



**BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2002**

CALL TO ORDER:

The San Luis Obispo Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2002, in the Council Hearing Room at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, California.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jean Anderson (Acting Chair), Bruce Collier, Wes Conner, Chris Overby, and Mark Grayson

Absent: Mary Lou Johnson (Chairperson)

Staff: Terry Sanville, Principal Transportation Planner

Also present were: Mary Kopecky

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Altman asked about a bike lane/route along Morro Street, and about the status of a stop sign. Terry Sanville replied that Peggy Mandeville in Public Works is working with consultants to design the project. She will bring it to the Bike Committee within the next 3-4 months. Mr. Altman also asked about bike parking at Cal Poly. Mr. Sanville replied that Cal Poly has their own Bike Committee that deals with such issues and that the point of contact is Debbie Anderson.

John Kammer asked about a new sign posted at Reservoir Canyon that says "No Bikes". He commented that he is an Engineering Geologist/Hydro Repair Geologist and knows that riding bikes creates no impact to open space. He also commented that Poly Canyon access was closed off and commented that to facilitate an area would be to provide better access as opposed to just closing an area off. Mr. Sanville replied that the Natural Resources Manager, Neil Havlik, Michael Clark, the City Biologist and the Parks Department manage Reservoir Canyon. He suggested setting up an appointment with them.

Christine Mulholland (speaking as a community member) expressed concern about the continuation of directing bike lanes into environmentally sensitive areas, i.e., set backs of creek sides. She also discussed the Airport Plan and bike lanes following creeks.

Oxo Slayer, Executive Director of the San Luis Obispo City Bike Coalition, expressed thanks for the bikeways in the city. He asked about the widening of Los Osos Valley Road and if bike lanes were included with any widening being planned. Mr. Sanville replied yes. Mr. Slayer asked about the Railroad Bike Trail and suggested/requested putting in a bike lane at the corner

of Laurel Lane and Orcutt Streets. The BAC discussed actions taken concerning the funding of the Laurel Lane – Orcutt Road project. Mr. Sanville discussed the timing of the Laurel Lane project and that any donation of funds from the Committee would need to be apportioned.

No further public comment.

SWEARING IN OF NEW BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEMBER:

City Staff Member, Mary Kopecky conducted the swearing in ceremony of Kristen Kent. Next committee meeting will swear in two additional new members, Darren Brown and Dixon Moore.

Acknowledgement was given to two outgoing members; Wes Conner and Bruce Collier. Many thanks for a job well done by all Committee Members and City Staff.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Wes Conner to accept the minutes of November 15, 2001, as corrected. Seconded by Mark Grayson. Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. UPDATING THE 1993 BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

Mr. Sanville discussed the background and the two phases of the Bicycle Transportation Plan. Staff recommended the following action:

1. Concur with the Community Development Director's finding and adopt a Negative Declaration for the project; and
2. Adopt the Update to the 1993 Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Mr. Sanville discussed the possibility of taking the Plan to the Planning Commission by April 10th and to the City Council by May 7th in order to apply for grant program by June 1st. Discussion of changes to the grant cycle that would allow for two application periods in this calendar year; June and December.

Public Comment

Jean Kinney asked about obtaining a copy of the Plan. Mr. Sanville replied that copies would be available, for a cost, within one to three days. They can be purchased at the Planning Counter and Public Works.

Patty Taylor, a resident of Orcutt Road, asked about the Orcutt Specific Plan. She discussed a letter generated by 9 of the 14 owners of property on Orcutt Road, which expressed their wishes against the Orcutt Area Specific Plan. Discussion concerning the process and progress of bike path alignment and the Orcutt Specific Plan.

Nick Muick, a resident of Orcutt Road, also expressed concern from 9 of the 13 property owners, with the Orcutt Specific Plan, and their desire to not be a part of any plan. Discussion of Environmental Review Plan and initial studies.

No further Public Comment.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Wes Conner asked what scale the plans were drawn on. Mr. Sanville replied that the plans were completed using the City's GIS system, which overlays city streets onto aerial photographs. There is no specific scale cited for the maps within the report.

Mark Grayson asked about whether the path along the sidewalk on Madonna Road in Laguna Lake Park was a designated bike path. Mr. Sanville replied that the path was mostly for walkers/joggers. Discussion about Laguna Lake Park and walk/bike paths.

Mark Grayson asked about commuter facilities for cyclists. Discussion about commuter facilities. Not a priority to date, but could be agendized at a future date with the committee identifying key features to be included in phase 2 of the bike plan.

Jean Anderson expressed concern over the maps in the plan. Discussion about maps.

Chris Overby suggested adding to appendix F concerning bike locker facility at the AMTRAK Passenger Rail Terminal. Discussion about specific issues with regards to the maintenance and monitoring of the lockers. Could be included by committee as a suggestion in the future.

Motion by Bruce Collier to adopt revisions to the 1993 bicycle plan and concur with staff recommendations. Second by Wes Conner. Motion carried.

2. BICYCLE PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Sanville discussed the background and parameters of the Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grant program. Statewide, there are 7.2 million dollars of funding available for bicycle projects. Thirty-four projects were approved for funding last year. The staff report outlines the criteria for judging funding requests. Staff identified four projects from the draft Bike Plan, which meet the grant program's requirements and those that could qualify for matching funds from the City. Discussion concerning the merits of each proposed project. Staff recommends that the Bicycle Committee forward recommendations to the City Council to direct the preparation and submittal of BTA Program grant applications for:

1. The Morro Street Bicycle Boulevard Traffic Signal; and
2. Citywide Bicycle Parking Retrofit Program.

Discussion concerning the merits of each of the four proposed projects.

Motion by Wes Conner to forward staff's recommendation as stated above to the City Council.
Second by Mark Grayson.

Chris Overby requested to amend the motion to include project # 3. Discussion of submitting future grant proposals for projects #3 and #4.

Original Motion stands. Motion Carried.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

3. BIKE PLAN UPDATE SUBCOMMITTEE:

Jean Anderson reported that she and Bruce Collier worked with 15 volunteers in town to gather information about the city's bike paths and traffic issues. Bruce commented that 90% of the work was done by Jean, including bringing the volunteers together. A report will be submitted as an addendum to the minutes.

Discussion about subcommittees and standing committees. Decided to table for a future meeting.

4. EDUCATION AND PROMOTION SUBCOMMITTEE

- a. Timing of School Rodeos in the Spring
- b. Bicycle Safety Brochure

One meeting had been held since the last Bicycle Committee Meeting. The BAC decided to wait and see what the school district will be doing with education issues next school year, given the shift in enrollment.

Kristen Kent asked about the timing of the school rodeos. Discussion about when to plan for the school/police rodeos. Sinsheimer School's *Safe Route to School Plan* has just been updated. Bishop's Peak seems to be the next logical choice for a bike rodeo.

Discussion about Laguna Middle School and traffic issues.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Discussion concerning the hiring of a bicycle coordinator. Jean Anderson has collected information and is in the process of collecting more. She hopes to keep the subject on the plate for the future and will bring up the subject during the next City budget cycle.

Discussion concerning budget goals being forwarded to the City by Fall 2002 for the next budget cycle.

Jean Anderson suggested compiling a list of priorities to consider by the next committee meeting. The list could be developed from what the volunteer riders and committee members saw from riding around the City.

Terry Sanville commented on the agenda protocol for submitting items to be agendaized.

UPDATES/NETWORKING:

No Comments.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nora O'Donnell
Recording Secretary

