

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Announcement

Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Place: Zoom Meeting
Link: <https://zoom.us/j/96036294948>
Phone: (669) 900-9128, ID # 960 3629 4948



Staff: Steven Schmitz
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Agenda:

- I. Introductions & Public Comments*** (10 Minutes)
- II. Approval of Agenda & Minutes**
- III. Staff Reports** (15 Minutes)
 - Status of Petaluma Blvd. South/Kastania Road Restriping Project.
 - Comments from Committee on Sonoma County Local Coastal Plan.
 - Timeline for Update of the 2010 County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.
 - Feedback from Committee on Project Development Referral Process.
 - Review of Stony Point Rd. Corridor Study at Joe Rodota Trail Crossing.
- IV. General Meeting:**
 - A. Overview of Sonoma County's So-Co Report-It System and the Process for Responding to Issues. (30 minutes)
 - B. Review and Approve FY 2021/22 Transportation Development Act Article 3 Three-Year Funding Plan. (30 minutes)
- V. Other Business & Announcements** (5 Minutes)
- VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Sonoma County BPAC is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021.

*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.

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Members in Attendance		Other Participants	
Chris Woodcock	1 st District (Chair)	Matt Ridgeway	2 nd District Resident
Brad McCarty	1 st District Alt.	Steven Birdlebough	Trans/Land Use Coal.
Joe Morgan	2 nd District	Eris Weaver	SC Bicycle Coalition
Matt Frazier	2 nd District Alt.	Nader Dahu	Public Works
Vin Hoagland	3 rd District	Chet Jamgochian	Public Works
Amy Loukonen	4 th District	Hunter McLaughlin	Public Works
		Olivia Welch	Public Works
		Ken Tam	Regional Parks
		Steven Schmitz	SCBPAC Staff

Meeting Summary

I. Introductions and Public Comments

Self-introductions were made. The committee welcomed to the meeting Matt Ridgeway, Second District resident, and Steve Birdlebough of the Sonoma County Transportation and Land Use Coalition. Steve announced that the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) Measure DD was recently passed by the voters, which provides additional funding for active transportation projects as compared with Measure M. Steve invited committee members to participate in the update of the SCTA's Countywide Transportation Plan, which needs a bicycle and pedestrian perspective.

Eris Weaver of the Bicycle Coalition said she was also happy with the passage of Measure DD and the increase of local sales tax funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects. Eris also announced a big win for bicyclists regarding the County of Sonoma's decision not to appeal the Catherine Williams case to the California Supreme Court. In addition, Eris mentioned that their Safe Routes to Schools classes are currently being conducted virtually and the Bicycle Coalition is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Finally, Eris said that she was concerned about the County Transportation and Public Works Department's decision to re-stripe a segment of River Road without including Class II bicycle lanes.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda for the November 18, 2020 meeting was approved as presented. The minutes from the May 20, 2020 meeting were approved with the following clarification; Nader Dahu said that total funding for the Arnold Drive Class II bicycle lanes has not yet been entirely secured and the project still needs authorization from the Board of Supervisors.

III. Staff Reports

Improvements on Petaluma Blvd. South at Kastania Road. Nader Dahu reiterated what he reported during the committee's previous meeting that the restriping of the intersection is

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scheduled for early next year but green bicycle lanes would likely not be installed because the location is in a rural area and not mandated by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The committee requested that another urbanized area in the unincorporated areas should be considered as a test for the installation of green bicycle lanes.

Proposed Roseland Apartments Project Next to Joe Rodota Trail. Ken Tam outlined the proposed Roseland Avenue Apartments project in Santa Rosa that would create yet another crossing of the Joe Rodota Trail at West Avenue. Vin Hoagland questioned whether another crossing of the trail is really needed and suggested that any crossing at West Avenue should only be for Emergency Vehicle Access. Ken said that the project already proposes an access point located to the west at Roseland Avenue.

Feedback on Committee's Project Development Referral Process. Staff said that feedback was being sought regarding the efficiency, thus far, of providing project referrals to committee members for their review. Brad McCarty said that the volume was acceptable for him but he didn't need to review projects that are Lot Line Adjustments. Chris Woodcock concurred with filtering out the Lot Line Adjustments projects but said that, on the other hand, some projects may need to be elevated to the full committee for review. Staff said that the proposed Roseland Apartments was a good example of such a project.

Potential Timeline for Update of 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Staff said that \$20,000 in TDA Article 3 funding was used to cover a portion of Permit Sonoma's staff time during the update of the plan in 2010. For the next update of the plan, TDA Article 3 funding of up to \$50,000 is available in the TDA Article 3 funding plan for staff time. Depending on the availability of Permit Sonoma staff, who would be taking the lead, the update of the plan could begin as early as Summer 2021.

Compilation of Committee Comments on Local Coastal Plan Update. Staff mentioned there was a community meeting regarding the Local Coastal Plan Update on November 10. The committee was encouraged to review the Circulation and Transit components of the plan and provide comments to staff that will be compiled and submitted to Permit Sonoma. Thus far, Permit Sonoma staff have said they've received no comments on the bicycle and pedestrian policies or projects that are included in the plan.

