

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Announcement

Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2022
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Place: Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86930760534>
(669) 900-6833, ID # 869 3076 0534

Staff: Steven Schmitz
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Agenda:

- I. Introductions & Public Comments*** (10 Minutes)
- II. Approval of Agenda & Minutes** (5 Minutes)
- III. Staff Reports** (15 Minutes)
 - Feedback on So-Co Report-It & Shoulder Sweeping.
 - Timeline for County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update.
 - Status of County Application for Bicycle Friendly Communities.
- IV. General Meeting:**
 - A. Presentation by Moscow Road Preservation Coalition. (30 minutes)
 - B. Review of Draft TDA Article 3 Three-Year Funding Plan. (30 minutes)
- V. Other Business & Announcements** (10 Minutes)
- VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Sonoma County BPAC is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

*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)	Jochen Hammerschmidt	1 st District Resident
Joe Morgan	2 nd District	Neil Hancock	2 nd District Resident
Matt Frazier	2 nd District Alt.	Chris Eggers	3 rd District Resident
Vin Hoagland	3 rd District	Brian Geagan	4 th District Resident
Amy Loukonen	4 th District	Walter Niederberger	4 th District Resident
		Matthew Ridgeway	5 th District Resident
		Eris Weaver	S.C. Bike Coalition
		Kara Vernor	Napa Bike Coalition
		Jodi Ketelsen	TY Lin International
		Olguin Caban	Public Works
		Nader Dahu	Public Works
		Stevan Hunter	Public Works
		Gary Helfrich	Permit Sonoma
		Ken Tam	Regional Parks
		Steven Schmitz	SCBPAC Staff

Meeting Summary

I. Introductions and Public Comments

Self-introductions were made. There were no public comments.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The January 19, 2022 meeting agenda was approved with recommendations from staff that appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair be added to Staff Reports and that Staff Reports be moved after the General Meeting agenda items. The November 17, 2021 minutes were approved with the following correction; the word 'would' should be changed to the words 'could potentially' in the last sentence of the third paragraph on page 4.

IV. General Meeting

A. Bicycle Coalition Presentation on Their Advocacy Priorities. Eris Weaver of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition made a presentation on their advocacy priorities. The presentation included the coalition's bicycle infrastructure priorities including updating Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans, following the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) design guidelines, focusing on networks and destinations rather than projects, making Class IV protected bicycle lanes the default for on-street bicycle facilities. The presentation also included the coalition's policies and programs priorities including increasing the quantity of safe and secure bike parking, offering incentives for bicycling and encouraging businesses to do so, requiring regular 'bike-friendly

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driver training' for commercial drivers and engaging in campaigns targeting driver behavior, improving engagement and infrastructure in underserved communities, making a commitment to Vision Zero to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, implementing land-use policies that incentivize active transportation and dis-incentivize driving, and enforcing other traffic control measures. Eris concluded that all jurisdictions should hire a full-time active transportation planner to track projects and make periodic progress reports.

Walter Niederberger said that it is important for the smaller jurisdictions to be able to work with the County and larger jurisdictions to ensure there are good bicycle connections. Amy Loukonen said the County will definitely be considering that when it updates its plan. Also, there should be a policy in the County's updated plan that requires that periodic updates are provided to the committee on bicycle and pedestrian projects, especially those that utilize dedicated active transportation funding such as Transportation Development Act Article 3.

Joe Morgan reiterated that progress updates on projects are very important as well as an annual report, at a minimum, on bicycle and pedestrian project accomplishments. Eris said that a good first step would be to simply compile what projects have been completed since the last update of the County's plan in 2010. Walter said that all jurisdictions need to take advantage of the current situation where unprecedented amounts of federal funding is being made available for bicycle and pedestrian projects. Eris said that it also takes political will and projects that do not need much funding should be looked at such as 'tactical urbanism.'

On behalf of the committee, Chris Woodcock thanked Eris for her presentation and the follow-up discussion with the group and said he looked forward to the continued exchange of advocacy strategies between the coalition and the committee in the future.

B. Review Signalization Project at Todd Rd. and Standish Ave. Olguin Caban of County Public Works introduced the project as the realignment of Ghilotti Avenue at Todd Road and installation of a traffic signal to improve traffic flow and truck and bus turning movements at the intersection. Jodi Ketelsen of TY Lin International provided a vicinity map of the project and dimensions, striping plans and cross-sections for the intersection signalization. She said that while there is a pedestrian crosswalk, there are currently no Class II bicycle lanes incorporated into the project.

