

Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Announcement

Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Place: Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89107415456>
(669) 900-6833, ID # 891 0741 5456

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



Agenda:

- I. Introductions & Public Comments*** (10 Minutes)
- II. Approval of Agenda & Minutes** (5 Minutes)
- III. Staff Reports** (10 Minutes)
 - Status of Application for Bicycle Friendly Communities.
 - Funding for County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update.
 - Process for Updating Committee's Shoulder Sweeping List.
- IV. General Meeting:**
 - A. Regional Parks to Present Draft Design Alternatives for County Class I Trail Entry / Exit Points. (60 minutes)
- V. Other Business & Announcements** (5 Minutes)
- VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Sonoma County BPAC is scheduled for Wed., November 16, 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	
Brian Canepa	1 st District Alt.	Cris Eggers	4 th District Resident
Matt Frazier	2 nd District Alt.	Sergio Ruiz	Caltrans
Vin Hoagland	3 rd District	Nader Dahu	Public Works
Amy Loukonen	4 th District (Vice-Chair)	Stevan Hunter	Public Works
		Michael Kalua	Public Works
		Ken Tam	Regional Parks
		Deborah Waller	Permit Sonoma
		Steven Schmitz	SCBPAC Staff

Meeting Summary

I. Introductions and Public Comments

Self-introductions were made. Cris Eggers, 4th District Resident, reported that the bicycle lanes along Old Redwood Highway between Mark West Springs Road and the entrance to Cardinal Newman High School have excessive debris and bushes are encroaching into the shoulders, primarily in the southbound direction.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The June 15, 2022 meeting agenda was approved with the recommendation that Staff Reports be moved after the General Meeting items. The March 16, 2022 minutes were approved with the following corrections; the title 'Mr.' needs to be changed to 'Dr.' on page 3, and the spelling of the name 'Nader' needs to be corrected on page 4.

IV. General Meeting

A. Caltrans Presentation on Bay Area Bike Highway Study. Sergio Ruiz of Caltrans District 4 made a presentation to the committee on the Bay Area Bike Highway Study. The purpose of the study was to identify international best practices with recommendations for the Bay Area and California context, conduct a corridor suitability and feasibility analysis, and develop bike highway concepts as case studies. Bike Highways are defined as high-quality, direct or dedicated, and long distance bikeways that support higher speed travel, large volumes of people and connect regional destinations. A case study for a Rural Setting was developed in Sonoma County on Highway 116 between Stony Point Road and Highway 101 in Cotati. Local input will become important as the Bike Highway corridors are finalized.

Matt Frazier asked Sergio how driveways could hinder the use of Bike Highways and whether grade separation might be helpful. Sergio responded that the design concepts will be different at each location. It might be useful to have a distinct category of Bike Highways that are access controlled, which could be studied in more detail in a future study. Sergio said that it is anticipated that the study will be completed within the next several of weeks

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and would be distributed to the committee. It is the hope that branding certain projects as Bike Highways will help in securing more federal, state and regional grant funding. Amy Loukonen thanked Sergio for his presentation and, on behalf of the committee, invited him back to make a presentation on the final study.

B. Update on Signalization Project at Todd Road and Standish Avenue. Nader Dahu of Transportation and Public Works said that, after a traffic study that was conducted by W-Trans, it was determined that dedicated right-turn only lanes in both the eastbound and westbound directions on Todd Road at the intersection of Standish Avenue is not warranted and there is limited right-of-way to do so. Signing and striping for Class II bicycle lanes and traffic signal loop detectors for bicycles will still be provided with this signalization project. Funding is still being identified for the project and so construction is still at least a couple of years away.

Amy Loukonen said that she would like staff from Transportation and Public Works to integrate bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure into all projects. It continues to be frustrating for her that projects such as the Todd Road signalization project need to be reviewed by the bicycle and pedestrian advisory committee to ensure that bicycle lanes are included. Staff of Transportation and Public Works should be considering bicyclists and pedestrians in all of their projects and it should not only be an after-thought. A good example is the Petaluma Blvd. South at Kastania Road issue, which is still an unsafe situation for bicyclists.

III. Staff Reports

Status of Application for Bicycle Friendly Communities. Staff said that the timeline to submit the final version of the application to the League of American Bicyclists remains to be in Fall/Winter 2022.

Funding for County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. Staff reported that the Sonoma County Transportation Authority recently announced that their application for Caltrans funding to update the Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was approved. The grant includes funding to assist with updating the 2010 Sonoma County (Unincorporated) Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The timeline for beginning work is still undetermined and is based on availability of staff from Permit Sonoma.

Support Letters for Active Transportation Program Grants. Staff said that letters of support for Active Transportation Program grants were provided on behalf of the committee for the West Sebastopol Bicycle Connectivity and Pedestrian Enhancements project, which includes segments of Ragle Road and Mill Station Road in the unincorporated areas, and the Moorland Avenue Pedestrian and School Access project in the unincorporated areas of southwest Santa Rosa. The Moorland Avenue project will connect to Bellevue Elementary School to the west via West Robles Avenue, Oasis Drive and Primrose Avenue.

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Process for Updating Committee's Shoulder Sweeping List. Staff asked for feedback from the committee on the process for updating the shoulder sweeping list. In developing the original list, staff set up a Google Document and shared it with the committee. The same type of shared document could be set up again to update the list. The original list settled on twenty roadway segments, but that number could potentially be expanded.

Matt Frazier said that shoulder sweeping is primarily focused on emergencies, paving and bridge maintenance, and storm water drainage maintenance. However, the Transportation and Public Works Department does also address the committee's list on a rotating basis through a contract with Recology. There is potential to expand the list beyond the current road segments but ongoing funding would need to be identified.

V. Other Business & Announcements

Amy Loukonen and Vin Hoagland said that So-Co Report-It still need desperately upgraded. Matt Frazier and Nader Dahu responded that the updated reporting system is very close to being released, which should be a huge improvement.

Vin Hoagland announced a new group named 'Bikeable Santa Rosa' and encouraged everyone to check out their website at www.bikeableSantaRosa.org.

Amy Loukonen announced that the 'Taco Tuesday' bike ride takes place every Tuesday at Humboldt Park in Santa Rosa beginning at 6:15 p.m.

VI. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next meeting of the committee was tentatively scheduled for August 17. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.