Other Staff Reports. Ken Tam of Regional Parks reported on a recent property acquisition that will be used for a new County regional park in Monte Rio adjacent to Dutch Bill Creek. Acquisition of what is called the Torr Property could also help facilitate the development of a portion of the proposed Dutch Bill Creek Class 1 Trail between Monte Rio and Occidental.

IV. General Meeting

A. Comments on Transportation and Public Works Department's Draft Local Road Safety Plan. Chet Jamgochian of Public Works said the purpose of the County Draft Local

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Road Safety Plan (LRSP) is to identify 'hotspot' collision areas on roadways located within the County's unincorporated areas and explore potential short-term and long-term corrective measures that may reduce collision rates and improve roadway safety. Beginning 2022, an LRSP will be required for an agency to be eligible to apply for federal funding through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). HSIP provides funding for projects that are identified based on data-supported needs and that have the sole purpose of reducing crashes and improving transportation safety for all users on local roadways. The LRSP is a living document and will be updated every five years.

Chet shared maps with the committee that identified the locations of bicycle and pedestrian collisions in the unincorporated areas over the past five years (2105 – 2019). Pedestrian incidents are primarily focused in the urbanized unincorporated areas while bicycle incidents are located throughout the County. Unfortunately, due to a lack of adequate data, it's been very difficult to identify 'hot spots' for pedestrian and bicycle collisions in the unincorporated areas. Chet said he sees the LSRP as a supplemental document to the Vision Zero Plan currently being developed by the County Health Services Department, which will most likely provide additional data on bicycle and pedestrian collisions. Feedback or questions from the committee on the LSRP would be greatly appreciated.

Brad McCarty said that the bicycle section of the plan is lacking and he wasn't clear what happens next. Chet responded that while the reason for vehicle collisions is obvious, it's not very apparent why bicycle collisions are happening in certain areas due to a lack of data. Brad asked if systemic issues like speeding is accounted for in the plan, especially roads like Lakeville Highway, Bennett Valley Road and River Road. Chet said that, while this is an important issue, speeding is difficult to address because HVIP funds are intended for capital improvements and cannot be used for education or enforcement. Eris Weaver said that the plan correlate collisions and the type of bicycle facility on a roadway, which is not provided in SWITRS. Chet responded that that seems like something that could be included in the plan with some help from the bicycle community.

As far as possible mitigation measures that could be included in the LSRP, Chet said that a good example is Lakeville Highway where higher friction surface treatments were installed to along the shoulder to provide vehicles from driving off the roadway. Matt Frazier said that it should be understood that such treatments are a double-edged sword in that they improve safety for motor vehicles but may make it less safe for other modes such as bicycles. Chet agreed that those types of surface treatments work well for curved roads. Brad added that they actually could encourage more speeding on long straight roadways, which would defeat the purpose. Chet reminded the committee that this plan is only to become eligible for HVIP funding and is just one tool in the toolbox for bicycle improvements.

Steve Birdlebough asked if Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) would be looked at in the plan. Chet said that mitigation measures to reduce VMT are actually looked on a project by project basis by Permit Sonoma and projects the require CEQA reviews also now need to analyze VMT. Hunter McLaughlin said that VMT will also be incorporated into the County's General

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Plan. With no further comments, Chet thanked the committee for their feedback and said it would be a good idea to revisit the LSRP after the Vision Zero Plan has been completed, which will provide more data points to analyze. Chris Woodcock thanked Chet for the presentation and said the committee would be happy to help provide additional feedback on the plan when more data becomes available.

B. Review of Proposed Bicycle Lane Enhancements on Green Valley Road for Manzana Products Project. Ken Tam provided an overview of the design for the Class II bicycle lane enhancements associated with Manzana Products on Green Valley Road, which serves as a connector for the West County Trail. Green paint will be included in portions of the bicycle lanes adjacent to Manzana Products. Ken said that Regional Parks has agreed to maintain the paint, which will need to be refreshed approximately once every five years. The improvements will also include a bicycle and pedestrian crossing of Green Valley Road leading to the westbound bicycle lanes.

Matt Frazier asked what type of paint would be used for the green bicycle lanes. Ken said he would find out and provide a response later. Chris Woodcock asked if there would be any asphalt curbs or raised delineators along the bicycle lanes to prevent trucks and cars from utilizing unofficial driveways to and from Manzana Products. Ken said the improvements do not include such treatments but that a cross-hashed buffer will be provided along the bicycle lanes to provide separation from more vehicle traffic along Green Valley Road. With no additional comments, Chris thanked Ken for bringing the design to the committee for review.

V. Other Business & Announcements

Staff announced that Olivia Welch has replaced Hunter McLaughlin as the Transportation and Public Works Department's liaison for the committee. There was no other business.

VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next meeting of the committee was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, January 20.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.