

BPAC Semi Annual Report

The City's Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) shall advise and recommend policies for the planning, development and maintenance of pedestrian and bikeway systems for safe and enjoyable circulation for both utilitarian commuting travel and recreation within the City. - From the City's Charter

COVID19 has presented an unique challenge to BPAC but after a one month hiatus the group has persevered to keep meeting by implementing a virtual meeting format that allows BPAC and the public to interact in an open forum.

Below is an overview of our first six months:

January 2020 Election of new Officers:

Felipe Arballo, Chair
Melanie Ruvalcaba, Vice Chair
Susan Smith, Secretary

Current status of Members:

Joe Martinez, District 1 - 2nd Term - expires 9/30/2020
Anthony Molina, District 2 - 2nd Term - expires 9/30/2020
Gene Richards, District 3 - 1st Term - expires 9/19/2022
Lucio Avila, District 5 - 1st Term - expires 6/13/2022
Steven Bradley, District 6 - 1st Term - expires 2/4/2023
Susan Smith, District 7 - 2nd Term - expires 8/15/2022
Mayoral, Felipe Arballo - 1st Term - expires 4/5/2021
Mayoral, Melanie Ruvalcaba - expires 2/30/2022

Current vacancies:

District 4

Current Statistics of Pedestrian and Bicycle Fatalities *Within City limits:*

2018 - Pedestrians 25 and Cyclists 5
2019 - Pedestrians 20 and Cyclists 3
2020 to date as of September 23rd - Pedestrians 22 and Cyclists 6

In May 2020 Fresno's Bicycle Friendly City Bronze status was renewed for five years by the League of American Bicyclists. Scoring is primarily based on the responses to the 5 E's of the essential elements of a bicycle friendly America:

Engineering Education Encouragement Enforcement Evaluation and Planning

The League identified key steps that Fresno should put in place if it wished to obtain Silver status: *Establish an Active Transportation Coordinator Position.*

Continue to expand the bike network and increase connectivity.

Continue efforts to improve data driven road safety operations

Continue to increase the amount of bicycle parking throughout the City.

Consider making end-of-trip facilities available such as bicycle repair stations and air pumps.

Launch a bike share system that is open to the public.

Expand bicycle education opportunities for adults.

Develop a community wide trip reduction ordinance/program.

Appoint a staff member Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator or create a new full time position.

As of September 2020 the BPAC has four task force committees:

ByLaws - process of updating BPAC Bylaws

Strategic Planning - identify long term ways to help implement Silver BFC status

Semi Annual Report - communicate with City Council and Mayor every six months

Slow Streets Committee - created in response to COVID19 - meant to work with City Staff to reduce driving on a few streets and to encourage residents to more safely walk and bike with members of their household.

Vision Zero Task Force - created in response to continued traffic deaths in Fresno.

BPAC Goals for the next six months:

Fill our vacancy. *District 4*

Meet with the incoming Mayor and new Councilmember.

Implement Slow Streets plan (FRESLOW).

Letters of Support BPAC Signed in 2020:

1. *City of Fresno Measure C New Technology Grant Application - Dynamic Downtown Project.*
2. *Active Transportation Plan Class IV Quick Build Project.*
3. *On behalf of the Fresno County Department of Public Health in response to the Request for Application EPA-OP-OEJ-20-02 regarding Environmental Justice/COVID19 projects to address air pollution and promote walking trails within communities.*
4. ATP Safe Routes to School Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project.
5. ATP Palm Avenue and Belmont Avenue Protected Bikeway Project.