



**REGULAR MEETING of the
San Mateo County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (SMCBPAC)
Thursday, February 18, 2021
7:00 P.M.**

*****BY VIDEOCONFERENCE ONLY*****

Pursuant to the Shelter in Place Orders issued by the San Mateo County Health Officer and the Governor, the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, and the CDC's social distancing guidelines which discourage large public gatherings, the regular meeting location of the SMCBPAC is no longer open for public meetings.

Public Participation

- * Written public comments may be emailed to jslavit@smcgov.org and should include the specific agenda item on which you are commenting, or note that your comment concerns an item that is not on the agenda or is on the consent agenda.
- * Spoken public comments will also be accepted during the meeting through Zoom.
- * Please see instructions for written and spoken public comments at the end of this agenda

1. WELCOME

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

This item is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on any SMCBPAC-related matters that are as follows: 1) Not otherwise on this meeting agenda; 2) Staff Report on the Regular Meeting Agenda; or 3) Committee Members' Reports on the Regular Meeting Agenda. Public comments on matters not listed above shall be heard at the time the matter is called.

Speakers are customarily limited to two minutes, but an extension can be provided to you at the discretion of the Committee Chair.

4. ACTION TO SET AGENDA

This item is to set the final regular agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 5. Review and Approve December 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes** (Action)
- 6. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion** (Information)
- 7. Presentation on Enforcing Laws for Bicycle Safety** (Information)
- 8. BPAC 2021 Work Plan** (Action)
- 9. BPAC Member Neighborhood Responsibilities** (Action)
- 10. County Updates** (Information)
- 11. Adjournment**

Instructions for Public Comment During Videoconference Meetings

During videoconference meetings of the SMCBPAC, members of the public may address the SMCBPAC members as follows:

*Written Comments:

Written public comments may be emailed in advance of the meeting. Please read the following instructions carefully:

1. Your written comment should be emailed to jslavit@smcgov.org.
2. Your email should include the specific agenda item on which you are commenting, or note that your comment concerns an item that is not on the agenda or is on the consent agenda.
3. Members of the public are limited to one comment per agenda item.

4. The length of the emailed comment should be commensurate with the two minutes customarily allowed for verbal comments, which is approximately 250-300 words.
5. If your emailed comment is received at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, it will be provided to the SMCBPAC members and made publicly available on the SMCPAC website along with the agenda. We cannot guarantee that e-mails received less than 24 hours in advance of the meeting will be read during the meeting, but such e-mails will still be included in the administrative record of the meeting.

*Spoken Comments:

Spoken public comments will be accepted during the meeting through Zoom. Please read the following instructions carefully:

1. The February 18, 2021 SMCBPAC meeting may be accessed through Zoom online at <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/98097726273>

The meeting ID is: 980 9772 6273. The February 18, 2021 SMCBPAC meeting may also be accessed via telephone by dialing US: +1 669 900 6833 (Local). Enter the meeting ID: 980 9772 6273, then press #.

2. You may download the Zoom client or connect to the meeting using an internet browser. If using your browser, make sure you are using a current, up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain functionality may be disabled in older browsers including Internet Explorer.
3. You will be asked to enter an email address and name. We request that you identify yourself by name as this will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
4. When the SMCBPAC Chair calls on the item you wish to speak, click on "raise hand." The SMCBPAC Chair will activate and unmute speakers in turn. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak.
5. When called, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted.

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for the Committee meeting are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 24 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Committee. The SMCBPAC's website has been designated for the purpose of making those public records available for inspection. The website is located at: <http://www.smcsustainability.org/livable-communities/active-transportation/>.

Meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals who need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation (including auxiliary aids or services) to participate in this meeting, or who have a disability and wish to request an alternative format for the agenda, meeting notice, agenda packet or other writings that may be distributed at the meeting, should contact Joel Slavit, Senior Sustainability Specialist at least 24 hours before the meeting at jslavit@smcgov.org. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting and the materials related to it



San Mateo County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (SMCBPAC)

MEETING MINUTES

*****BY VIDEOCONFERENCE*****

Thursday, December 17, 2020

7:00 P.M.

