

Countywide Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee MEETING AGENDA

July 28, 2015 1:30 PM

Sonoma County Transportation Authority
SCTA Large Conference Room
490 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 206
Santa Rosa, California 95401

ITEM

1. Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Notes: April 28, 2015 – **DISCUSSION / ACTION***
4. Roundtable Updates
 - 4.1. Member Updates
 - 4.2. Other Entities' Updates
5. Facilitating Suburban Bike-to-Rail, UO Master's Project – Bjorn Gripenburg – **PRESENTATION**
6. Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update – **DISCUSSION****
7. TFCA/TDA3 Quarterly Report – **INFORMATION****
8. Caltrans District 4 Bicycle Plan – **INFORMATION***
9. Articles of Interest – **INFORMATION**
 - 9.1. Senate Committee Passes DRIVE Act Unanimously After Some Tinkering – StreetsBlog USA - <http://usa.streetsblog.org/2015/06/25/senate-committee-passes-drive-act-unanimously-after-some-tinkering/>
 - 9.2. The Feds Jump on Board: Protected Bike Lanes Are Now Official Federal Policy – People for Bikes - <http://www.peopleforbikes.org/blog/entry/the-feds-jump-on-board-protected-bike-lanes-are-now-official-federal-policy>
 - 9.3. Closing Streets to Cars for Walkers and Cyclists Is Getting More Popular by the Minute – Next City - <http://nextcity.org/daily/entry/san-jose-street-event-new-york-central-park-closed-to-cars>
10. Other Business / Comments / Announcements
11. Adjourn - **ACTION**

*Materials attached.

**Handout at meeting.

The next **SCTA** meeting will be held September 14, 2015

The next **CBPAC** meeting will be held September 22, 2015

Copies of the full Agenda Packet are available at www.sctainfo.org

DISABLED ACCOMMODATION: If you have a disability that requires the agenda materials to be in an alternate format or that requires an interpreter or other person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact SCTA at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to ensure arrangements for accommodation. SB 343 DOCUMENTS RELATED TO OPEN SESSION AGENDAS: Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the **COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE** after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Sonoma County Transportation Authority office at 490 Mendocino Ave., Suite 206, during normal business hours.

Pagers, cellular telephones and all other communication devices should be turned off during the committee meeting to avoid electrical interference with the sound recording system.



COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Notes for Special Meeting of April 28, 2015

ITEM

1. Introductions

Meeting called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Chair Wendy Atkins.

Committee Members: Wendy Atkins, City of Sonoma, Chair; Jim Bohar, City of Sonoma, Citizen Representative; Sue Kelly, City of Sebastopol; Steven Schmitz, Sonoma County Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee; Elizabeth Tyree, Sonoma County Regional Parks.

Guests: Tina Panza, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition.

Staff: Chris Barney, Nina Donofrio, Dana Turr y.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of Notes: March 24, 2015 – **DISCUSSION / ACTION***

Approved with the following correction: “Geoffrey Sykes” to read “Geoffrey Skinner;” Sue Kelly abstaining as she was not present at this meeting.

4. Roundtable Updates

4.1. Member Updates

City of Sebastopol:

Sue Kelly announced her retirement in June.

Staff has been preparing to submit their Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant application for bicycle lanes on Highway 116 and has received supportive feedback from Caltrans on this project. Permitting is under way.

Sonoma County Regional Parks:

Elizabeth Tyree reported that staff is also applying for an ATP grant for the Bellevue Creek Trail connection between Stony Point Road and the SMART Pathway. Sonoma County Transportation and Public Works is applying for funding for the Crocker Road Bridge project in Cloverdale; for pedestrian/bicycle access for Willowside Road between Guerneville Road and Hall Road, which is a Safe Routes to School project; and on Mark West Springs Road between Old Redwood Highway and Riebli Road.

Ms. Tyree next reported that staff is still trying to get Caltrans approval for bid documents for the SMART trail from Hearn Avenue to the Joe Rodota Trail Class I trail. This project is expected to go out to bid in May.

The Sonoma-Schellville Trail planning work is under way. At the south end of the trail there is a plan for a future traffic light, at the end of Eighth Street East. Negotiations are in process for right-of-way.

One of the sections of the Central Sonoma Valley Trail will be built by MidPen Housing. Construction is anticipated to start this year.

Construction of a section of the trail to Flowery School is projected to start at the end of this year or next year.

Sonoma County Transit:

Mr. Schmitz had nothing new to report.

City of Sonoma:



Ms. Atkins announced that the City will be constructing a Class II bicycle lane on Napa Road from Broadway to the City limits.

Discussion followed regarding special events, such as music festivals; Jim Bohar mentioned the recent application that was submitted to hold a music festival at the Sonoma Speedway, and inquired whether the Committee is usually involved in consulting on these events.

Chair Atkins noted that usually the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition will be called upon for these events to provide valet bicycle parking. Gary Helfrich of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition explained that the Coalition is a Political Advocacy Organization and, as such, would be the appropriate group to approach regarding this.

4.2. Other Entities' Updates

Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition:

Tina Panza reminded the Committee to refer to Safe Routes to School as a resource in planning for their projects that relate to schools. The Coalition can help facilitate this and often get better results.

Ms. Panza next thanked the Santa Rosa Public Works Department who responded immediately to the request from a group of students performing a walking audit at Wright School to remove a hazardous broken storm drain pipe.

The Family Bike Workshop was launched the previous Saturday. This has enjoyed a significant response, and the May 23 workshop is already full.

A Community Bike Rodeo is scheduled for this Saturday, May 2, in Rohnert Park at the Community Center.

