

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Announcement

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2019
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sonoma County Permit & Resource
Management Department
2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa

Staff: Steven Schmitz
Phone: (707) 585-7516
E-mail: steven@sctransit.com



Agenda:

- I. Introductions & Public Comments*** (10 Minutes)
- II. Approval of Agenda & Minutes**
- III. Staff Reports** (30 Minutes)
 - Status of Bicycle Safety Education Campaign Implementation.
 - Progress of Requested Shoulder Sweeping on List of Priority Roads.
 - Update on Petaluma Blvd. South Connection to San Antonio Creek Pathway.
 - Review of Pedestrian and Resurfacing Improvement Projects.
 - Lower Russian River Trail Feasibility Study Progress Update.
- IV. General Meeting:**
 - A. Presentation on Proposed Project to Install Free Bike Repair Stations on Joe Rodota Trail & West County Trail. (15 Minutes)
 - B. Presentation on Final City of Santa Rosa Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan Update 2018. (30 Minutes)
- V. Other Business & Announcements** (5 Minutes)
- VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Sonoma County BPAC is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019.

*Public Comment on Issues Not on the Agenda. Please limit comments to 3 minutes each. The Committee will hear public comments on non-agenda issues within the Committee's scope of authority. The Committee will hear public comments on non-agenda issues for up to 10 minutes, at which time they will hear scheduled agenda items. Any additional public comments will be heard at the conclusion of the items that are already on the agenda.

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

May 22, 2019 Minutes

Page 2

Members in Attendance		Other Participants	
Joe Morgan	2 nd District	Brad McCarty	1 st District Resident
Vin Hoagland	3 rd District	Eris Weaver	SC Bicycle Coalition
Amy Loukonen	4 th District	Ken Tam	Regional Parks
Brian Bauer	5 th District (alt.)	Gary Helfrich	Permit Sonoma
		Steven Schmitz	SCBPAC Staff

Meeting Summary

I. Introductions and Public Comments

Self-introductions were made. The committee welcomed Brad McCarty to the meeting, who is a resident of the 1st District. Eris Weaver of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition reported that approximately 1,500 bicyclists visited energizer stations on Bike to Work Day 2019. Eris also said that the Bicycle Coalition would like to explore creating a volunteer-based program to help clean up debris along roadway shoulders. Staff said that the County Transportation and Public Works Department has already taken steps toward establishing such a program.

Amy Loukonen mentioned that she's heard from several people that they're receiving very slow responses or no responses at all when issues such as debris in the roadway shoulders are submitted to So-Co Report-It, which is Sonoma County's on-line reporting system for road repair issues. Staff agreed to send an e-mail to all the committee members asking for their feedback using So-Co Report it. The feedback received will be submitted to the County Transportation and Public Works Department.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The minutes from the February 20, 2019 committee meeting were approved as presented. The agenda for the February 20, 2019 committee meeting was approved with the addition of the following items under Staff Reports requested by Ken Tam; Forestville – West County Trail Update, Santa Rosa Creek Trail Closure, Update on Measure M Sales Tax for Parks.

III. Staff Reports

Implementation of Bicycle Safety Campaign. Staff reported that additional radio PSA's would be run on Froggy and The Bull radio stations during the month of May in conjunction with Bike to Work Day. This will then fully expend the \$50,000 TDA Article 3 grant. Utilizing \$5,000 in Tourism Impact Funds approved through Supervisor Zane's office, staff said that the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition's "Give Them Space" video would be shown 'before the movie' in several local cinemas during the summer. Also, the Spanish-language version of the '3-feet for bicycle safety' print advertisements would be run in local Spanish-language newspapers within the next few months using Tourism Impact Funds. Staff said that running

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

May 22, 2019 Minutes

Page 3

bicycle safety PSA's in the local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offices was explored but that the DMV required a minimum one-year advertising contract, which would have been cost prohibitive with the remaining budget for the campaign.

Status of Requested Shoulder Sweeping on List of Priority Roads. Staff reported that Glen Morelli and Brandon Hart of the County Transportation and Public Works Department's Integrated Waste Division were working on a shoulder-sweeping plan based on the list of priority roadways that was submitted by the committee in late February. With the recent annexation of the Roseland area by the City of Santa Rosa, there are several roadways in that area that Recology no longer needs to sweep on behalf of the County. Those resources would be dedicated to sweeping shoulders along the committee's list of priority roadways.

Comments on Caltrans Highway 1 Draft Transportation Concept Report. Staff distributed to the committee the final draft of the comment letter regarding Caltrans Highway 1 Draft Transportation Concept Report, which was prepared by Eric Gage of Permit Sonoma. Eric attended the Coastal Municipal Advisory Committee meeting on March 7 but there were no substantial additions to the comment letter from that meeting. The comments previously provided by the committee are included in the final draft comment letter, which is awaiting signature and would be submitted to Caltrans by May 31.

