



City of Oakland, Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission
Minutes from the January 18, 2018 meeting
City Hall, 2nd Floor, Sgt Daniel Sakai Hearing Room (aka Hearing Room 4)

Meeting agenda at www2.oaklandnet.com/OAK068556.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by BPAC Chair, Ryan Chan.

Item 1. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum/Introductions

At roll call, quorum was established with six commissioners present (X). One (✓) was absent, excused. Two arrived late (x).

Commissioners	Present
Reginald K Burnette Jr.	x
Ryan Chan (Chair)	X
Chris Hwang	x
Christopher Kidd	X
Fred McWilliams	X
Robert Prinz (Vice-Chair)	X
Midori Tabata	X
Rosa Villalobos	✓
Kenya Wheeler	X

Introductions were made.

- Other attendees: Mike Atkins, Josh Handel, Tom Holub, Melisa Krnjaic, Phoenix Mangrum, Julie Mendel, Menaka Mohan, Libby Nachman, Ryan Schuchard
- Staff: Lily Brown, Robert Merkamp, Noel Pond-Danchik, Matt Jones, Jason Patton, David Pene

Item 2. Approval of meeting minutes

- A motion to **adopt the Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting edited minutes from December 21, 2017** was made (Tabata), seconded (McWilliams), and approved by consent. Adopted minutes online at www.oaklandbikes.info/BPAC.

Item 3. Open Forum / Public Comment

- Tom Holub suggested that the City should stay ahead of the bikeshare market by researching the feasibility of dockless startup bikeshare systems.
- Ryan Schuchard works for Calstart, a nonprofit that works with legislators on Greenhouse Gas emissions reduction solutions, including bike promotion and cleaner vehicles. Commissioner Wheeler responded that the Bike Plan update process could provide a forum for additional input.
- Commissioner Kidd suggested a possible future agenda topic – the creation of a BPAC legislative committee.

Item 4. Nominations/Elections for BPAC Chair and Vice Chair

- Staff facilitated the BPAC nominations process and summarized the voting process as explained in the bylaws.
- Commissioner Chan nominated Commissioner Tabata for the role of BPAC Chair. There were no other nominations. Staff distributed a ballot for each Commissioner – all voted in favor. From this point forward, Commissioner Tabata served as Chair of the meeting.
- Commissioner Tabata nominated Commissioner Wheeler for the role of BPAC Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. Staff asked the members of the BPAC for a vote by acclamation. There were no objections to the nomination, and the commissioners voted by acclamation. From this point forward, Commissioner Wheeler served as Vice Chair of the meeting.
- Commissioner Tabata and Jason Patton thanked Commissioners Chan and Prinz for their work in their roles as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.
- Commissioners Prinz and Chan offered to aid with the transition process.

Speakers other than commissioners: None

Item 5. Bi-Annual Report on Development Projects

Robert Merkamp, Acting Zoning Manager for the Planning Department, presented on the Bi-Annual Report for Development Projects:

- There are two bureaus in the planning department – strategic planning and development. Robert’s bureau works on major development projects, looking at density, environmental review and design review.
- Last year the department approved 3,000 permits, 3,000 business licenses, as well as approved 500 administrative cases.
- A few prominent projects include the 2 Brooklyn Basin projects, the recently approved Oak Knoll Development (900 units), and 1100 Broadway – a new office development whose construction begins this year.
- A major department goal is to create more walkable and bikeable neighborhoods and to look at the pedestrian realm at the ground level of buildings. The department is also focusing on reducing vehicle parking requirements and adding bike parking requirements.

Summary of Discussion:

- Commissioners made the bi-annual request to establish a stronger working relationship between the planning and transportation branches of the City, with BPAC serving in an advisory capacity.
- The Commission is interested in how mitigation measures and conditions of approval are applied to projects and subsequently enforced during construction. For bike and pedestrian elements, feedback can be gathered through the Planning Commission process and through staff.
- Robert explained that the department had been working closely with the Department of Transportation, specifically with Senior Transportation Planner Sarah Fine. They have an interdepartmental review committee to discuss items like CEQA mitigations for their projects.
- Two projects – Oak Knoll and the Children’s Hospital – were highlighted as successful examples where BPAC used their technical expertise to bring useful transportation comments to the project. Merkamp expressed interest in Board and Commission involvement for major development projects as he believes they do greater benefit to the community in the long run.

Speakers other than commissioners: None

Item 6. Zone Analysis for Bicycle Planning

Noel Pond-Danchik, intern for the Department of Transportation, presented the project:

- The purpose of the project was to show critical differences between different sections of the population as Citywide averages hide critical information.
- The City was divided into eight zones based on Census Tract data, and was informed by MTC's Communities of Concern data, which have eight measures of socioeconomic disadvantage.
- Data was separated by age, race, gender, and median household income; disparities were noted.
- Bike commuter rates have more than tripled throughout the city but are concentrated in certain areas (like North Oakland and the neighborhoods surrounding Lake Merritt).

