

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

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

5:30pm

Meeting Room A (2165)

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

Chairperson Felipe Arballo called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

Roll Call

Present -5 – Chairperson Felipe Arballo; Vice Chair Melanie Ruvalcaba; Member Tony Molina, Member Steve Bradley; Member Celeste Martinez; Member Gene Richards (late)

Absent – 3 – Member Susan Smith; Member Lucio Avila; Member Joe Martinez

Vacant – 0

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Before accepting a motion to approve the agenda, F. Arballo wanted to request that the committee close the meeting with thoughts and prayers for S. Smith and her father who ill. C. Martinez motioned to approve and S. Bradley seconded. Unanimously approved. None opposed.

Approval of minutes

Before accepting a motion to approve the minutes, F. Arballo requested to change that he called the last meeting to order to A. Molina since he was not officially the chair yet. With that one change, A. Molina motioned to approve the January 22, 2020 minutes. Celeste seconded. Unanimously approved. None opposed.

Unscheduled communications/Public Comment

Laura Gromis from USGBC reminded the committee about the Green Apple video competition. She brought updated/improved flyers. They are soliciting videos from professionals and students on active transportation. The videos must be 60-80 seconds long and will be shown on April 25th at the Fresno Art Museum. The deadline is April 17. She also announced that she is working on the TCC project with the Fresno County Bike Coalition. Their next workshop will be at Edison HS on March 14th and will be a part of their Saturday program.

John Shelton with the San Joaquin River Conservancy announced that there would be a 'group forum' on Friday March 6th at the Milburn Overlook. The purpose is to get more groups and families to use these areas. Mike Karbassi's office is involved with the planning.

Task Force Reports

This was put on hold until member Gene Richards could arrive.

Member Reports and Comments

BPAC Strategic Planning

M. Ruvalcaba stated that she would like to discuss strategic planning for the committee. Specifically, it would be good to decide on some goals for the group. For example, should we work on activities to raise our status from bronze to silver, etc.? She also stated that we should discuss how we want to spend our funding sooner rather than later. F. Arballo reminded everyone that funding must be spent on safety related activities only. And it would also be good to figure out what events the committee would like to have a presence at. Some suggestions included the Mall to Hall ride, the California Classic, Earth Day at Radio Park, and farmer's markets. F. Arballo suggested that a task force be created. M. Ruvalcaba agree to lead the task force. S. Bradley and C. Martinez also expressed an interest in participating in said committee. M. Ruvalcaba will schedule a separate meeting and report back to the committee next month.

Task Force Reports – Upon arrival of Member G. Richards

Standards Task Force

Member A. Molina stated that the task force met on January 31st. In attendance were Tina, G. Richards, Nick Paladino, S. Smith, and City staff Scott Sehm. A. Molina discussed the issue of bollards on Class 1 trails, the distance between markings on Class 2 and Class 3 bike lanes, and recommendations for sharrows. A. Molina recommended updating sharrows policy. S. Sehm stated that they are currently follow MUTCD guidelines. The recommendations would deviate from those recommendations. So there would need to be further discussion as to why the City would deviate from those guidelines as well as justification. A. Molina motioned to include this recommendation on the record. G. Richards seconded. Unanimously approved. None opposed.

A. Molina also wanted to discuss green bike lanes and review those standards. City staff Jill Gormley stated she is not ready for those standards to be reviewed yet.

Discussion regarding education of sharrows also occurred. C. Martinez recommended doing a TV spot again as has been done in the past. John Liu from CalTrans shared that in March, CalTrans will be coming up with some guidelines regarding riding straight through on turn lanes. It would be good to combine messages if we have an opportunity to be on TV.

A. Molina also stated that another Standards Task Force meeting will be scheduled and that he will report back next month.

Member Reports and Comments (continued)

Crosswalks

C. Martinez has identified 2 schools that are in need of crossing guards: Gibson Elementary and Holland Elementary. She stated that at Holland they could not get any parent volunteers and that even the principal had to act as a crossing guard.. F. Arballo suggested, that for Gibson El., maybe they could reach out to Bullard HS for volunteers. He also suggested checking to see if either school had parent FB pages or PTO groups to solicit for volunteers. M. Ruvalcaba stated that at her daughter's school, there is an organized group that does all of the crossing guard work. That group is coordinated by the district Safe Routes to School person, but couldn't remember his name. A. Monica said that is Michael O'Hare and will share the contact info with Member C. Martinez to reach out to.

Laura Gromis suggested that maybe a school district representative be invited to the BPAC meetings. John Shelton suggested that BPAC could help schools apply for funding for flashing crosswalks.

Bicycle Safety Flyers

A. Molina, G. Richards and John Liu from CalTrans. They requested that BPAC use some funding to print the flyers. They would like for the police department to be able to hand out these flyers. Officer Belli could not confirm if officers would be able to do that. It would be up to the commanding officer. A final copy of the flyer would need to be sent to Jill so she could work with the City Communications team to make sure they approved it. Then we would have to get quotes. It would be unlikely that we would be able to use funding from this current fiscal year to pay for the printing. John Liu stated that he will continue to work on the project and then seek alternate funding and may return next fiscal year.

Love to Ride Presentation

A. Molina introduced Thomas Stokell, via conference call, from Love to Ride. Some members missed the December meeting so this is a repeat presentation. Mr. Stokell highlighted 7 points:

1. Encourage more people to ride
 1. Behavior change is at the core of what we do - we apply behavior change principles and techniques to getting more people riding.
 2. Unite existing riders, give them the tools that make it easy and fun.
 3. Gamify Encouraging others.
2. Bring together your local riding community
 1. On the Love to Ride platform - connect Strava, Clubs and groups, workplaces, everyday riders.
3. Educate and support your riding community
 1. Tips and advices
 2. Training course
 3. Badges
4. Communicate to your riding community
 1. Promote local initiatives
5. Measure Results
 1. Stats
 2. Research on barriers, benefits
6. Data for planning - where people are riding
7. Engage your local business community
 1. Get more BFBs
 2. Currently 0 BFBs in Fresno.

He also shared two other new items:

1. New App
 1. Auto record riding
 2. Lot more data
2. Training Course Feature
 1. Quick and digestible
 2. Stats on how many people have completed the course

BPAC members inquired about how other communities fund this project. Mr. Stokell stated that in some Bay Area communities, they use funding from the metropolitan planning commissions. That would be

the equivalent of Fresno COG. Other communities have used CMAQ funding. They are also endorsed by the League of American Bicyclists.

After the call ended, BPAC members discussed the service. The cost would be approximately \$21,000-\$29,000 depending on how much support we would need. F. Arballo also asked if this expense would be allowable by the City. J. Gormley said that it would not be allowable. Funding must be used for safety and education. This is more of an encouragement program.

Staff Reports

PD Enforcement/Collision Report

Officer Belli brought a PowerPoint Presentation that had all of the data from the end of last year. He stated that January 2020 data is not quite available yet. In 2018, PD performed 10 sting operations and in 2019, they only performed 4 operations. This is because they can only do operations when grant money is available and it had been cut significantly. Each operation is approximately \$10,000 because they have to pay a lot of overtime for the officers that participate. 4 operations are scheduled for 2020.

Work Plan

City staff J. Gormley shared the current work plan. She stated that numbers 1-14 are all directly related to BPAC. G. Richards pointed out that number 1 is due in March 2020. J. Gormley stated that the report has actually never been done and that we can likely change the dates. J. Gormley also reminded BPAC members that if anyone wants more detailed information on any of the projects in the work plan, they just need to let her know ahead of time so she can come to the meeting prepared.

California Walks Grant Opportunity

CalWalks contacted the City of Fresno to inform them that they have funding for technical assistance. Due to time constraints, J. Gormley handed out a list of potential services they could provide and asked everyone to pick 1-3 items and we can discuss at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned: On the motion of A. Molina, seconded by C. Martinez, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

The above minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee during the April 22, 2020, regular meeting.