

City of Fresno
Meeting Minutes - Draft
Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

September 25, 2019 5:30 PM Conference Room 2165 on the 2nd Floor

Call to Order

Chairperson Anthony Molina, MD called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. A thank you letter from CouncilPerson Nelson Esparza was shared for help from the BPAC at his community gatherings.

Present 7 - Chairperson Anthony Molina, MD Secretary Susan Smith, Member Josh Willis, Member Gene Reichards, Member Joe Martinez, Member Celeste Martinez, Member Melanie Ruvalcaba

Absent 2 - Vice Chair Felipe Arvallo, Member Lucio Avila

Approval of Agenda

Before approval of the agenda Jill Gormley kindly reminded everyone of our new structured meeting style. If anyone would like something on the Agenda follow the link on Legistar and send the request to Jill. Agenda requests need to be submitted two weeks prior to the meetings.

On motion of Member Josh Willis, seconded by Member Joe Martinez that the above Action item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

ID19-1178 Approval of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Minutes from August 28, 2019.

On motion of Member Susan Smith, seconded by Member Melanie Ruvalcaba that the above Action Item be approved. The Motion carried by the following vote:

Unanimously approved.

Unscheduled Communications/Public Comments

John Shelton shared his observation that the Secretary of Resources (California) Wade Crowfoot commutes by bike to work. J. Shelton has observed that Sacramento is doing a good job of expanding their biking system. He sees more separated bike lanes. He also shared that the San Joaquin Conservancy has funding and would like to work with the City to make trail connections from the Eaton Trail and beyond.

Mohammad Rocka who lives behind Bullard High School said that he has noticed the lack of bike lanes on Fruit Avenue. He has also noticed an extreme increase in speed on Fruit Avenue. People are “happy to use bike lanes as their turning lanes”.

Mike Karbassi said that Cycle Tracks would be a great thing to get in Fresno; especially in District 2. If people felt safer they would bike more. He’s personally invested in expanding biking in Fresno. Would love a pilot program in Northwest Fresno.

Kat who lives in District 1 said that she commutes all over town. Transit corridors need to be cohesive all across Fresno. Even confident cyclists have fear about certain roads.

Michael Sanchez said that it is more dangerous to ride within the City than out of town. He just found out about the BPAC and is excited about it.

Member Reports and Comments

ID-19-11341 Policy Implementation Committee - A. Molina

A. Molina shared that he would like a committee created similar to what Oakland, California has done where their policies are located on the website. He would like to create a task force to review and approve policies. This standing committee would not have an end date. 2002 was the last time the City had a formal policy update.

On motion of Member Josh Willis, seconded by Member Susan Smith the BPAC agreed to create a standing task form to participate in a Policy Implementation Committee. Members will be created later.

ID19-11342 Proposed ATP Coordinator Position with Department of Public Works - G. Richards.

See attachment. It was stated that Fresno is the only large city in California that does not have an ATP Coordinator. As our overall goal is safety for everyone the coordinator would act as a conduit between BPAC and Public Works. Actually act as a liaison with everyone. Public Works has proposed a half-time technician position in the past and will probably propose again in the next budget cycle. It was proposed the BPAC write a letter to Council and Mayor to garner support for the position. In the previous Bicycle Friendly Community Award one of the considerations to not place Fresno higher was that Fresno did not have an ATP Coordinator. This item was tabled for one month.

ID19-11343 Call for proposed projects by member district, or citywide to be included in the 2019-20 CIP budget - G. Richards

G. Richards would like status of last year’s proposed list of requests and would like to see new proposals from Members.

ID19-11336 Grant Update - S. MacNab

S. MacNab reviewed grant applications that will be submitted. Grants are focused heavily on pedestrian improvements such as sidewalks. Bike lanes also submitted. The City is submitting for way more money that will be funded or available. Many of these projects are located within the ATP. The projects also come the BPAC/Priority Network/Community Meetings These grants go to Council on September 26th to have the list approved and the scoring will be completed in January/February 2020. A Letter of Support would be appreciated from the BPAC.

ID19-11337 Trail Feasibility Study Update - S. MacNab

See attachment. An overview of recommended segments was reviewed. Consultants were utilized to come back with the proposed projects. CalTrans is funding the proposed five miles of new projects. A Letter of Support would be appreciated from the BPAC

On motion of Member Gene Richards, seconded by Member Joe Martinez the BPAC agreed to create a Letter of Support for grant funding.

Unanimously approved.

ID19-11339 Bicycle Friendly Community Application - J. Gormley

See attached completed application. The hard work of all the staff and many different departments that it took to complete the Bicycle Friendly Community application was discussed.

ID19-11339 PD Enforcement/Collision Report - R. Rendon

The year to date statistics for 2019 are 33 fatalities resulted from 32 collisions. Of these 15 were pedestrian related. 12 were DUI related. On September 20th the latest bicyclist vs vehicle happened near Ewing Elementary. There are two bicycle fatalities for 2019. A question was asked about how Fresno compares to other cities. Det. Rendon said he will try to run a report and get comparisons. Det. Rendon was asked again about doing a possible pedestrian sting operation. As PD is transitioning to a new Commander this request might take some time.

ID19-11340 Draft Complete Streets Policy - J. Gormley

See attachments. The Complete Street Policy draft will go to City Council on October 6, 2019. It was explained that the complete streets policy already exists within the City's plan and scope. This policy put everything together into one spot. Projects would then get reviewed to make sure they encompass the complete street status. G. Richards objected to the last item regarding BPAC members must meet with their District Councilperson at least annually to discuss projects within their district. He objected

because he feels that since this in the Charter it doesn't belong in the complete street policy.

Before adjournment A.Molina thanked Member Celeste Martinez for her work on the District 4 Proclamation for National Walk to School Day.

Adjourned: 7:25 p.m.