



APPROVED MINUTES
CITY OF MILPITAS

Minutes: Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC)
Date of Meeting: June 9, 2008
Time of Meeting: 7:00 P.M.
Place of Meeting: Milpitas Sports Center Conference Room

- I. CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. ROLL CALL** *BPAC Members*
Present: Cheryl Bunnell (Chair), Nawal Stanojevic (Vice-Chair), Rene Briones, Jose Leon, Cheng-Wei Pei

Staff: Janice Spuller

Absent: Commissioners Wei Sun & Fred Zeise, Council Member Armando Gomez

Quorum was established.
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** Approval of the June 9, 2008 Agenda
M/S: Stanojevic/Briones
All Ayes
- V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** Approval of April 14, 2008 Minutes
M/S: Briones/Stanojevic
All Ayes
- VI. PUBLIC FORUM** There were no members of the audience speaking under Public Forum
- VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 1. Chair Announcements**
Chair Bunnell circulated copies of an article titled "City mulling possible bicycle library system" from the Palo Alto Daily News, dated Monday, June 9, 2008. The article discusses a recent Palo Alto City Council discussion on a "bicycle library system", a city-wide bicycle-loan program.
 - 2. Commission Announcements-Commissioner reports on BPAC meetings**
Commissioner Leon attended the Palo Alto Meeting regarding the

Bicycle Library Program presentation that was previously discussed by Chair Bunnell. Commissioner Leon purchased a booklet on the Bicycle Library Program. Portland, Oregon is administering this program. There is a lot of potential for this program and suggests this item be a long-term included in the Bikeway Master Plan Update. Commissioner Leon acknowledges Milpitas bicycling is not like Palo Alto Bicycling but suggests looking at the program and start planning for the future- as far as 5 years away. He said Palo Alto is encouraged and referred to the 10-year planning process it took Paris, France, but new technology may speed up the process. Commissioner Leon added comments from the meeting included those who own bicycles are not currently riding, which comes down to maintenance and convenience. Commissioner Leon will send his meeting notes to Ms. Spuller to share with the Commission.

Chair Bunnell summarized that these comments can be forwarded to the Milpitas Consultant to include in the Bikeway Master Plan. She also suggested a subcommittee be formed to research the program. Commissioner Pei added the research should include getting numbers and program costs. Commissioner Leon would like this information incorporated in the Bikeway Master Plan Update. Commissioner Leon & Commissioner Pei will work on a subcommittee to do research on the program and report back to the Commission at the next meeting.

Commissioner Leon presented this item at the end of the meeting, as he arrived after the Announcements.

3. Staff Announcements

Staff had no additional announcements.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. VTA Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Update

Chair Bunnell attended one meeting from the last time the Commission met. This meeting was uneventful and the June meeting was cancelled.

2. Bike to Work Day

Staff Janice Spuller updated the Commission on the May 15, 2008 event. Ms. Spuller stated over 190 bicyclists passed through the energizer station this year. Last year there were about 120 bicyclists that passed through. Ms. Spuller says contributors to the increase of bicyclists may include the increasing cost of gas.

Ms. Spuller stated there were more bicyclists at the Great Mall Transit Center compared to the two other energizer stations at Main Street and Montague Expressway and at City Hall.

3. Bikeway Master Plan

i. Special Meeting 05-29-08*

Ms. Spuller referred to the Special BPAC meeting held on May 29, 2008.

ii. Next Steps

Ms. Spuller said the City will continue to receive comments until August to input in the Bikeway Master Plan. Ms. Spuller will ask the consultant for a draft Bikeway Master Plan for the Commission to review at the next meeting.

Chair Bunnell appreciated the 100% participation by the Commission and the comments.