1. WELCOME

Chair Doherty called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. It was noted that BPAC members and staff would be connecting to this meeting either by video or audio. Chair Doherty then stated the process for public comment, noted the challenges of holding a BPAC meeting online and thanked everyone for their patience during this time. Chair also Doherty introduced and welcomed the two new alternate BPAC members, Christina Aquino, and Annie Tsai.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Susan Doherty
Frederick Zyda
William Kelly
John Langbein
Elaine Salinger
Christina Aquino
Annie Tsai

Members Absent:

none

County Staff: Joel Slavit, Julia Malmo-Laycock, Christina Corpus, Brett Murphy, Khoa Vo

Joel Slavit conducted a roll call. A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Before the public comment period proceeded, Mr. Slavit briefly explained procedural logistics for receiving public comment for virtual Zoom meetings.

4. ACTION TO SET AGENDA

Chair Doherty stated that Agenda Item number 10, "Presentation in Search of Equal Protection Under the Law for Bicyclists and Pedestrians", was being postponed to the February 2021 meeting in order to pare down the agenda. Chair Doherty requested a motion to set the agenda, removing Agenda Item Number 10, "In Search of Equal Protection Under the Law for Bicyclists and Pedestrians".

Motion: Chair Doherty moved to approve the agenda, removing agenda item number 10/Member Kelly seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Review and Approve November 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Chair Doherty introduced the item. She stated that Peter Grace, member of the public, who took a video of an incident on Kings Mountain Road, reached out to correct the date it was taken from November 11th to October 28th. Member Langbein noted a small change needed on page 7 in regard to the Kings Mountain Road Agenda Item. He stated that the language referencing bicyclists "descending" should be changed to "ascending" with regard to an option for bicyclists traveling through a portion of Huddart County Park to avoid the lower part of Kings Mountain Road.

Motion: Chair Doherty moved to approve the meeting minutes with the two noted changes/Member Kelly seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

6. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion

Chair Doherty introduced the item. There were no announcements or discussion.

7. Kings Mountain Road Update

Chair Doherty introduced the item. Khoa Vo, Deputy Director of Road Services, provided a brief update regarding contracted work on Kings Mountain Road. He noted there currently is a dashed center lane line, and that solid double yellow lines will be striped all the way to State Route 35 in the unincorporated County, with signage along the way. He stated that the contractor initially planned to do the work in December but that their work crews were impacted by Covid-19 and the company shut down for the rest of the month. Mr. Vo noted concerns he heard from maintenance staff regarding strategically placed ground up glass on the shoulder of the bike lane area on Canada Road and that whoever is doing this seems to know the roadway sweeping schedule. He said that the perpetrators are placing glass in the roadway on days other than Friday's when the road is swept. He noted that he was hearing about more aggressive behavior between bicyclists and motorists and graffiti marking.

Mr. Vo also spoke to concerns regarding signage in Mt. Diablo State Park that states, “Do not pass bicyclists around blind curve”. He said that those signs are placed on private property and aren’t governed by the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). He said the County won’t be installing that signage in the County road right of way because it would be a liability and it would encourage people to pass elsewhere, even though they are not supposed to pass on solid double yellow lines. He acknowledged that the solid double yellow lines could increase an emotional response by motorists but if the Department of Public Works puts up signs that indicate cyclists can take the full lane, that may encourage motorists to pass illegally. He also noted that the Town of Woodside and its consultant were going to put up the sign used on Mt. Diablo Road but have since decided not to do so as they previously weren’t aware they were on private property.

