

**MINUTES
BICYCLE USERS SUBCOMMITTEE**

City Hall - Council Conference Room
Wednesday, March 19, 2014 - 5:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gene Hiegel, Chair
Vince Buck
Jane Rands
Karla Reinhardt
Matt Leslie

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Meth Trimble, Vice Chair
John Carroll

STAFF PRESENT:

Don Hoppe, Public Works Director
Ron Bowers, Senior Civil Engineer
Allison Tran, Civil Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hiegel at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no members of the public present.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Member Leslie SECONDED by Member Reinhardt to approve the minutes of January 19, 2014 and APPROVED 5-0 by all members present.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Bastanchury Road Widening

Senior Civil Engineer, Ron Bowers communicated that the design of the project has been completed. Mr. Bowers discussed installing the 3 lanes in both directions and about the 8 ft sidewalks/bikeways options of what kind of barrier to place. He communicated the options of a PVC type equestrian fence or red cone delineators.

Director of Public Works Don Hoppe clarified that the option of the fence would be to prevent the bicyclist from going off of the curb and riding into the street.

A Member asked if there are any other alternatives. Member Buck discussed his alternatives that he researched from Katella & PCH and Gypsum Canyon & Santa Ana River Trail and showed the pictures of those locations.

Mr. Hoppe communicated that anything is possible with the options Member Buck discussed, however it would have to be determined if it would be an additives enhancement and whether or not it would be eligible for funding through OCTA or if the City would have to provide the funds. Mr. Hoppe discussed that would be the only place a massive concrete barrier would be seen on an Enhanced Scenic route designated in the general plan. Mr. Hoppe communicated that the PVC fencing option would provide more width compared to a concrete barrier.

Member Buck asked if funding on this project is tight and Mr. Hoppe communicated that it is. Mr. Hoppe we may have to ask for extra funding from OCTA that may or may not be approved.

Member Rands asked for clarification of the Army Corp. area and Mr. Hoppe communicated that the stripe is about 2ft and that the City will place shrubs. Member Rands asked if there is anyway to align the white strip for a concrete base in order to not take away from the existing 8ft. Mr. Hoppe stated that by doing that it would be right at 8ft. and with the option of the PVC fence there would be more space for bicyclist to get by.

Member Rands asked about applying for funding that is due by May. Mr. Hoppe communicated that they would have to do a NEPA clearance, modification of plans and Caltrans would need to approve it in order to have OCTA approve funding. Mr. Bowers communicated that the current grant is for widening the road and those funds need to be used.

Member Rands discussed how the funding is for creating a bike trail and it wouldn't affect the funding of the current grant. Mr. Hoppe clarified that it would not be to create a bike trail, it would be to build a concrete barrier and that whether or not that would qualify for that funding is unknown at the moment. Member Rands questioned where it could be found on whether or not a concrete barrier would qualify.

Mr. Hoppe communicated that if the committee would like to add a concrete barrier to this current project, that there is a good chance it would stop the project. Mr. Hoppe said that if the committee would like to come back at a later time and add railing as a separate stand alone project it would probably be okay. He communicated that with the current funding of this project the committee would have to choose to either put up a fence or not do anything. He states that wanting to put a concrete barrier are not in the existing plans of this project and it would significantly change the plans it would stop the project.

Chairman Hiegel asked the committee for their feedback on this issue. Member Buck discussed the concrete barrier being a better option compared to the PVC fence. Member Buck asked if it can be submitted for approval. Member Buck said if it is approved then we can move forward and if not then the concrete barrier would not be done.

Mr. Hoppe clarified that the project is currently approved without a railing of a concrete barrier, he stated that sending this project back for approval of a concrete barrier may jeopardize the entire project and that is not something he would want to do. Mr. Hoppe stated that if the committee wants a concrete barrier railing, it would need to come back as a separate stand alone project.

Member Rands would like clarification on the standards of a bike facility in that type of environment. She believes that the approach of placing a concrete barrier might be the correct way to go based on previous examples from other locations. Member Rands stated it's encouraged to have bicyclist ride that street and that the street is not designed to accommodate bicyclist and that it should be.

