

**City of Fresno
Meeting Minutes - Final
Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 5:30 p.m. Webex Virtual Meeting

Regular Meeting

Call To Order

Chairperson Phil Arballo called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Observed silently.

Roll Call

Present: District 2, Matthew Woodward; District 5, Lucio Avila; District 7, Susan Smith;

Mayoral, Phil Arballo; Mayoral, Melanie Ruvalcaba

Absent: District 3, Gene Richards; District 6, Steven Bradley

Vacant: District 1, District 4

Quorum met.

Staff

Jill Gormley, Andrew Benelli, Harman Dhaliwal, John Belli, Scott Sehm, Shelby MacNab, Tyler Maxwell, Nabil Karan

Guests

Celeste Martinez, CMAC TV, John Shelton, Laura Gromis, Anthony Molina, MD, Nicholas Paladino, Thaddeus Miller, Drew Wilson, Tommy Tribble

Approval of Agenda

On motion by S Smith and seconded by M Ruvalcaba the January 27, 2021 Agenda was approved. Unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

The spelling of Kimberly Tapscott -Munson is corrected. **On motion by M Ruvalcaba and seconded by M Woodward the December 9, 2020 Minutes were approved. Unanimously.**

Unscheduled Communications

Tony Molina thanked city staff for Class IV lanes on R Street. Although he had some concern about the intersection of R Street and Huntington intersection.

Celeste Martinez did apply for the District 4 BPAC position.

John Shelton shared that the planning was proceeding for the multi use trail that would go from Camp Pashayan to the Milburn Outlook.

Presentations

District 4 Transit Policy - Councilman Maxwell gave a presentation to BPAC on how Fresno could improve bicycle and pedestrian friendly goals and improve climate change goals. He stated this was a very proactive policy that he has presented to many groups already. Beginning with the motto "Leave it Better", something he learned while in the Boy Scouts, he shared his Zero Fare Clean Air Act - elimination of bus fares city wide. Clovis, California and Visalia, California have already done this. Several other cities nationwide have also done this. Kansas City, Missouri which is a similarly sized city to Fresno has also implemented zero fare. There are four zip codes in Fresno - 93706, 93726, 93702, 93727 - that present the most ridership and as many as 76% of this group make \$20,0000 or less per year. Councilman Maxwell believes ridership would increase with zero fares. Free wifi on the busses is coming this Spring 2021 and he believes this will further encourage ridership. This might also get more discretionary riders and lessen single occupancy cars.

Long term operation of Zero Fare would be a key to its success in that it would increase better air quality, create more dollars to spend in the local economy and create an increase in quality of life for Fresnoans. BPAC expressed enthusiasm for the project. M Woodward said it was fantastic! S Smith asked about funding sources - to be explored. L Avila said fantastic. M Ruvalcaba said this would be great for utility bicycle riders. T Molina said this would go a long way to address equity issues within the city. **On motion by M Woodward and seconded by S Smith the BPAC supports Councilman Maxwell and his Zero Fare Clean Air Act.**

Member Reports and Comments

Strategic Plan - this task force has ended. The BPAC has expressed what they want for strategic planning - an ATP Coordinator.

Per P Arballo all task forces are ended as they are not allowed to go on indefinitely. For the Palm/Belmont Class IV plans a task force is needed for a limited time. People asked attending the meeting if any could volunteer for Thursday, January 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. and attend a community meeting on February 10,,2021. Volunteers that asked to join were T Molina, L Gromis, N Paladino and P Arballo - representing the public and BPAC.

M Woodward expressed concern about the crossing at Huntington and R Street. Per A Benelli there is still work to be completed on the intersection. Per H Dhaliwal public works will take a look at the crosswalk to see what can be mitigated.

Election of Officers - P Arballo asked for a motion to accept the slate of officers as outlined in the December 2020 meeting. **On motion by S Smith and seconded by M Woodward the 2021 slate of BPAC Officers was accepted.**

Chair Report

P Arballo and M Ruvalcaba met with the new Mayor Jerry Dyer. They asked for his support in establishing an ATP Coordinator and said he seemed receptive. P Arballo asked that each of us

reach out to our Council members. A new letter of support was signed for the ATP Plan. M Ruvalcaba said that the Mayor was also supportive of a pedestrian sting operation. She will send him information.

Staff Reports

FPD Enforcement and Collision Report - In 2020 there were 63 traffic fatalities - of those 28 were pedestrian fatalities and 7 were bicyclist fatalities. 2020 was the worst year that Officer Belli has seen in his 24 years in Fresno. 2021 has 2 pedestrian fatalities so far. FPD has applied for an Office of Traffic Safety Grant and with monies received they will implement ped/bicycle/car enforcement and also use funds for education.

Form 700/RDA - this annual form needs to be completed by April 1, 2021.

Safety Education Funds - Is BPAC going to do psa's or an event? S Smith will follow up with M Ruvalcaba on the CMAC public service announcement. Per J Gormley we should also start thinking about 2022. Per P Arballo in February 2021 we should create a budget task force for education funds.

Miscellaneous

S Smith asked about a bike repair station that was to be located in Woodward Park in the Compass area - S Sehm said it was still in the works but not installed yet. This item is from 2018 and he will follow up on it for us.

T Molina asked if it was possible to have a diamond area painted around bollards as he has seen elsewhere. Per S Sehm that has actually been under discussion in their "Design Standards" meeting.

On Motion to Adjourn by S Smith and seconded by M Ruvalcaba the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

The above minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee during the February 24, 2021 regular meeting.