Mr. Helfrich reiterated Ms. Panza's reminder to look to the Bicycle Coalition and Safe Routes to School as a resource, citing how this was a significant influence in the City of Santa Rosa being awarded the ATP grant, showing underserved schools that need funding to improve safety at rail road tracks.

Mr. Helfrich next reminded the Committee that May is National Bicycle Month, and encouraged members to participate in the Team Challenge. He announced that the SCTA won last year for the most miles cycled, and that Executive

Director Suzanne Smith logged in the most miles of all the CMA Executive Directors.

5. TDA Article 3 & TFCA

5.1. TDA3 & TFCA Quarterly Report – INFORMATION*

Ms. Turré reported that the TDA3 report shows no projects with funding that is expiring this year.

The TFCA report shows a number of projects that are expiring in October; Ms. Turré requested that the Committee look at these and note those projects that may need an extension.

5.2. TDA Article 3 FY15-17 Program of Projects –**ACTION***

Ms. Turré explained that this is funding from the 1/4¢ sales tax. It is an annual funding program that can be used for bicycle and pedestrian lanes and paths. A call for projects was released in February, and one application was received for a project by the City of Santa Rosa. Countywide there is over \$1 million available for programming in 2015. Unprogrammed funds will roll over to the next year.

The Committee unanimously approved the Program of Projects for presentation to the Board for its approval.

5.3. TFCA Program of Projects – INFORMATION*

Ms. Turré reported that this was approved by the TAC at its meeting the previous week. This is also an annual program with funds distributed in two parts; the first portion is guaranteed funding for Santa Rosa, Sonoma County and Petaluma, based on population. The second portion is competitive funding.

Ms. Turré noted a slight change in the amount from the original call for projects due to an error in accounting.

6. Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program - Proposal for 2015 Approach – **ACTION***

Ms. Turré explained that this new approach is more compatible with the use of the automated counter equipment and current objectives. At the request of the Board, staff has developed a revised proposal for conducting this program going forward.

The proposal is in two parts; the first part would be managed by SCTA and would be aimed at measuring high-use corridors and Measure M bicycle and pedestrian projects. This information would be used for the Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, which is updated every four years. Two to four locations would be counted at the same time each year.

The second part of the program would be the provision of the automated counter equipment to jurisdictions on a first come, first served basis. Each jurisdiction would be responsible for installing and removing the equipment. Staff will provide the necessary training and technical assistance.

Ms. Turr y invited Committee feedback; discussion followed regarding projects by County Regional Parks, which is partnering with the Department of Health Services for work on the Joe Rodota Trail. Steve Schmitz suggested that "Public Works Departments" be changed to "other public agencies."

7. Articles and events of Interest – INFORMATION

Ms. Turr y referred the Committee to the following informational items:

- 7.1. Safe Routes to School Walk Audit Workshop – Monday, April 27, 2015 – <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/safe-routes-to-school-walk-audit-workshop-tickets-16502120286>
- 7.2. Bay Area's Bike to Work Day Turns 21 – <http://www.baycrossings.com/dispnews.php?id=3267>
- 7.3. Harvard Researcher Calls for Better Police Reporting of Bike Crashes – <http://usa.streetsblog.org/2015/04/06/harvard-researcher-calls-for-better-police-reporting-of-bike-crashes/>

8. Other Business / Comments / Announcements

Ms. Turr y reported that a graduate student she knows is conducting research on bicycle connections to SMART stations as part of their studies, and notified Committee members that this individual would likely be contacting various jurisdictions to request information. Mr. Schmitz invited inquiries. It was also suggested that the individual contact the City of Cotati.

Ms. Turr y next announced that she would likely be out on maternity leave at the July meeting and that Janet Spilman would staff the meeting.

9. Adjourn - ACTION 2:17 p.m.

Caltrans District 4 Bicycle Plan

Purpose: to prepare a bicycle transportation plan in order to understand the safety and mobility needs of bicyclists on the State Highway System (SHS) within District 4, propose and prioritize projects and programs to address those needs, and identify Federal, State, and local funding sources to implement the projects.

Project Cost and Funding Sources: \$300,000 from State Planning & Research for technical work plus an estimated \$100,000 from the Caltrans Planning Public Engagement contract for public outreach activities.

Justification:

The development of a District 4 Bicycle Plan is needed in order to understand the public's bicycle mobility and safety needs on the SHS in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area and to provide a framework for selecting and prioritizing projects to address those needs. Although most Bay Area cities and counties have developed bicycle plans, the rural SHS corridors are largely not covered by these plans, and many of the urban SHS routes are not sufficiently addressed in these plans due to being outside the local road system.

Timeline:

- July – Dec 2015: Develop request for consultant services and award consultant contract.
- Jan 2016 – Oct 2017: Conduct stakeholder and public engagement –
Hold 4 public workshops (one each in West, East, South & North Bay) and
2 Technical Advisory Committee meetings at each of 3 major project stages:
(1) release of draft vision, goals and objectives, (2) release of draft prioritized
list, (3) Release of draft list of Tier 1 and 2 projects.
- Jan – March 2016: Develop Bicycle plan vision, goals and objectives.
- April – June 2016: Produce existing conditions report.
- July – Dec 2016: Develop scored list of SHS locations with bicycle improvement needs by
analyzing collision data and physical deficiencies and by estimating
bicycling demand based on land uses and possibly heat maps.
- Jan – April 2017: Develop lists of Tier 1 (with identified funding sources) and
Tier 2 (unconstrained) projects.
- May – Aug 2017: Produce Draft Plan.
- Sept – Oct 2017: Finalize Plan.