

Adopted Minutes—September 22, 2005 Meeting of the Oakland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

(Action items are preceded by ▶).

Attendees: Ron Bishop, Dave Campbell, Jim Dexter, Mark Dieter, Lauren Eisele, Philip Ho, Carol Levine, Bryce Nesbitt, Jason Patton, Robert Raburn, Jennifer Stanley

Jennifer volunteered to take minutes.

1. Announcements/Minutes:

Wednesday October 5 is Walk Your Child to School Day. Volunteers are needed to “meet and greet” parents and elementary school students (45 minute to one-hour commitment starting at about 7:30 am). To volunteer, contact Jason Patton at 238-7049 or jpatton@oaklandnet.com.

No comments were received at the Public Scoping meeting on the Bike Plan EIR, held before Oakland’s Planning Commission the evening of Wednesday, September 21.

The minutes from the August BPAC meeting were adopted.

The second item on the agenda, a report from Carol Misseldine in the Mayor’s Office of Sustainability, was postponed until October. A discussion of a priority intersection in the Fruitvale BART area was substituted.

2. Fruitvale and E 12th Street: Study of the roadway reconfiguration proposed for the intersection of Fruitvale and E12th Street as part of the Fruitvale Alive! planning process, found that removal of the eastbound slip turn from Fruitvale on to E 12th Street would have minimal and acceptable traffic impacts. An engineer from the City’s Transportation Services Division (TSD) expressed concern, however, that removal of the slip turn could diminish safety for bicyclists. Bicycling program staff suggested that the slip turn could be converted to a bike-only facility with a well-designed pedestrian crossing, and also suggested that an advance stop line and/or bike box be provided in front of the dual forward/right lane to protect cyclists from right-turning vehicles. The engineer asked that the BPAC comment on this concept.

The committee approved of the recommendations by bicycling program staff. However, all were opposed to the additional lane being added to Fruitvale Avenue and strongly recommended that the existing three-lane configuration be preserved. The intersection design should support the area’s functionality as a transit village and promote walking and bicycling, which will be compromised by the addition of an extra traffic lane. Additionally, E 12th Street is a recommended, major cross-town bikeway, and especially critical now that parallel International Blvd. has been removed from the recommended bikeway network due to its density of transit and future use as a BRT corridor.

3. Attended bike parking at City-sponsored events: The committee agreed that the City should somehow institutionalize the provision of sufficient bike parking at public events. Support for this, it was noted, could be found in the 1999 Bike Plan, Section 4.5, Action 6.1. However some felt that, as phrased, this policy support was ambiguous, and should be more clearly stated in the bike plan update. Strategies to encourage bike parking services at City-sponsored events included adding a statement to the plaza event reservation form that either asks what provisions will be made to provide bicycle parking, or recommends that bike parking be provided and lists resources. The idea of including a threshold number of event attendees after which bike parking would be required was also discussed. There was concern that a bike parking service provider may not be available for all events. The committee volunteered to review a list of annual events, should one be available from the City’s Marketing Department, and make

recommendations for those at which bike parking should be made available. ▶ City staff agreed to try and procure an events list, and to work with Marketing to try and put in place a workable procedure.

4. Minutes process: This item was discussed at length. The **committee passed a unanimous motion** to adopt the following procedure (edited slightly from that in the August minutes; additions noted in ***bold/ital***, recisions in strikethrough):

Adopted Oakland BPAC Minutes Procedure

1. Note taker types up the minutes from the meeting and passes them for distribution to the City staff representative by the Tuesday following the meeting; City staff forwards unedited minutes to meeting attendees same or next day.
2. Comments on the minutes are sent to the ~~attendees/staff~~ ***note taker*** by the following Tuesday (one week review time). Disputes, if any, should be aired and resolved online within this one-week time frame.
3. ~~City staff~~ ***Note taker*** reflects consensus on comments, “polishes up” minutes, and emails draft minutes to the ~~BPAC list~~ ***meeting attendees*** on the Thursday prior to the BPAC meeting.
4. At the next meeting, the minutes are agreed or disputed. Disputed minutes are put to a vote (as debate should have occurred on-line before the meeting.) ***Three attendees of the previous meeting are required to vote on the minutes.*** Should the minutes be rejected by the attendees of the meeting, a discussion would be added to the meetings agenda. Any person with a dispute to the draft submitted who cannot attend should brief a representative or the Chair as to their issue. Minutes will not be held over.
5. Approved minutes are published to City website ***and distributed to the BPAC list.***

A motion was passed (4-1) to allow any person who attended the meeting in question to vote on adoption of the minutes (including City staff).

5. Meeting time evaluation: The current 4-6pm meeting time is a barrier to public participation in the BPAC because most people work until 5pm. Another barrier to attendance could be the meeting’s two-hour length, and it was proposed that the committee consider a one-and-a-half-hour length meeting. The committee discussed that a later meeting time would probably improve public participation, though it might impact City staff participation. It was noted that City staff regularly attend other public meetings outside of standard work hours. A new meeting place would need to be secured, as the current location is not accessible to the public after 5pm. ▶ The committee asked staff to investigate use of a meeting room in City Hall and report back at the next meeting.

6. Walk/Bike conference report: Postponed.

7. Park Street Triangle Traffic Study: City traffic engineer Philip Ho returned for a status report on the MTC grant-funded Park Street Triangle Study, first brought to the committee in April. The Project Data Memo developed as part of the Study includes three alternatives to improve traffic flow and safety at this complicated intersection, which connects the Park Street Bridge (into Alameda), Kennedy Street, 23rd Ave., 29th Ave., and Ford Street. Alternatives 1 and 2 are taken from the previously completed Oakland Waterfront Study, and both recommend permanent closure of 23rd Ave., additional signalization, and construction of a bike/ped path across the triangular parcel bounded, currently, by 23rd Ave., 29th Ave., and Ford St. Alternatives 1 and 2 were merged by the consultant into a recommended “hybrid” alternative which would include creation of a pocket park (requiring the City to acquire this commercial

property), and would allow for an alignment consistent with the Bay Trail. Alternative 3 would convert existing one-way streets to two-way.

The committee recommended that:

- if the land is to be acquired by the City, the options for reconfiguration of the area are much greater than those being examined and that the consultant develop other alternatives
- the triangular area of land is not suitable for a pocket park based on neighborhood characteristics such as its proximity to arterials
- other improvements to bicycle access should be evaluated project-area wide with a particular focus on bike/ped access from the Park Street Bridge to the bike lanes that begin at E 7th Street/ Embarcadero
- Alternative 3 be rejected.

Philip asked that any additional comments be provided to Jennifer as soon as possible. The Final Report is scheduled for completion in November.

8. Suggested future BPAC items: Postponed.

9. ADJOURN