyman/Jed) to write follow-up letters to the City of Santa Cruz and Caltrans with requests summarized in the memo provided to the Bike Committee by Rick Hyman (page 42 of the packet) with the addition of a request for lighting. The motion passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, Hyman and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.
- 17. Santa Cruz Metro *Draft Short Range Transit Plan* A motion was made (Akol/Conlen) to send a letter to the Santa Cruz Metro regarding the Draft Short Range Transit Plan as drafted by Bicycle Committee member Rick Hyman. The motion passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, Hyman and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.
- 17a. Rules and Regulations Bicycle Committee member Leo Jed provided an update of upcoming consideration by the Budget and Administration/Personnel Committee (B&A/P) of the RTC's Rules and Regulations. A motion was made to (Jed/Conlen) to form an ad-hoc committee comprised of Conlen, Scott and Jed to review the Bike Committee's mission and propose changes to the B&A/P on the Committee's behalf that would expand the committee's purview and review of bike projects. The motion passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, Hyman and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition. Another motion was made (Hyman/Jed) to direct the ad-hoc committee to propose changes in such a way so as to provide as many opportunities as possible to review as many projects as possible. The motion passed with Casterson, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, Hyman and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.
- 18. Member updates related to Committee functions In an effort to serve the community more effectively, consideration was given to the benefit of members compiling a packet of useful information such as bicycle use statistics, growth trends, innovative treatment options, Bike Committee successes, and other useful data and provide that to Commissioners to better inform them of the state of bicycling in the county and the country. A motion was made (Conlen/Jed) to form an ad-hoc committee comprised of Conlen, Menchine and Rau to compile information as

specified. The motion passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, Hyman and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.

Bicycle Committee member Lex Rau suggested writing a letter to the City of Scotts Valley Public Works Director requesting that bicycle detection at intersections be improved by stenciling the correct detection location, improving the sensitivity of current devices, or replacing devices that can't be fine-tuned further. A motion (Ward/Scott) to write such a letter passed with Casterson, Fieberling, Ward, Akol, Scott, Conlen, Rau, Hyman and Jed voting in favor. No votes were cast in opposition.

19. Adjourned: 8:45 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for the **special meeting date of Monday, April 7**<sup>th</sup>, from the special time of 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the RTC office, 1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by:

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner

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