Vin Hoagland said that there appears to be ample room to stripe for bicycle lanes along Todd Road within the existing paved right-of-way. Joe Morgan asked if a round-about was considered and Jodi responded that there is inadequate right-of-way for such a facility. Ken Tam said a Class I pathway will be constructed along the SMART railroad right-of-way to the east of the intersection and Class II bicycle lanes along Todd Road would make a nice connection to that facility. Staff said that the project would make really good improvements to the intersection for Sonoma County Transit's buses. The westbound approach to the intersection needs to have a right-turn only lane to improve bus movements.

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Chris Woodcock pointed out that Todd Road is proposed as a Class II bicycle lane project in the County's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. With no further comments, Vin Hoagland made a motion, Joe Morgan seconded and the committee unanimously approved the proposed design of the Todd Road signalization project as being consistent with the 2010 Sonoma County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan with the following conditions:

- Signs and striping for Class II bicycle lanes shall be provided in both directions on Todd Road through the intersection. Class II bicycle lanes are also strongly recommended with this project west on Todd Road to the SMART railroad right-of-way and east on Todd Road to where the roadway narrows.
- A right-turn only lane shall be provided in the westbound direction on Todd Road at the intersection and a Class II bicycle lane shall be provided to the left of the right-turn only lane. If a right-turn only lane is provided in the eastbound direction on Todd Road at the intersection, a Class II bicycle lane shall be provided to the left of the right-turn only lane.
- All loop detectors for the signalization project shall be designed to detect bicycles.

III. Staff Reports

Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Committee. Chris Woodcock agreed to serve as the committee's Chair and Amy Loukonen agreed to serve as the committee's Vice-Chair through the end of calendar year 2023. Vin Hoagland motioned, Matt Frazier seconded and the committee unanimously appointed them to additional two-year terms.

Correspondence with Moscow Rd. Preservation Coalition. Staff reported that there was further correspondence with Rick Kreutzer of the Moscow Road Preservation Coalition but that he was unable to attend the meeting. On behalf of the committee, staff told him that the committee is open to considering elevating the project priority status of the proposed Class 3 bicycle route on Moscow Road in the County's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The committee is also interested in hearing more about their proposed ideas for making bicycle and pedestrian improvements along Moscow Road. Staff said that Rick plans on making a presentation to the committee during their next meeting in March.

Community Workshop on Draft Vision Zero Action Plan. Staff reported that the Sonoma County Transportation Authority and the Sonoma County Health Services Department would be holding a Community Workshop on Tuesday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m. which would include a presentation of the draft Vision Zero Action Plan. Registration for the workshop is required through Toole Design Group. The Vision Zero Action Plan focuses on action-oriented strategies to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities caused by traffic collisions, improving health, quality of life, sustainability, and economic vitality, particularly for low-income and disadvantaged communities.

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Feedback on So-Co Report-It and Shoulder Sweeping. Amy Loukonen said that she has had a couple of issues related to vegetation removal and shoulder sweeping that have remained unresolved over the past several months. She also said the committee should revisit the shoulder sweeping list for possible revisions. Staff said that Amanda Bouillercer was unable to attend the meeting but would be invited to the committee's meeting in March. Matt Frazier responded on behalf of County Public Works that the shoulder sweeping requests should be completed within the next week.

Progress on Bicycle Friendly Communities Application. Staff said the timeline is still to complete a draft of the application by May 2022 and submit the final version to the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) in September 2022. Staff added that it was recently verified by LAB staff that the County's application for the unincorporated areas could include programs and projects in the incorporated cities in Sonoma County that also benefit residents in the unincorporated areas.

Sonoma County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. Staff said that the Sonoma County Transportation Authority is reapplying for funding to update the Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, which would also provide some funding to assist with the update of the 2010 Sonoma County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Gary Helfrich of Permit Sonoma said that he would have more availability within the next year after the Local Coastal Plan Update has been completed.

V. Other Business & Announcements

Ken Tam announced that a virtual meeting regarding State Highway 37 would be taking place on January 25. This is an opportunity to make recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian improvements along this corridor.

Vin Hoagland announced that the Sonoma Developmental Center Specific Plan project description was released recently and would be presented to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors on January 25.

Gary Helfrich announced that comments on the Sonoma County Local Coastal Plan are still being accepted through April 7.

VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The committee's next meeting was tentatively scheduled for March 16 during which the Transportation Development Act Article 3 Three-Year Funding Plan would need to be reviewed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm.