

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM, Monday, October 23, 2017 2nd Floor Conference Room, Rohnert Park City Hall 130 Avram Avenue, Rohnert Park, California 94928

Members Present:

Stephen Gold (Chair) X Terry Gault (Vice-Chair) X Gary Gutierrez X Tim Hensel X Katie Musick X

Other Meeting Participants: Art da Rosa, Deputy City Engineer; Eydie Tacata, Management Analyst; Renee Tolliver, Age Friendly Community Coordinator, Council on Aging

1. Call to Order

Chair Stephen Gold called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.

2. Introductions

Chair Gold commenced self-introductions.

3. Public Comment

There were no comments on items not on the agenda from the members of the public.

4. Consideration of Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 28, 2017

Committee Member Gary Gutierrez moved to approve minutes of the meeting of August 28, 2017; the motion was seconded by Chair Gold and was approved by a vote count of 3 ayes (Gold, Gutierrez, Musick) – 0 nays – 0 absences – 2 abstentions (Gault, Hensel).

5. Circle Drive Repaving Project – Proposed Changes to Existing Traffic Control Devices and Pavement Markings

Deputy City Engineer Art da Rosa reviewed several details of a project under design to repave Circle Drive, including:

- Addition of 15' of red curb painting along east curb of Camino Colegio, both north and south of intersection at Casa Way and new crosswalk striping on Casa Way west of intersection
- Addition of 15' of red curb painting along east curb of Camino Colegio, both north and south of intersection at Circle Drive and new crosswalk striping on Circle Drive west of intersection
- Removal of existing ladder-style crosswalk on Circle Drive, west of T-intersection with Circle Drive and Circle Drive.
- Removal of all-way stops at Corinth Court.
- Removal of stop signs on Circle Drive east and west of intersection with Cadiz Court. There was discussion about whether speeding vehicles might be the reason for stop signs at this location. Committee Member Hensel said that at the north end of Cadiz Court there is a small connector path to Southwest Boulevard. School-age students use this to cut through to Southwest Boulevard from Circle Drive; this might be the reason for the stop signs as well as marked crosswalks. He added that most drivers do not really fully stop at these stop signs.

Mr. da Rosa said that realizing that the concern at this location was probably speed, he was considering installation of speed "lumps" in the project design which could slow down vehicles. He explained that speed lumps are flatter and wider than speed bumps typically seen in parking lots. Committee Member Hensel asked whether speed lumps are installed anywhere in the city. Mr. da Rosa said that he did not think so. Committee Member Musick said that she has seen them used in Sacramento and thought that they seemed effective. Vice-Chair Gault asked about the signage indicated on the plans, and Mr. da Rosa said "Bump Ahead" signs would be installed. Mr. da Rosa further explained other advantages to speed lumps over speed bumps, such as the ability to stripe on top of them, which could slow cars going around the curve, as well as speed lumps having gaps in between them to accommodate the wheels of emergency vehicles. Chair Gold commented that cyclists could also go around them easily. Mr. da Rosa also noted that the parking would be retained on both sides of the speed lumps.

There was also general discussion about red curb painting. Chair Gold said that he would like (1) a red curb painting policy, and (2) a way to keep track of where red curb painting exists throughout the city. Mr. da Rosa indicated that having a policy would be good. Ms. Tacata commented about the limited GIS resources of the City.

Mr. da Rosa also reviewed proposed improvements to the parking lot area at Golis Park, which would include the addition of ADA-compliant parking, a bicycle parking area with inverted U-shaped bicycle racks, and motorcycle parking spaces. Committee Member Hensel asked if the City considered adding electric vehicle charging stations and parking. There was brief discussion about the locations of existing electric vehicle charging stations. Chair Gold noted on the plans that the space designated for bicycle parking appears to be large enough to fit a car. There was discussion about whether "Bicycles Only" sign was needed to clearly designate that cars are not to park in the space. The post for the sign could also have a sign on the other side, indicating the spaces for motorcycle parking.

6. Age Friendly Sonoma County Initiative (Presentation/Discussion)

Renee Tolliver, Community Coordinator, Council on Aging handed out printed materials, including a list of websites on Age Friendly/Livable Communities, a Press Democrat article about a pop-up parklet in Santa Rosa demonstrating alternate urban space utilization, an American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) fact sheet about bicycling, and the outline for her slideshow presentation.

Ms. Tolliver gave her presentation, which included general information about the mission of the Council on Aging and their partnership with the County of Sonoma through the Age Friendly Initiative. She explained that the Age Friendly Initiative seeks to affect community design to respond to the needs of older community members — which coincidentally also serves a broad range of age groups — as well as integrates and leverages the older population as an important resource. Ms. Tolliver shared demographic trends and described outreach efforts to local agencies in Sonoma County. She noted that one of the outreach activities, a "community conversation," still needs to happen in Rohnert Park. She also gave a status of a project to complete a County-wide assessment on housing, transportation and isolation among older adults.

Ms. Tolliver gave additional information on walkability studies, which comprise the next steps of the assessment. She explained that the studies involve groups of volunteers who have checklists to assess the walkability of communities for older persons. They look at sidewalks, paths and streets; lighting; signage; and other aspects that affect mobility and use. She said that communities that have walkable environments will encouraging healthy behaviors, reducing isolation, better integrate older adults and support intergenerational inclusiveness.

Chair Gold asked if the data from the assessment is available. Ms. Tolliver said that the focus group and survey data are being compiled through the end of November. Committee Member Musick mentioned that at recent Committee meetings, concerns were brought up about safety and access for older community members in parking lots. Ms. Tolliver shared that it is largely an educational process with private property owners for them to understand the advantage of designing for all ages.

Ms. Tolliver said that a kick-off for the next step of the assessment is expected. She also mentioned that Age Friendly Sonoma County is looking for any interested persons to be involved in steering committee members.

7. Staff and Committee Member Updates on Previous Matters

Chair Gold said that he would like on the next Committee meeting agenda, a discussion and consideration of revising the Committee's recommendations for the Snyder Lane and Rosana Way/Capri Way crosswalks. There was brief discussion about the effect of the field trip on Committee members' to observe and more fully understand the conditions and user behaviors at the intersection.

8. New Matters for Future Consideration

Ms. Tacata called attention to the flyer for the Central Rohnert Park Priority Development Area Charette, which will have several day and evening sessions from November 6 - 9. Several Committee members expressed interest in attending.

9. Adjournment

The Committee concurred to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:15 PM.

Eydie Tacata, Recording Secretary

Rohnert Park Bicycle and

Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Stephen Gold, Chair

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