

MINUTES
BICYCLE USERS SUBCOMMITTEE

City Hall -----Council Chamber Conference Room
Wednesday, January 21, 2009-----5:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Hiegel, Chair
 Davis Barber
 James Donovan
 Kent Morris

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Edmundo Duvignau, Vice-Chair

STAFF PRESENT: Ron Bowers, Senior Civil Engineer
 Thuy Nguyen, Civil Engineer
 Bob St. Paul, Senior Planner

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hiegel at 5:35 p.m.

CONSENT

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 17, 2008 MEETING

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 21, 2008 were approved, with the following change to the third sentence in the paragraph under "Bicycle Element in the General Plan":

"A Member expressed his concern that the Bicycle Element should be reviewed by the BUSC prior to its being taken to the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC)."

REGULAR BUSINESS

SELECT CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

After general discussion, and due to their being two vacancies on the Committee, no action was taken by the Committee.

BICYCLE ELEMENT IN THE GENERAL PLAN

Senior Planner St. Paul informed the Committee that information would be provided to the Committee as it became available, and the Committee would be able to provide comments to the GPAC. Staff was currently gathering information, and could not move forward on the Bicycle Element until all the information had been gathered. A Member asked when the General Plan deadline was, and Mr. St. Paul responded that there was not a firm date. Staff was looking at the design and format of the Plan, and ways to provide the information to the public and other City departments in a user-friendly manner, possibly web based.

Public Comments

Jane Rand asked if there would be any other public input opportunities, and Mr. St. Paul explained that there would not, the studies would provide additional information.

A Member asked if the draft document would go to the public for review, and Mr. St. Paul responded it would be available, most likely via the City's website. Comments could also be made at any of the public meetings.

Denny Bean believed the traffic studies were a huge undertaking, and Mr. St. Paul confirmed that is was, and that a separate consultant had been hired to work on these studies. He explained the basics of the studies, and the rating system typically used. Mr. Bean commented that when he was on the Committee, the City's Traffic Engineer had an informal agreement that where you could put a "stripe", he would put a "stripe", whether it qualified or not. He asked if there was anything in the General Plan regarding this, and Mr. St. Paul explained the General Plan designated some of the bike routes, and he was not able to answer for the Traffic Engineer.

Ms. Rand asked if it would be possible for the BUSC to receive incremental versions, with an understanding that it was not final, to speed up the process. Mr. St. Paul believed it was a good idea, but he did not know how he would be receiving the information. He would forward the information as it became ready for the Committee's review. Ms. Rand asked what bearing the intersection rating had on determining whether a bike lane could be added. Mr. St. Paul explained that there were some intersections where bike lanes could not be added, but he was not the expert.

After general discussion, no action was taken by the Committee.

Mr. St. Paul left the meeting.

BIKE RACKS IN THE CITY

Chair Hiegel reviewed previous Committee discussions, and explained that the Committee had been asked to indicate where bike racks were needed. Senior Civil Engineer Bowers explained the City was currently working on the budget, and new bike racks may fit under new projects.

Member Barber commented that Vice-Chair Duvignau had been working on the list, and Chair Hiegel explained that a statement was not needed, just locations indicated on the Redevelopment Maps.

Chair Hiegel explained there were three maps, and Member Donovan commented that most of the areas were private property so he was not clear on what type of program they were discussing. Chair Hiegel commented that City staff would need to go to the businesses to request bike racks be added, and the Committee would just provide the desired locations.

Mr. Bowers asked the Committee to list the name and contact information for any of the property owners the Members had spoken with.

Member Donovan stated discussion at the last meeting indicated there was only \$10,000 available from Redevelopment, and the bike racks that had been installed at the Transportation Center were approximately \$2,800 each, plus installation and staff costs. There may be funding available now for three racks, and additional racks could be added to the budget.

Chair Hiegel and Member Morris agreed to work on the Area 3, and the other Members agreed to work on various areas.

Public Comment

Ms. Rand asked what the deadline for the budget was, and Mr. Bowers stated he was working on the CIP currently, and he would need the information as soon as possible. Ms. Rand asked if the source of funding was Redevelopment, and Chair Hiegel responded that Redevelopment Director Zur Schmiede had indicated he would provide some money for bike racks, but it would need to be spent in a Redevelopment Area or in an area that would support a Redevelopment Area.

After general discussion, no action was taken by the Committee.

UNION PACIFIC TRAIL

Mr. Bowers explained they were currently completing a Phase I environmental, which would help determine what would happen with the project. Chair Hiegel asked what type of environmental issues they were looking at, and Mr. Bowers responded contamination.

A Member asked if the City had received a grant from the EPA, and Mr. Bowers responded negatively.

A Member asked if there was a timeframe, and Mr. Bowers replied he would try to have it at the next meeting.

After general discussion, no action was taken by the Committee.

Committee discussion ensued regarding the St. Jude project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Denny Bean commented that he had sent an email to Vince Buck regarding the parking structures at the train stations in Fullerton and Buena Park filling up early in the morning. Due to the cost of the parking structures, and reduction in bus services, he believed it would be nice to provide an incentive through the two cities and OCTA to encourage bicycling to these stations. He suggested a sticker being placed on the bicycles and someone could record the sticker numbers.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hiegel adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.