Chair Bunnell opened comments from the public:

Rob Means, 1421 Yellowstone Avenue, Milpitas
Mr. Means stated at the last [regular] meeting the Commission agreed to look at bicycle racks. Mr. Means will email his notes to City staff Janice Spuller. Mr. Means mentioned the existing bike racks are "5th-wheel" variety that hold the front or back wheel. Mr. Means looked at locations and down on Dempsey near Calaveras Boulevard there are converted churches from industrial buildings that lack racks. There are several shopping areas that do not have bike parking. In some communities, there has been the city's responsibility of installing in private developments. He added Selwyn Park does not have bicycle rack, but has recently been refurbished. There is also the 7-Eleven Shopping Center on Park Victoria [and Calaveras Boulevard]. He suggests the development should have been conditioned to place bicycle racks after renovation. [Mr. Means was actually speaking to item # 4 under Old Business]

4. Bicycle Racks Survey*

Commissioner Briones mentioned after the [April 14, 2008] meeting, Ms. Spuller emailed a list of bicycle rack locations suggested to the VTA. These locations covered the area he was going to survey.

Commissioner Pei surveyed Main Street between Calaveras Blvd and Great Mall Parkway and did not notice any bicycle facility. He

recommends a part of the [Bicycle Master Plan Update] Project, he suggests including this information in the plan. Commissioner Pei provided Ms. Spuller with a marked up map of suggested locations. He added at the Safeway in the Town Center Shopping Center and Orchard Supply Hardware in the Beresford Square Shopping Center, there was minimal number of bike racks which is insufficient. There is one bicycle rack in front of Staples, but is not convenient. Commissioner Pei suggests the City provide bicycle racks along Main Street like other Cities such as Palo Alto have. Ms. Spuller added there is a Midtown Streetscape Master Plan that will include bicycle racks. She referred to North Main Street where the new library, medical facility, and senior housing development are in construction. Commissioner Pei provided Janice with a picture of bicycle racks on the sidewalk- which highlights bicycle awareness as a form of transportation, and a map of shopping centers and suggested locations.

Commissioner Briones asked how many bicycle racks are provided at the library. Ms. Spuller does not recall the placement and will provide that information to the Commission.

Chair Bunnell asked Ms. Spuller to remind what the purpose of the survey is for. Ms. Spuller said this exercise is two fold: 1) to review the existing facilities to seek out funding and 2) to include as part of the Bikeway Master Plan to condition new development to incorporate bike racks and to outreach to existing shopping centers and facilities to add bike racks.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Celebrate Milpitas Festival August 16 & 17, 2008

Ms. Spuller stated the event will have the same space as last year and will have a tent, table, and a few chairs. She has the banners and is requesting from the Commission what they want to state on the banner? Vice-Chair Stanojevic suggested adding the logo and the words "Bicycle Corrale" on the banner.

Chair Bunnell asked if the Commission can add something in the Milpitas POST advertising the bicycle parking at the Festival. Chair Bunnell will write a letter to the Milpitas POST Editor stating the BPAC will be bicycle parking at the Festival.

Ms. Spuller requested volunteers to park the bicycles at the event. Chair Bunnell said she can volunteer Saturday Afternoon. Vice Chair Stanojevic said she can volunteer Saturday Morning. Commissioner Briones said he can volunteer Sunday Afternoon

and requested some giveaways from the BPAC budget? Ms. Spuller will see if she can use some grant funding (if available) to purchase giveaways. Chair Bunnell also requested VTA Maps for the event.

Rob Means, 1421 Yellowstone Ave, Milpitas, requested if he can be there with his Electric Bikes. The Commission agreed.

Commissioner Leon will email his availability to Ms. Spuller

2. School Safety

i. Suggested Routes to School*

Ms. Spuller referred to the Agenda Attachment regarding the Federal Safe Routes to School Grant the City received. The Work Plan will review the existing Routes to School and develop the Bicycle Curriculum with the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition. With the timing of the grant notice to proceed, Staff will have to start the program at the beginning of the Fall schools year.

ii. Walk to School Day

Ms. Spuller stated the Walk to School Day will be promoted this Fall for the new school year. Vice-Chair Stanojevic stated there are a lot of events happening in October such as fire prevention, school bus safety, and other events. She suggested coordinating with Brian Shreve, Milpitas Unified School District Staff.

iii. Escuela Schools Traffic Congestion Committee

Ms. Spuller stated this item is for information. Breathe California applied for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) grant to run a peer-education program to work with Russell Middle School Students to promote behavior change by encouraging walking, biking, and carpooling to the Escuela Schools. The City is working with the group to assist them with their efforts. Ms. Spuller asked Rob Means to add anything. Mr. Means stated he thought this was a great effort for students to teach other students behavior change.

