



**Santa Cruz County Regional  
Transportation Commission's  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**Minutes - Draft**

**Monday, February 9, 2015  
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 pm**

**RTC Office  
1523 Pacific Ave  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060**

1. Call to Order: 6 pm
2. Introductions

**Members Present:**

Kem Akol, District 1  
David Casterson, District 2, Chair  
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  
Daniel Kostelec, City of Capitola (Alt.)  
Lex Rau, City of Scotts Valley  
Leo Jed, CTSC, Vice-Chair  
Jim Langley, CTSC (Alt.)  
Piet Canin, Ecology Action/Bike-to-Work (Alt.)

**Staff:**

Cory Caletti, Sr Transportation Planner  
Rachel Moriconi, Sr Transportation Planner  
Grace Blakeslee, Sr Transportation Planner  
Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner

**Unexcused Absences:**

**Excused Absences:**

Carlos Garza, City of Santa Cruz (Alt.)  
Gary Milburn, City of Scotts Valley (Alt.)  
Holly Tyler, District 1 (Alt.)  
Myrna Sherman, City of Watsonville  
Emily Glanville, Ecology Action/Bike to Work  
Jim Cook, District 2 (Alt.)

**Vacancies:**

District 4 and 5 – Alternates  
City of Watsonville – Alternate

**Guests:**

Sam Clark, Santa Cruz Sentinel  
Alex Burke, Santa Cruz resident  
Dusten Dennis, Santa Cruz resident  
Steve Piercy, Soquel resident, bike advocate  
Pauline Seales, 350 Santa Cruz, Citizen Climate  
Lobby  
Steve Wiesner, County Public Works  
Peter Stanger, La Selva bicyclist/People Power  
member

3. Announcements – Cory Caletti, staff to the Bicycle Advisory Committee, made the following announcements: 1) some seats on the Bicycle Committee expire at the end of March and vacancies need to be filled; 2) the Manual of Uniform Control Devices has been updated and includes a sign for the 3-foot buffer for passing of bikes; 3) parklets are being considered for

Cathcart Street in the City of Santa Cruz; 4) the Highway 1 rumble strip project will begin soon and staff suggested bicycle related improvements; 5) RTC staff is working with local jurisdictions to improve follow-ups with submitters of hazard reports; 6) after speaking with the County Public Works Director regarding recommended improvements for Graham Hill Road, Commissioner McPherson concluded that the recommendations are too costly for immediate implementation but improvements will be explored; 7) staff submitted a \$5M grant application to the Federal Lands Access Program for a north coast segment of the rail trail; and 8) the Watsonville Open Streets event will be held on March 17, 2015.

4. Oral communications – Steve Wiesner, County of Santa Cruz Public Works Assistant Director, indicated that the County of Santa Cruz will pursue a grant for the Live Oak rail trail segment. Jim Langley expressed concern regarding the narrow width of bike lanes on lower Western Drive. Bill Fieberling expressed concern regarding restricted access to the Boardwalk due to the new ramp to the San Lorenzo River bridge walkway. Steve Piercy, member of the public, indicated that he mapped bicycle injuries and fatalities using TIMS and SWITRS information to make the data visually meaningful. He will provide the URL for the website where the information is housed.
5. Additions or deletions to consent and regular agendas – Additional comments from the public were received for item #12. Copies of the comments were distributed.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

6. Accepted draft minutes of the December 8, 2014 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting
7. Accepted summary of Bicycle Hazard reports
8. Accepted Bicycle Advisory Committee roster
9. Accepted Draft 2015 Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting schedule and tentative agenda items
10. Accepted letter from the Bicycle Advisory Committee to the Office of Traffic Safety in support of the County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency 2016 grant application
11. Accepted letter from the Bicycle Advisory Committee to Board of Supervisors McPherson and Coonerty regarding Graham Hill Road bicycle improvement recommendations.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

12. Green bike lane treatments at select freeway interchanges – Amelia Conlen, Bicycle Advisory Committee member and People Power Director discussed the emerging use of green bike lanes at conflict zones. Other jurisdictions have installed green bike lanes at highway interchanges and People Power is proposing that this treatment be considered at a few intersections locally. The County Public Works Department is interested in receiving community input. A motion (Ward/Canin) was made to convey the Committee's strong support and appreciation of green bike lanes, and to request that all freeway interchange locations identified be considered for this treatment but to give highest priority to Soquel Drive at Dominican and the interchange at State Park Drive. Committee members offered design treatment assistance and would appreciate involvement. The motion passed with Akol, Casterson, Scott, Conlen, Canin, Ward, Fieberling,

Jed, and Rau voting in favor. Rick Hyman voted in opposition. Another motion by Kem Akol to write a letter to other local jurisdictions in support of wide-spread application of green bike lane placement failed due to lack of a second; instead members asked staff to agendize a discussion of select locations where application should be considered at the next meeting.

13. Draft Committee Member travel expense reimbursement policy – Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner summarized the staff report. A motion was made (Ward/Conlen) to approve the proposal but with a request that a 120 day time period be allotted to seek the reimbursement. Members discussed requesting a higher amount or requesting the reimbursement of expenses like tubes but ultimately not made a part of the motion. Casterson, Scott, Hyman, Conlen, Canin, Ward, Jed, and Rau voting in favor. Akol and Fieberling voted in opposition.
14. AMBAG's 2015 Public Participation Plan update – Grace Blakeslee, Senior Transportation Planner, summarized the staff report and requested feedback on what additional public participation activities the RTC and AMBAG could engage community members through. Members requested that the Public Participation Plan make specific reference to newspapers ads, suggested that PSA should be utilized regularly to inform the public about projects and opportunities for input, consider a Google news group, and take advantage of opportunities for crowdsourcing.
15. October 2014 Bicycle and Mode Split Counts – Ginger Dykaar, Transportation Planner, summarized the staff report and data gathered. Ginger indicated that the RTC hopes to be able to do mode-split counts every couple of years and that while there is no specific budget for this at this time, the consultant cost was very reasonable at about \$2,100 (\$1,000 for the bike/ped counts and \$1,100 for the motor vehicle counts).
16. Identify priority bicycle projects to serve as good grant candidates – Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner, summarized the staff report and suggested that the Bicycle Advisory Committee identify a few priority projects that might be good candidates for future grant programs. She provided an overview of criteria used to evaluate projects in the Active Transportation Program (ATP) and other programs. Through a motion (Conlen/Scott), the Bicycle Advisory Committee requested that local jurisdictions consider 5 specific projects for this year's Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant cycle: Rail Trail Segment 9 (Live Oak), Soquel Drive bicycle safety projects, McGregor/Kennedy/Park Ave intersection bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements (City of Capitola), Branciforte Creek bike/ped bridge (City of Santa Cruz) and completion of Rail Trail Segment 18 to Walker St (City of Watsonville). Additionally, the motion included updating an October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 memorandum sent to local jurisdictions with current priority projects as discussed. The memo will be made available in the next packet. The motion passed unanimously with Casterson, Scott, Hyman, Conlen, Canin, Ward, Jed, Rau, Akol and Fieberling voting in favor.
17. Member updates related to Committee functions – Members requested an update on the RTC's pursuit of a 2016 transportation ballot measure and the business community's interest in funding a poll. Also, Andy Ward reported that he and a couple of other committee members reviewed Safe Routes to School project needs within the City of Capitola and will make recommendations to Council members.
18. Adjourned: 8:40 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Bicycle Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, April 13, 2015**, from 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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