

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM, Monday, September 11, 2017 SMART Multi-Use Path between Southwest Boulevard and Copeland Creek Path and Intersection of Snyder Lane at Rosana Way/Capri Way, Rohnert Park, California 94928

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

Non-Voting Participants: Eydie Tacata, Management Analyst; Jerry Griffin, Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison

1. Call to Order

Chair Stephen Gold called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

2. Introductions

Chair Gold commenced introductions.

3. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present.

4. Field Visit and Discussion: SMART Multi Use Path between Southwest Boulevard and Copeland Creek Path

There was discussion of various topics at the field locations, including:

- Crosswalk at Copeland Creek on Seed Farm Drive
 - o Concern about cars parked up to the crosswalk, blocking visibility of pedestrians. Use of red curb painting, no-parking signs, and painted "bulb-outs" to push cars back from crosswalk.
 - o Concern about the misalignment of the Copeland Creek path with the crosswalk and how fast-travelling eastbound bicyclists would not see the painted crosswalk on Seed Farm Drive.
- Intersection of Copeland Creek Path and SMART Multi-Use Path
 - Concern about visibility of oncoming path traffic blocked by the utility box on the SMART Multi-Use Path. There was a suggestion of installing a mirror on the fence, so that path users could see oncoming traffic.
 - Question about user right-of-way at this intersection of the paths. There was discussion about a 4-way stop at this intersection, or pavement markings such as LOOK stenciling or yield signs in order to indicate which path has the right-of-way
 - o Concern about narrow width of path at the intersection. There was also concern about drop-off at curb and shoulder transition south of the path intersection.
 - Question about jurisdiction and responsibility for weed management east of the SMART Path
- Intersection of SMART Path at Southwest Boulevard
 - o Concern about the placement of push button for SMART Multi-Use Path far from the path.
 - o Appreciation of recent improvements of median at SMART Multi-Use Path on Southwest Boulevard, including new bollards and widened median width.

- Questions about detectable warning surface placement on sidewalk locations east and west of railroad tracks.
- Observations of SMART Multi-Use path users going through intersection without stopping, regardless of movements of motorists on eastbound Southwest Boulevard.
- Questions about bicyclists coming off SMART Multi-Use and making a right turn at Southwest Boulevard: which traffic light to obey, what the bike facility is at this location (on the street as shared facility or sidewalk).
- o Discussion about bicycle speed limits.
- O Concern about the location of sharrows on westbound Southwest Boulevard approaching the signal at Seed Farm.

5. Field Visit and Discussion: Intersection of Snyder Lane @ Capri Way and Rosana Way

Chair Gold framed the issue for the Committee as to whether it is possible to make the crosswalk at this intersection more safe. He noted that it is not illegal to cross at this location without a crosswalk. He said that the question is whether a painted crosswalk and combination of devices at this intersection would make it safer for pedestrians to cross than otherwise removing the crosswalk, which is what the Committee proposed and approved as a recommendation to the City at the July 24, 2017 meeting.

There was discussion of the following topics at this location:

- Installation of a flashing beacon on the median, and the lower costs for the solar-powered flashing beacons as presented at a previous meeting by Deputy City Engineer Art da Rosa.
- Observations about vehicle left-turn behavior into Rosana Way from Southwest Boulevard. Motor vehicles were observed using left turn lane, rolling past the crosswalk and fully entering the intersection to turn left into Rosana Way. There was also 1 bicyclist observed making the turn from southbound Snyder Lane into Rosana Way.
- Observation of potential multiple-lane threat at crosswalk location.
- Whether pedestrians would actually walk to the controlled intersection at either Southwest or East Cotati to cross Snyder Lane.
- Observations that most of this crosswalk's pedestrian use appears to be from the neighborhood east of Snyder Lane. 5 pedestrian crossings were observed at this intersection. There were 3 separate groups of pedestrians who came from Rosana Way and crossed west on Snyder Lane to Capri Way, 1 group who came from Capri Way and crossed east, and 1 group who returned from the shopping center on the west side of Snyder Lane and crossed west to Rosana Way.

The Committee agreed that the field trip was valuable to see actual conditions and user behaviors, and that the original recommendation for the intersection should be reconsidered at a future meeting.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:30 PM.

Eydie Tacata, Recording Secretary

Rohnert Park Bicycle and

Pedestrian Advisory Committee

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Stephen Gold, Chair

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