

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIKEWAY AND WALKABILITY COMMITTEE

April 6, 2016

These meeting minutes represent an “action minute” format. A copy of the meeting audio tape can be obtained at the Public Services Department’s front counter located on the 4th floor of Costa Mesa City Hall. The Bikeway and Walkability Committee (BWC) of the City of Costa Mesa, California met in a regular meeting session at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2016.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph Taboada at 6:33 p.m. at the Costa Mesa Senior Center 695 West 19th Street, Costa Mesa, California.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Members Present:

Chair, Ralph Taboada,
Vice-chair, Cynthia McDonald,
Member Brian Valles,
Member Flo Martin,
Member James Kane,
Member Jim Kerins,
Member Jim Erickson,
Member John C. Merrill,
Member Richard Huffman II,
Member Andrea Marr

Committee Members Absent:

Member Tony Capitelli,
Member Leah Ersoylu,
Dr. Kirk Bauermeister, NMUSD,
Brent Stoll, Chamber of Commerce

City Council Liaison Absent:

Katrina Foley

Staff Present:

Ernesto Munoz, Public Services Director
Raja Sethuraman, Transportation Services Manager,
Elizabeth Palacio, Engineering Technician II

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Robert Graham spoke about proposed improvements at Harbor Boulevard at Merrimac Way. He used it as an example of why the Proposed Bicycle Maps need to show all bicycle facilities including what may be proposed in the future. He does not understand why the Greenville Banning Channel access road south of Gisler Avenue to Fairview Park cannot be added to the map, even though it may not be needed now.
2. Geoff West reminded everyone that there were many people present at the previous Bikeability and Walkability Committee opposing the consideration of opening the Greenville Banning Channel access road behind the homes citing primarily safety and privacy concerns.

3. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Member Richard Huffman II asserted there was tremendous opposition to opening the Greenville Banning Channel access road, and stated he would not support proposing anything with that much opposition.
2. Member John C. Merrill learned more from the Go Human campaign. SCAG would like to have cities embrace the Go Human campaign and make it their own.
3. Member Jim Kerins commended Raja Sethuraman and Ernesto Munoz for planning for the undergrounding of utilities on the north side of Adams Avenue. He thanked them for their outstanding work.
4. Member Jim Erickson shared a short video he prepared during a recent trip to Beacon Park in Irvine California. He pointed out many amenities found in the bike trails such as bike pumps and tools to make minor repairs to bikes.
5. Member James Kane acknowledged that there is much negativity surrounding trails by affected residents. He mentioned enhancements that may be implemented, such as motion-sensor lighting and fencing, that would help residents embrace the trails.
6. Member Flo Martin expressed concerns with the lack of bike racks at Wilson Park. She noted there are bikes everywhere and people are not able to legally park their bikes and are receiving citations. She declared "we need bikes now!" She also pointed out that the bike racks at the OC Library Annex at the corner of Fairview Road and Wilson Street are overloaded with bikes.
7. Vice-Chair Cynthia McDonald announced that on May 15, 2016 there will be a Ciclovía held in the Lynnwood / South Gate area. She also shared her concerns with the lack of bike racks at parks. She also expressed that citing the homeless population is probably a waste of money since they are less likely to pay for those citations. She requested the history of prior discussions of opening the Greenville Banning Channel access road issue and would like to evaluate the need for it. She is all for putting in trails where they are needed.
8. Chair Ralph Taboada vowed to approach the City Council and request funding for more bike racks.
9. Member Andrea announced that on May 14, 2016, there will be an Action Arts at the Park event at Twinkle Park. She also announced that the Cap-and-Trade program collected \$2.3B and suggested the City look into collecting grant money from that fund for bikeability/walkability projects.

4. STAFF COMMENTS

1. Raja Sethuraman, Transportation Services Manager, updated the committee on the bike rack program. He assured the committee that the Transportation Division is regularly applying for grants and will update the committee of the other grants at a later date.
2. Ernesto Munoz, Public Services Director, suggested the committee lobby for funding of bike racks since budget discussions will be coming up shortly.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The approval of the March 2, 2016 regular meeting minutes was rescheduled to be reviewed and approved at the next regular meeting on May 4, 2016.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Bike Education at Schools – Presentation by Pat Hines

Pat Hines, from Safemoves, gave a presentation of the Bike Education Program at schools funded by a grant obtained by the City. Pat answered several questions asked by the committee members regarding several items featured in the presentation.

- b. Harbor Boulevard Bike Trail Project – Staff Presentation

Raja Sethuraman, Transportation Services Manager, made a brief presentation on the upcoming Harbor Boulevard Bike Trail Project and highlighted the key points of the project. Raja answered several questions asked by the committee.

- c. Status of Grant Projects – Staff Update

Raja Sethuraman, Transportation Services Manager, updated the committee on the status of grant funded projects in progress as well as the status of grants that were applied for.

- d. Items for Next Agenda

Chair Ralph Taboada evaluated the committee's desire to add the discussion of opening of the Greenville Banning Channel access road at the next meeting's agenda. There was no support from the committee to add this item to the agenda for further discussion in the near future.

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Next regular meeting May 4, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Costa Mesa Senior Center, 695 West 19th Street, Costa Mesa, California.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Submitted by:



Ralph Taboada, Chair