Mr. Hoppe clarifies that the City is giving bicyclist the alternative instead of being in the traffic lanes. Member Rands stated that for safety sake a complete facility is needed to accommodate bicyclist on that street.

Mr. Hoppe questioned the committee what they would like to do. Member Rands request that Traffic Analyst Mark Miller look into the standards to know what is appropriate for the location and she would like to know who the agency is that would approve this and what needs to take place to make the change in order to add a concrete barrier, as well as how to obtain funding to get this done.

Member Reinhardt would not want to project to be stopped, however if anything else could be done like putting in a curb or something cheaper.

Mr. Hoppe communicated that the City could put a curb in with the PVC fencing on top of it.

Member Buck stated that he would like the request to go forward of having the concrete barrier included in the project and if it's not approved then the committee can come back with a separate stand alone project.

Chairman Hiegel discussed the four options; Rubber Posts, PVC fencing, investigate the project to see if there is other funding to include the concrete barrier. Member Rands discussed that within the option of investigating that would as well include finding out the standard facility for that type of environment, the potential funding sources and obtain what needs to be done for approval from the agency that would approve.

Mr. Hoppe communicated that staff will investigate if the agency will approve the modified design and include the funding necessary or find an outside source to fund that may result in the addition later.

MOTION made by Member Buck to approve request, SECONDED by Member Rands, CARRIED unanimously to approve the request to investigate the possibility of a concrete barrier and parallel to that to investigate outside funding.

Hiegel stated that if the concrete barrier is not approved then the committee needs to vote on the options of rubber posts or PVC fencing approx. 42" high.

MOTION made by Member Reinhardt to approve request, SECONDED by Member Leslie, CARRIED unanimously to approve the installation of the PVC fencing.

2. Active Transportation Program (ATP) Grant

Civil Engineer Allison Tran gave a brief summary of the Active Transportation Program Grant. Mrs. Tran communicated that Staff has identified two potential projects for the committee to consider applying for the grant that is due May 21st; Union Pacific Trail from Highland to Richman and Acquisition of UP right-of-way.

Mr. Hoppe discussed that the application would be to acquire the right of way from Union Pacific Railroad. He communicated that discussions with Union Pacific Railroad will be to negotiate at a reasonable cost to acquire the right of way.

Member Leslie asked if there would be likelihood for alternate funding for the projects in case if the committee decided to apply for one more than the other. Mr. Hoppe communicated that could be a possibility with a grant that Parks and Recreations has applied for.

Member Buck asked if the grant was approved for the right-of-way, would it have to only be used for the purpose of bicycle route. Mr. Hoppe stated that the intent would be to purchase the land for multi use; which could mean a trolley car, equestrian, bicycling or walking.

Chairman Hiegel asked for clarification on ranking the projects. Mr. Hoppe communicated that the committee could recommend to staff to apply for one or both.

MOTION made by Member Leslie to approve request, SECONDED by Member Reinhardt, CARRIED unanimously to approve the grant application to be submitted for both projects.

2. Draft Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Mr. Bowers discussed the East Wilshire Bike Boulevard project planning and design phase on the CIP and arterial street reconstruction projects that may be added. Mr. Bowers discussed in detail the locations of the proposed reconstruction projects.

Committee members and staff discussed Class III signage. Mr. Hoppe communicated that if the City is doing street reconstruction and it is in a designated Class III signage is going to be placed unless the committee motions that they do not want any signage installed without prior approval. Mr. Hoppe clarified that the Master Plan states that signage must be installed in a designated Class III.

Mr. Hoppe stated that no motion to approve is needed. He stated the CIP will be implemented per the Master Plan and the general plan element.

Director of Public Works Don Hoppe left the meeting.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

The agenda next time will be:

1. Committee Reorganization/Revisioning
2. Recommendations for prioritizing Grant Applications
Discussion and selection of projects to apply for ATP Grant funding.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.