



FINAL

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
Meeting Minutes**

5:30 PM, Monday, January 22, 2024
Rohnert Park City Hall, City Council Chambers
130 Avram Avenue, Rohnert Park, California

Members Present: Jan Ogren (Chair) 0 Steve Keith 0
Gary Gutierrez X Tim Hensel X Shirley Johnson X

Non-Voting Participants: Eydie Tacata (Senior Public Works Analyst, City of Rohnert Park); Jason Sampietro (Associate Engineer, City of Rohnert Park); Jim Barrios (BPAC Liaison, Rohnert Park Parks & Recreation Commission); Emily Shartin (Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition)

1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Gary Gutierrez called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2. Introductions

Acting Chair Gutierrez commenced self-introductions.

3. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement

Tim Hensel, BPAC Member, read the Land Acknowledgement as shown on the Meeting Agenda.

4. Public Comments

Ralph Beltz, resident, read a statement that the residents of Adrian Drive strongly oppose a protected bike lane on the street. He listed reasons for the opposition, including: disputes among neighbors competing for limited parking spaces; visibility or obstructed view while pulling out of driveways if there is a parking-protected bike lane; placement of garbage cans in the bike lane; damage to cars from bicyclists if there is a parking-protected bike lane; and difficulty maneuvering RVs in between the vertical elements used for bike lanes. Mr. Beltz said that the roundabouts proposed at the December 11th community meeting were a good compromise.

Melissa, resident, said she did not understand why the BPAC was still considering adding bike lanes: She thought the matter was settled at the meeting. Jason Sampietro, Associate Engineer, clarified that the roundabouts were the agreed-upon traffic calming solution; bike lanes would not be installed at this point. Melissa said she appreciated focusing on traffic. She said that the street isn't a bike route and bike lanes are not a solution.

Jeremy, resident, said that as a UPS driver, he sees that there would be a problem if he were delivering on a street with parking-protected bike lanes: While making a delivery, there would be nowhere for him to park his truck, except the middle of the street.

Three other residents (names not taken) expressed agreement with Mr. Beltz.

Acting Chair Gutierrez thanked them for their comments and invited the commenters may want to stay for the "Project Updates" section of the meeting, when City staff would give an update on what is planned for Adrian Drive instead of bike lanes.

Shirley Johnson, BPAC Member, mentioned the correspondence from the principal of John Reed Elementary School that was sent to the BPAC and City staff. Ms. Johnson requested that it be attached to the January 22, 2024 meeting minutes for the record. (See attachment.)

5. Project Updates

Adrian Drive Traffic Calming

Mr. Sampietro said that at the December 2023 meeting, it was agreed to try mini-roundabouts at intersections on Adrian Drive to slow down traffic. He said that a mini-roundabout pilot project will be installed at the Arlen Drive/Almond Street intersection to test its effectiveness. Melissa, resident, asked if there was a potential for bike lanes to be installed in the future. Mr. Sampietro replied that the survey about improvements on Adrian Drive indicated a strong desire to calm traffic and slow car speeds, so there should be continuous discussion about what measures work. While bike lanes will not be installed at this time, it could be considered later. Mr. Beltz asked how the residents could be updated about such developments. Mr. Sampietro said that residents can contact him directly.

Golf Course Drive Crosswalk Improvements

Mr. Sampietro reported that the pedestrian safety improvement project for the intersection of Golf Course Drive and Halcyon Place and the crosswalk between Mountain Shadows Plaza and Hacienda Way is out to bid, closing on January 25th. The project includes installing rectangular rapid flashing beacons and median pedestrian refuges. Ms. Johnson asked if there were “shark’s teeth” pavement markings; Mr. Sampietro responded “yes.”

Hinebaugh Creek Bike Path Rehabilitation

Mr. Sampietro reported that the tree removal portion of the path rehabilitation project is being prepared to go to bid shortly. Trees along the path have damaged the existing path and their roots will shorten the life of the new path. He and the City Arborist have identified trees for removal based on their potential to damage the new path, non-native status, diseased/poor health/dead tree, potential to cause damage (e.g. propensity for “deadfall”, to drop branches), or location. Ms. Johnson asked how many trees would be removed. Mr. Sampietro said as many as 150 were identified, but 38 are prioritized for removal and included in the project to be bid.

Parks and Paths Map

Eydie Tacata, staff to the BPAC, reported that at the January 8, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, a “Parks and Paths Map” item was added to their February 2024 meeting agenda. At that meeting, Cindy Bagley, Community Services Director, asked Jim Barrios, Parks & Recreation Commission BPAC Liaison, to clarify what staff should prepare for the item. Mr. Barrios explained that the BPAC wants to ask the Parks and Recreation Commission to explore the idea of a Parks and Paths Map, including how to create one (whether an app or paper/PDF), how fund it, and who could do it (i.e. City staff or consultant hired by City). Ms. Bagley requested that Mr. Barrios and a BPAC Member give a presentation at the meeting.

Acting Chair Gutierrez asked Mr. Barrios to move the Parks and Paths agenda item at the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting from the February meeting to March, as the BPAC members who are working on this matter are not at this January meeting to know about this yet.

6. Consideration of Approval of Minutes for 12/13/2023 meeting

Ms. Johnson moved to approve the meeting minutes; Chair Gutierrez seconded. The meeting minutes were approved by a unanimous vote of 3-0-2-0.

7. List of Matters for Future Consideration

The BPAC members reviewed the list of matters for future agenda items.

Emily Shartin, Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator (Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition), asked about the opening of the multi-use path on Camino Colegio near SOMO Village. Mr. Sampietro said that he would clarify the status of the path availability adjacent to SOMO Village. There was additional discussion among the group about the bicycle facilities along Camino Colegio between Bodway Parkway and East Cotati Avenue. Acting Chair Gutierrez suggested that this topic be a future agenda item.

The BPAC concurred on the following items for the February 2024 meeting: Update on Camino Colegio improvements, Bike Path Audits, and Parks and Paths Map.

Chair Gutierrez suggested that “bike parking” be an agenda item for the March 2024 meeting.

Mr. Hensel mentioned the recent pedestrian fatality that occurred on Rohnert Park Expressway and asked if the BPAC should have a discussion after this kind of incident, in particular to identify any issues that the BPAC could address in their purview. Acting Chair Gutierrez said that this is a good point, and bringing it up could help identify hotspots or a need for a project.

8. 2024 BPAC Meeting Calendar

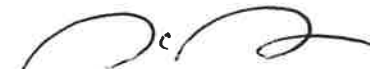
The BPAC members reviewed the calendar and concurred with the meeting dates shown.

9. Adjournment

Acting Chair Gutierrez moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Hensel seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 PM.



Eydie Tacata, Recording Secretary
Rohnert Park Bicycle and
Pedestrian Advisory Committee



Gary Gutierrez, Acting Chair
Rohnert Park Bicycle and
Pedestrian Advisory Committee