

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Monthly Meeting

Thursday, August 16, 2012; 5:30-7:30 pm

Oakland City Hall, Sgt Daniel Sakai Hearing Room (aka Hearing Room 4), Second Floor

Draft Minutes

- 1. Attendees:** Brian Toy, Carol Levine, Chris Hwang, Chris Kidd, Daniel Schulman, Jennifer Stanley, Liza Pratt, Midori Tabata, Rebecca Saltzman, Robert Prinz, Ryan Chan, Ulla Britt Jonsson, Jamie Parks, Kenya Wheeler
- 2. Approval of meeting minutes:** Deferred to next meeting
- 3. West Oakland Specific Plan:** Ulla-Britt Jonsson, Planner, Planning, Building & Neighborhood Preservation, presented on the WOSP, the purpose of which is “to develop comprehensive, multifaceted strategies for facilitating the development of vacant and/or underutilized commercial and industrial properties within West Oakland’s Opportunity Areas.”

Looking at the area bounded by I-580, I- 980, and I-880 with bubble near the Target store above I-580 and an area below I-880 near 3rd Street. City received TIGER grant to look at this and Oakland Army Base for look at strategies for the development of vacant or underutilized properties with a focus to ease this development. This is a Specific Plan and so will include implementation actions which are part of environmental review. There have been 5 community workshops since starting the project last year. A loop streetcar is being considered to connect the BART stations (MA, WO, 19, 12), 40th St, and Mandela Blvd. Possible detour to connect to Pixar. Road diets for West Grand and Adeline to support Bike Plan are part of this Specific Plan study, i.e. traffic study for lane reduction.

Q: Are there mandates for developers to improve areas that are missing basic pedestrian facilities, remove unused railroad tracks, etc.? Staff will check on this. (Answer added later: Enhancing bicyclist safety at railroad crossings by removing unused rail spurs is part of the Plan’s Bicycle-oriented Implementation Actions).

Q: Was sea level rise considered? Yes, BCDC was consulted for potential ramifications and this will be considered.

Q: Is there discussion for this plan and other efforts (Lake Merritt Plan) for value-added benefits of future improvements such as streetcars, new development, infrastructure improvements? Yes

Q: What kind of environmental review will take place? Will require an EIR.

Q: What kind of feedback has been received from public health community? Public Health is on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and provides input. Social equity issues are included as part of this study.

Q: How does this plan coordinate with transit-oriented development efforts of BART? These are being coordinated. BART is a participant on this plan and also on the TAC.

- 4. About NACTO:** Jamie Parks, Senior Transportation Planner, Public Works Agency, will give an overview of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO). The presentation will focus on NACTO's work to develop design guidance for innovative bicycle facilities, on-going NACTO activities, and ways in which Oakland can take advantage of NACTO's work.

NACTO: National Association of City Transportation Officials. To represent urban transportation interests in federal transportation policy and information sharing between members. 15 cities are members; board composed of DOT directors. Working to advocate for more urban focus in federal transportation policy. They meet annually with members on Capitol Hill to represent member interests. Looking also for more funding for operations and maintenance, direct funding to cities without going through state, mode-neutral funding, i.e. not earmarked by mode.

Technical activities of NACTO: Urban Bikeway Design Guide and Urban Street Design Guide. Studies show that 60% of people don't bike because they don't feel safe. Portland and New York have experienced increases since facilities have been built. But guidance for more innovative facilities are not available in traditional sources. Most NACTO treatments are in MUTCD with exception of bike signals and bike boxes. However, MUTCD does not give really good guidance on how to build effective facilities. The NACTO guide fills in the gap of MUTCD and AASHTO. However, both NACTO and AASHTO are just guidance and not standards. Guide is free and web-based. Each treatment includes technical guidance, case studies, photos and renderings. Technical guidance includes what is required to be effective, what is recommended and options. Guide is web-based so it can be updated more frequently. Next area is promoting innovation in using public right-of-way.

Oakland can't join at this time but can still benefit from use of Bike Guide, monitor 'Designing Cities' initiative, join as an affiliate member...

Q: How does HDM jive with these other sources? Not sure at this time but feel the NACTO and AASHTO go further than HDM.

Q: What should Oakland pursue within these innovative treatments? Parklets and other treatments that are low-cost within Oakland's funding capabilities, buffered bike lanes, pedestrian treatments.

Q: Maybe becoming an affiliate member can help us leverage using some of these treatments in Oakland especially with support we have of Oakland mayor.

- 5. New web-based bicycle facility maps:** Staff will describe the purpose and functionality of two public web-based maps focusing on bike facilities (existing and under development), one using the [Google platform](#) and one created by the [City's Department of Information Technology](#).

Two new maps are available on Bike Program website (Oaklandbikes.info via 'Maps' and then 'Interactive Maps' link) generated by the same GIS data. Maps have two sections – existing facilities and projects under development. They include bike parking and signage as well as bikeways and both include the photos of racks and signs. There are missing photos so submissions via the email interface are welcome!

Comments/questions

There are some issues with determining project status because colors are too close especially when casing is visible.

Pop-ups with more information on project development would be useful.

Is there ability to coordinate with other data like transit data? Data is available but would need to be coordinated.

Does the map show bikeways in adjacent cities? Yes

Can this data be made available for mobile apps? City can provide data to whoever wants it. InfoAlameda.org is source for raw data that can be used by anyone to create mobile apps.

Staff commented that the intent of these maps is to show progress implementing the bike plan (vs wayfinding).

- 6. Shattuck Ave Bikeway design review:** Staff will share the striping and wayfinding sign designs for the Shattuck Ave Bikeway project, planned for construction in spring-summer 2013, and take comments from the committee.

This project has been in progress for a couple of years. It was delayed due to the poor pavement on Shattuck Ave between 59th and Woolsey St. Funds became available for re-paving so bike lanes can now move forward! Most has 7' parking lane, 5' bike lanes, 11' travel lane. Section between 51st and 53rd will have only sharrows to accommodate left-turn pockets. There likely will be changes to SB turn lanes on 52nd Street approach. Guide signs are also included as part of this project. A related project pending implementation is signage on Woolsey St in Berkeley to support connections to Shattuck Ave, Colby St, and Hillegass Ave. The plan is that Oakland will print destination signs (using Oakland's system) and Berkeley will post them.

- 7. Announcements, suggestions for next meeting topics (10 minutes)**

Director of Public Works is hosting a meeting next week to discuss pavement conditions effect on cyclists. Midori and Dave will attend and report.

Pedalfest! This weekend. City of Oakland and WOBO will each have a booth.

EBBC is doing training lobbying for re-authorization of Measure B. Contact EBBC if interested.

Bikes are allowed on BART tomorrow (Friday) during commute hours. So far things have worked well even at 12th Street.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by Carol Levine

Attachments

West Oakland Specific Plan:

- Project Area Map
- Schedule Overview
- Planning, Zoning, and Development Laws, 2011 (brochure)
- Comment card

NACTO PowerPoint presentation

Shattuck Ave Bikeway:

- Striping design excerpt
- Wayfinding sign plan
- Woolsey St wayfinding sign plan