Petaluma Blvd. South Connection to San Antonio Creek Pathway. On behalf of Chet Jamgochian of the County Transportation and Public Works Department who was unable to attend the meeting, staff reported that the intersection of Petaluma Blvd. South at Kastania Road was currently being reviewed by the department's traffic signal coordinator to develop several different alternative mitigations. They'll then work on estimating how much each of the mitigations would cost to implement. Chet hopes to be able to attend the committee's next meeting to provide a more detailed update.

Status of Gleason Beach Highway 1 Realignment Project. Gary Helfrich of Permit Sonoma said that the Gleason Beach Highway 1 realignment project would likely not begin for another several years due to property that needs to be acquired, which can be a lengthy process. More recently, Caltrans has needed to implement one-way traffic controls and k-rail due to a landslide on Highway 1 near Gleason Beach. Gary mentioned that there was also a second landslide on Highway 1 near the intersection of Bay Hill Road. These two landslides would likely require one-way traffic controls and lengthy detours along this segment of Highway 1 in Sonoma County for the foreseeable future.

Update on Lower Russian River Trail Feasibility Study. Ken Tam of Regional Parks reported that the feasibility study project kicked off in February and two community meetings were conducted in Guerneville earlier this month. Some comments during the community meetings included concerns about property rights along the Lower Russian River. Additional public comments regarding the study were still being accepted on-line. A draft trail alignment should be ready for review by August. The final document is anticipated to be ready by November 2019.

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

May 22, 2019 Minutes

Page 4

Other Staff Reports. Ken Tam from Regional Parks reported that the West County Trail connection to downtown Forestville would soon be constructed in two phases. The first phase is a paved pathway segment that will be constructed this summer and the second phase is a boardwalk segment that will be constructed in the fall. When this project is completed, the West County Trail will finally connect directly to downtown Forestville.

Regarding the recent closure of the Santa Rosa Creek Trail to the west of Fulton Road, Ken said that the Sonoma County Water Agency actually owns the property on which the trail was constructed. They have the right to close the trail if they require access to the creek for maintenance or cleaning purposes. The Water Agency notified Regional Parks five days prior to the most recent closure, which was not enough time to spread the word to the public. In the future, notices will be posted about trail closures at least one week prior.

Ken also reported about the recently passed Measure M sales tax for parks in Sonoma County. The sales tax is anticipated to bring in approximately \$11.5 million annually with \$7.6 million going to Regional Parks and the remainder split among all of the incorporated cities in Sonoma County. Regional Parks has developed a draft work plan for how it will utilize the new sales tax revenue, which will be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors in June. In addition to various capital projects, the sales tax is anticipated to provide funding for over 30 new employee positions for Regional Parks.

IV. General Meeting

A. Proposed Amendment to 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to Include San Antonio Creek Pathway as Segment of SMART Rail Trail. Ken Tam of Regional Parks said it is anticipated that the San Antonio Creek Pathway will be open to the public in August. Caltrans constructed this new pathway as part of the Highway 101 Novato Narrows widening project. It provides a new bicycle and pedestrian connection under Highway 101 connecting the new frontage road on the east side of the highway to San Antonio Road on the west side. It will provide the first continuous bicycle route parallel to Highway 101 between Petaluma in Sonoma County and Novato in Marin County.

The San Antonio Creek Trail is not specifically listed as a proposed project in the 2010 Sonoma County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The only proposed project located nearby that is identified in the plan is the proposed SMART Rail-Trail project. Ken said he'd like the committee to consider the San Antonio Creek Pathway to be a proposed segment of the SMART Rail-Trail project. Maintenance of the pathway would then fall to SMART.

Joe Morgan said that SMART should not be given credit for a pathway with which they had absolutely nothing to do. Also, because the pathway has already been completed, it doesn't need to be a proposed project in the 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Instead, the San Antonio Creek Trail should be listed as an existing facility in the plan.

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

May 22, 2019 Minutes

Page 5

The other committee members present at the meeting concurred with Joe's comments. Ken thanked the committee for their consideration. Staff said that the new San Antonio Creek Trail would be amended into the 2010 plan as an existing Class I multi-use pathway and to be maintained by Sonoma County Regional Parks.

V. Other Business & Announcements

Vin Hoagland announced that the Santa Rosa Planning Commission would be considering approval of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Southeast Greenway project tomorrow, May 23 at 4 p.m. If approved by the Planning Commission, the EIR would then go to the Santa Rosa City Council for their consideration in July.

Amy Loukonen reported that, unfortunately, the jury for the vehicular manslaughter trial involving the death of bicyclist Amy Suyama deadlocked last month and the judge declared a mistrial. Prosecutors at the District Attorney's Office are in the process of deciding whether they should retry the case.

Staff announced that Cindy O'Grady has resigned as the 3rd District Alternate representative on the committee. Vin said he would begin spreading the word that her position is now open.

VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next meeting of the committee was scheduled for August 21, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.