Captain Cavett, with the California Highway Patrol, provided an update on Kings Mountain Road patrols. He said his officers patrolled there four separate times for a total of 12 hours. They issued eight citations, and four verbal warnings. He pointed out that motorists and bicyclists need to share the road. Captain Cavett said that the vehicle code states that bicyclists should ride as close to the right-hand side of the road as possible. He said verbal warnings are for education and their patrols serve two purposes, for enforcement and education. He also said his officers also spent many hours on Skyline, where vehicles are speeding.

Member Langbein commented about the Mt. Diablo signs and noted his recollection, from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), is that signs such as the Mt. Diablo Signs, that are black on yellow, are not regulatory signs, and that there is a lot of leeway in terms of what can be placed there. He said black on white signs are regulatory signs and those must be in the MUTCD manual. He said when a car is behind him, he wants the car to pass, and clearly they’ll be going over the solid double yellow lines, breaking the law. Mr. Langbein said he didn’t think that putting the Mt. Diablo warning signs before the hairpin turns would send the wrong message. He asked Mr. Vo what he would recommend the motorist do when behind a bicyclist.

Mr. Vo stated that it’s up to the motorist and bicyclist to work together to operate in a safe manner. He said he would not approve a sign like the Mt. Diablo signs on a County public right of way as it presents a liability concern for the County. He said design immunity needs to be addressed on all the County roadways and if they can’t argue that what they design is based on accepted standards, they cannot install it.

Member Langbein said that he had the impression Santa Clara County has that sign on Hicks Road. Mr. Vo said that’s up to them to accept the liability. Member Kelly said that Mr. Vo’s response wasn’t unreasonable and that he could see why the County is taking its position. Chair Doherty said the question of liability has come up before and it’s a murky area. She offered a suggestion that a committee be created to look at the liability question, but Member Kelly said he thought it would be a low-yield activity, since liability is determined by claims. Chair Doherty agreed with Member Kelly. Chair Doherty asked what Sheriff Deputy Murphy of Woodside was seeing there. Deputy Murphy said when Kings Mountain Road was designed, it wasn’t done to accommodate today’s volume of and there are many blind curves and narrow areas. He said bicyclists don’t pull over and stop when cars are behind them. Member Langbein said there needs to be a safe area for cyclists to pull off, and that only exists in a few places on Kings Mountain Road. Member Salinger said she wished the police could bike up and down the road to see how dangerous it is for cyclists.

Member Langbein noted that Mr. Slavik was reaching out to Parks staff to request that the boulder at the Greer Road entrance gate to Huddart Park be moved to improve bicycle access. Mr. Slavik said that he had reached out to the Parks Director and that he was informed that the boulder was put there because there are blind curves on the park road, and the intent is to slow down bicyclists as they enter the area. Chair Doherty said the tradeoff is having more bikes on Kings Mountain Road, which has elicited road rage, and that maybe the boulder could be moved on a trail basis. She said they'll report back after the meeting with the Parks Director.

Steve Lubin, member of the public, commented that he was surprised to hear from Mr. Vo that the Town of Woodside wasn't installing the Mt. Diablo signs. He said that only putting solid double yellow lines on Kings Mountain Road would do more harm than good, and more motorists would become law-breakers. He said if you can't put up the signs, then you should only put the solid double yellow lines around the blind curves. In response to Captain Cavett's comments about pulling over to the right, he said he's been riding on Kings Mountain Road a long time and that he stays out in the road until it's safe for a car to pass. He said the vehicle code states that when there is inadequate space, cyclists don't need to pull over. Mr. Lubin also said that he suspects the placement of the boulder at the entrance to Huddart Park was due to residents on Greer Road complaining about cyclists.

Pat Dunn, member of the public, said he was one of the cyclists in the October 28th video showing aggressive motorist behavior and asked Mr. Vo what was meant when he noted increased aggressive behavior between bikes and motorists. Mr. Vo. stated that there has been tensions on both sides between bicyclists and motorists. Mr. Dunn said when a driver threatens a bicyclist with his vehicle, the driver doesn't suffer bodily harm, but the bicyclist can. He said he agreed with Mr. Lubin in that people will ignore the solid double yellow lines and it's a matter of enforcement.