Summary of Discussion:

- The City pursued this project to identify cycling differences across the City in advance of the Bike Plan update, which will help the City determine resource allocation based on needs by zone.
- Staff should be careful not to allocate zones based on homogeneity – we also need to look at the neighborhood level.
- The proximity of riders to BART stations should be reviewed within the context of the barriers that prevent access.
- Staff could consider a greater focus on the specific user groups and vulnerable populations and expand end points to common destinations such as libraries, community/recreation/senior centers and schools.
- The bike commuter numbers should also include other types of common trips like grocery stores; undocumented residents could also be underrepresented. Also noted were the lack of bike racks at grocery stores and the strategic need to target short trips to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled (VMT). The City could make VMT reduction an explicit objective with added analysis.
- Crash data should be considered within the context of the rate of change against number of commuters themselves. The crash numbers based on mode share are different than the overall numbers of crashes. Oakland is adding jobs at a considerable rate and thus the absolute number of bike commuters is rising faster than the percentage of bike commuters.
- Staff anticipates that the Bike Plan will provide more insight into the equity framework as the Zone Analysis is woven into that process which will inform policy priorities.
- With the next update, staff will further consider physical barriers (e.g. freeways) to cycling with the adoption of the Bike Plan and the implementation of Vision Zero and Level of Traffic Stress.
- There was a recommendation to index the results by population or land area to account for these variations by zone.
- It would be helpful to see the City biking rates outside of the City Boundaries and look at shared community assets that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Speakers other than commissioners: Tom Holub, Ryan Schuchard, Menaka Mohan

Item 7. BPAC 2016 Annual Report: Staff Response to BPAC Recommendations

Jason Patton provided a recap of his presentation to the City Council's Public Works Committee on January 9, 2018.

- There were 5 recommendations under 3 headings: Availability of Information, Lack of Staff/Coordination, and Equity.
 1. Availability of Information:
 - a. Publicly accessible databases/maps: Through the paving and bicycle programs there are several online resources. The City is increasing the number of webmaps to improve

transparency. The City is working on an internal effort to better coordinate via the SharePoint Application.

- b. Complete streets checklist: A checklist was developed specifically for paving projects, and it is being reconsidered as part of the development of complete streets design guidelines.
2. Staff/coordination:
 - a. Allocate funding by desired mode share: The City does not have formally adopted mode share targets. However, a significant percentage of resources from Measure B, Measure BB, and discretionary grants are being spent on pedestrian and bicyclist projects.
 - b. Project development: We are pursuing an integrated project pipeline with funding for project development. The City has received significant regional grant funding due to its central location, density and transit-rich environment to meet regional land use goals. For the first time in memory, the Capital Improvement Program includes dedicated funding for project development.
 3. Equity: The recently adopted Pedestrian Plan shows staff's efforts and thinking to date. Work is underway on the Fiscal Year 2019-2021 Capital Improvement Program to realize the DOT's equity goals through its programming of capital funding.

Summary of Discussion:

- There wasn't much discussion from the Public Works Committee though the report was well received.
- The DOT has money for projects, but staffing levels are still an issue due to numerous vacancies.
- There are more positions to be filled. In July 2017, the DOT had a 27% vacancy rate. By bringing on new staff, the current vacancy rate is 22%. From October 2017 to February 2018, the Bicycle & Pedestrian Program is growing from 2 FTEs to 5 FTEs, with three additional positions still to be filled.
- There is a request that BPAC receive more information on the ongoing DOT organizational changes.
- The City plans to use gas tax funding to create positions for an in-house concrete crew.

Speakers other than commissioners: None

Item 8. Infrastructure Committee Report Back

Commissioner Prinz provided an update on the four projects that were reviewed at the last Infrastructure Committee meeting. The notes from the meeting are available on the City's BPAC website – www.oaklandbikes.info/bpac.

Summary of Discussion:

- 90th Ave is listed as a truck route – are these allowed as road diet candidates? Since these have happened before on truck routes, how can the City repeat this success in other areas?
- Question about the Market St restripe to the Berkeley border. Sarah Fine is working with the Paving Program on this design.
- There was a question about project selection criteria. Commissioners see the prioritization coming from areas where there are opportunities for improvements.
- For projects that cross between jurisdictions, what's the best way to submit comments? Recommendation to contact respective BPACs and the County BPAC. Another option could be to contact an organization like Bike East Bay directly.

Speakers other than commissioners: Tom Holub, Ryan Schuchard

Item 9. Three-month agenda look-ahead suggestions for meeting topics, announcements

The agenda items planned for February, March, and April were printed in the agenda. Suggestions for new agenda items included:

- The formation of a BPAC legislation committee – Kidd
- Update on DOT organizational changes – Prinz
- City staff's plans for ATP funding – Prinz
- Yearly updates – scorecard for OakDOT's Strategic Plan – Kidd

Announcements:

- Commissioner Prinz noted the Urban Cycling Class – Sunday 2-4pm at the Main library.
- Commissioners Prinz and Hwang shared that there's a Walk Oakland Bike Oakland/Bike East Bay Happy Hour at Federation Brewing on the 4th Thursday of the month.
- Commissioner Prinz mentioned the upcoming Lower/Mid/Upper Park Boulevard public meetings – additionally stated in the Staff Announcements section. He mentioned that the website needs to be updated.
- The Cycles of Change event fundraiser is on Saturday, February 24. Tickets are \$50-250.
- The first community meetings for the bike plan are coming up in early February.

Chair Tabata adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.

Minutes recorded by Matt Jones, Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Coordinator, emailed to meeting attendees for review on Friday, January 26 with comments requested by 5pm, Friday February 2 to mbjones@oaklandnet.com. Revised minutes were added to the February 2018 meeting agenda and adopted at that meeting.