3. Union Pacific Bicycle Pedestrian Overcrossing

Ms. Spuller added this item on the agenda because the BPAC members expressed their concern about a crossing at the Special BPAC meeting on May 29, 2008. As part of the Bikeway Master Plan, if there are recommendations, it should be included in the

plan; however, she would like to have a conversation with the VTA about this project. Ms. Spuller mentioned there is City Council direction to not include this item in the Bikeway Master Plan as it was reviewed by City Staff and determined by the city Council that it was an infeasible project due to cost and location. Ms. Spuller will keep this item on the agenda as she does more research on the project.

Commissioner Briones added if Solectron is now Flextronics, then there maybe some interest.

Chair Bunnell would like to better understand the reservation from the City Council to proceed. Chair Bunnell intended to speak to the City Council Liaison for the Commission; however Ms. Spuller mentioned the Transit Area Specific Plan includes a pedestrian/bicycle overcrossing near the Piper/Montague Expressway area where future development will be. Ms. Spuller added when the project was in development stage with the VTA, this was the last approved location.

Commissioner Pei stated this was an expensive cost-share for the developer and most likely requires the City to install.

Chair Bunnell brought the meeting back to order and would like more information on the Piper Drive Development. She will touch base with Ms. Spuller.

4. Milpitas Transportation Projects

Ms. Spuller distributed a draft PowerPoint Presentation on Milpitas Transportation Projects. This presentation will be given at the VTA Policy Advisory Committee. Since the BPAC has been showing interest in transportation projects, Ms. Spuller reviewed the current Milpitas projects.

5. Landmark Towers Environmental Impact Report*

Ms. Spuller forwarded a link to the EIR for this project. The Public Comment ends Monday, June 16, 2008. This is a multi-family residential and commercial development. There is a suggestion to remove the bicycle lanes along Barber Lane to accommodate diagonal parking. Ms. Spuller stated there is another project next to the proposed project at the Milpitas Square Shopping center.

Commissioner Pei asked if there is a removal of bike lanes, what the alternative is for bikers. He stated Barber Lane is wide and

there is space for parallel parking and biking. He added Cisco is there so employees can ride to work; ride to Milpitas Square and the addition of residents will increase the use of bicyclists. He also wanted to know what and how long of the section of bicycle lane removal on Barber Lane.

Chair Bunnell confirmed this will be going to the Planning Commission. Chair Bunnell requested the Commission to review and provide comment to her. Ms. Spuller suggested composing a letter to submit to the Planning Commission. She stated that previously, any removal or changes of bicycle facilities should be brought to this Commission, since this is the advisory body. There was a mix up with the agenda revisions; therefore additional staff members were not aware of the meeting.

X. ROUNDTABLE/OPEN FORUM

1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

There were no comments on this item.

2. Safety

- Commissioner Pei mentioned that his commute to work, westbound on Great Mall Parkway before Abel Street, he noticed there is glass and dead animals on the road. Ms. Spuller stated you can call 586-2620 to report to our Public Works Department.
- Commissioner Briones mentioned that the roadways seem to be deteriorating and they are not being repaved as quickly as usual. He notices potholes and cracks. Locations include Pescadero Street, in the middle of the road, Abel Street, and debris on Jacklin. Ms. Spuller highlighted pavement management is a priority to the City Council. She can ask the City Engineer/Public Works Manager regarding this. Chair Bunnell agreed she has noticed this as well including Montague Expressway.

3. Public Awareness

- Commissioner Pei announced there is a free-transit day on June 19 and requested advertisement. Ms. Spuller said she will post it on the City's website.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

M/S: Stanojevic/Briones

All Ayes

The BPAC meeting adjourned at 8:20am.

Next Meeting: August 11, 2008