

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM, Monday, July 24, 2017 2nd Floor Conference Room, Rohnert Park City Hall 130 Avram Avenue, Rohnert Park, California 94928

Members Present:

Stephen Gold (Chair) X Terry Gault (Vice-Chair) X Gary Gutierrez X Tim Hensel X Katie Musick X

Non-Voting Participants: Eydie Tacata, Management Analyst; Jerry Griffin, Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison; Andy Wilson, citizen; Sue Parker, citizen.

1. Call to Order

Chair Stephen Gold called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

2. Introductions

Chair Gold commenced self-introductions.

3. Public Comment

Staff member Eydie Tacata distributed copies of a letter received by the Planning Division of Development Services from Mrs. Sue Parker, resident. Mrs. Parker appeared before the Committee to speak to the issue in her letter, the safety of pedestrians in parking lots. She described her efforts to raise awareness about this issue. Mrs. Parker recommended a 2012 University of Albany graduate student paper about design of parking lots for safety and shared experience between cars and pedestrians. She asked about working with shopping center owners to design better parking lots responsive to the safety of pedestrians, and especially older users.

Chair Gold thanked Mrs. Parker and suggested that the Committee read the paper she cited.

Ms. Tacata said that parking lot design is typically addressed during a project's site development stage. She would ask one of the City planners to talk about parking lot design and the site review process at the next meeting.

4. Consideration of Approval of Minutes of June 26, 2017 Meeting

Committee Member Katie Musick moved to approve minutes of the meeting of June 26, 2017; the motion was seconded by Committee Member Gary Gutierrez and was approved by a vote count of 4 ayes (Gold, Gault, Gutierrez, Musick) -0 nays -0 absences -1 abstentions (Hensel).

5. Finalizing Recommendations for Select Crosswalks at Mid-Blocks and Uncontrolled Intersections (Discussion/Action)

Chair Gold introduced the item and called attention to the staff memorandum's Exhibit A: Proposal for Improving Safety at Selected Locations of Crosswalks at Mid-Blocks and Uncontrolled Intersections ("Proposal").

Chair Gold reviewed the section of the Proposal listing long-term actions, including a road diet on Golf Course Drive, installation of "shark teeth" (yield) pavement markings, and working with Valley Village Mobile Home Park to address fencing at the property's southeast corner, which blocks the view of creek path users more visible to southbound traffic. The Committee members generally concurred with these recommendations in the Proposal.

The Committee reviewed the Proposal's listing short/medium term actions, briefly discussing:

- The use of "shark teeth" and the inclusion of the topic of warning devices in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan in the next update
- The segment of Camino Colegio that becomes a school zone due to the relocation of Credo High School at the SOMO development
- Safety at creek paths and roads intersect; challenges of changing bicyclist behavior to approach intersection slowly and ride on creek paths with other users' safety in mind.

The Committee's discussions resulted in the prioritization of the recommendations as follows:

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Recommendations for Short/Medium Timeframe Actions in Priority Order

- 1. Remove existing uncontrolled crosswalk at Snyder Lane at Capri Way/Rosana Way, including pavement markings and related signage
- 2. Install pushbutton-activated flashing signs in both directions at six (6) existing crosswalks:
 - a) 2 crosswalks on Seed Farm Drive near Copeland Creek
 - b) 2 crosswalks on Country Club Drive near Copeland Creek
 - c) 1 crosswalk on Golf Course Drive at Hacienda Way
 - d) 1 crosswalk on Golf Course Drive at Halcyon Place
- 3. Implement "shark teeth" at Hinebaugh Creek @ Country Club Drive crosswalks.
- 4. Where Hinebaugh Creek Path crosses Commerce Boulevard, move one or both curb cuts and restripe the crosswalk to minimize the crossing distance. Also, where Hinebaugh Creek Path crosses Commerce Boulevard, work with Sonoma County Water Agency to clear vegetation in and around the creek. The goal should be to make eastbound users of the creek path more visible to southbound traffic.
- 5. Remove existing uncontrolled crosswalk on Country Club Drive at Racquet Club Circle
- 6. Implement four-way stops (or traffic signals) at two (2) existing intersections:
 - a) Camino Colegio and Maple Drive
 - b) Camino Colegio and Manchester Avenue/Valley House Drive

If at either intersection the recommended change is infeasible, the Committee's second choice would be to remove the existing crosswalk on Camino Colegio at that location, including pavement markings and related signage.

7. Align the northerly Copeland Creek Path with the existing crosswalk at Seed Farm Drive. Also at this location, consider installing a curb extension "bulb out" on the southbound side of Seed Farm Drive north of Copeland Creek. Its purpose would be to make eastbound users of the northerly creek path more visible to southbound traffic, without breaking the bicycle lane. If the recommended change is infeasible, the committee's second choice would be to implement a 24/7 "no parking" zone (including signs and curb color) on southbound Seed Farm Drive, starting at least 50 feet before (north of) the existing crosswalk. (The roadway is already signed for "no parking" on Monday mornings.)

8. Add or repaint the "LOOK" pavement stencils or alternative pavement markings on creek paths where they approach crosswalks. If the recommended change is infeasible, the Committee's second choice would be to install yield signs on the creek paths at these locations to instruct cyclists on the creek paths to yield to approaching traffic.

Recommendations for Medium/Long Timeframe Actions

- 1. Implement a "road diet" on Golf Course Drive, restriping the pavement from Country Club Drive to Snyder Lane so as to:
 - a) eliminate one lane of traffic (not a bike lane) in each direction,
 - b) calm traffic and reduce its actual speed,
 - c) add on-street parking where appropriate, and
 - d) create a continuous bike lane in the eastbound direction.
- 2. Install yield lines ("shark teeth") at all unsignalized mid-block crosswalks per MUTCD.
- 3. Work with the management of Valley Village (6401 Country Club Drive) to alter the fencing on the north side of the northerly Copeland Creek Path. The goal should be to make eastbound users of the creek path more visible to southbound traffic.

If any of these recommendations are unclear or infeasible, staff is encouraged to seek clarification and direction from the Committee.

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Vice-Chair Terry Gault moved to recommend approval of the resultant Proposal for Improving Safety at Selected Locations of Crosswalks at Mid-Blocks and Uncontrolled Intersections; the motion was seconded by Committee Member Gutierrez and was approved by a vote count of 5 ayes (Gold, Gault, Gutierrez, Hensel, Musick) -0 nays -0 absences -0 abstentions.

6. Staff and Committee Member Updates on Previous Matters

Chair Gold mentioned various aspects of the preparations for SMART operation, including free rides for the public and space for bicycles in the rail cars.

Committee Member Gutierrez asked about any updated on the Trail to Crane Creek Regional Park. Ms. Tacata said that the water tank road, which comprises the first phase of the Trail is under construction, to be completed next spring.

7. New Matters for Future Consideration

Chair Gold said that he would like to do a field visit during a September or October meeting. The parking lot issue would be on the agenda for the regular September meeting.

8. Adjournment

The Committee concurred to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:50 PM.

Eydie Tacata, Recording Secretary

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Rohnert Park Bicycle and

Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Stephen Gold, Chair

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