Chair Doherty said she wrote a white paper about 10 years ago regarding the need for an off-street trail from Canada Road to Skyline through County property.

Rob Waring, member of the public, said he agreed with what other cyclists had mentioned regarding the need for law enforcement and he invited Mr. Vo to ride up Kings Mountain Road to experience it from the point of view as a cyclist. Mr. Waring said he didn't understand the need for solid double yellow lines along this road and that there isn't space for cyclists to dismount. He said he didn't think the solutions proposed were realistic. He said more people are being encouraged by the State to ride bicycles to get away from relying on driving cars but if something isn't done, there will be more conflicts between cyclists and drivers. Member Langbein noted that the County health orders specifically encourage cycling.

Peter Grace, member of the public, said he took the photos of the graffiti on Kings Mountain Road and wanted to know how much of it has been cleaned up. He also wanted to know if the contract Mr. Vo mentioned included sharrows and he wanted to know the minimum width on King Mountain Road. He said he would support e-bike tours for police and Public Works staff, escorted by members of the public who ride. Mr. Grace said he has been on club rides on Kings Mountain Road and that all of the rides have gone through Huddart Park on the ascent, and that none have gone through the Park on the descent. He recommended getting rid of the boulder to make it easier for cyclists to ascend through the Park. He also said that the solid double yellow lines would be unsatisfactory.

Mr. Vo said graffiti on the pavement has been painted over, graffiti on signs have been cleaned and where they can't be cleaned, new signs have been ordered. He said sharrows will be installed as part of the project and that the minimum width of Kings Mountain Road varies as it is 18 feet wide in some areas and 24 feet wide in others. He said the e-bike tours were a great idea, however it's not something he would want to do given his comfort level. He noted that Mr. Slavitt was organizing a meeting with the Parks Director, the Chair and Member Langbein regarding the boulder at the Greer entrance to Huddart Park. Mr. Vo said the proposed solid double yellow lines were in response to what he had heard from the BPAC committee and the bicycling community, but that it could be pulled back and put on hold.

Paul Went, member of the public, said he concurred with comments that others had made and didn't agree with the provision of solid double yellow lines all the way up the road as it could encourage more unsafe passing and frustration. He has seen law enforcement pass on solid double yellow lines when its necessary and safe to do so, and any motorist should have the opportunity to do the same.

Member Langbein said he found it encouraging that Public Works is considering sharrows on Kings Mountain Road, as that would inform motorists that bicyclists belong on the roadway. Member Salinger stated this was the first time she heard about sharrows on Kings Mountain Road. Mr. Vo felt the inclusion of sharrows with other signs would help create a message that's acceptable to both motorists and cyclists. He said the plan was to put the sharrows approximately 1/4 to 1/3 of a mile apart. Member Langbein said that it's not a typical practice to put sharrows on a rural road but they're much better than the share the road signs.

8. Draft Unincorporated San Mateo County Active Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Slavitt stated that he was hopeful the BPAC would make a recommendation to the Board to adopt a resolution approving the Plan. He stated the purpose of the Plan, described the BPAC's participation and feedback, and edits that staff were making to it.

Member Salinger said she thought Member Kelly mentioned a long-view vision of including a bike lane on the Dumbarton Rail Bridge at the November BPAC meeting and that this would be a game changer in terms of reducing traffic and getting people out of their cars. She said this is an important route to document. Member Kelly noted there are bike lanes on the existing Dumbarton bridge. Chair Doherty said that there should be a bike path on the rail bridge. Member Zyda said there already is already a bike path on the road bridge, that it's nice, and that it ends near the rail right of way. Member Langbein noted that more is better, and Chair Doherty agreed. Mr. Slavitt said that he reached out to both C/CAG and SamTrans about this. He said C/CAG currently wasn't considering the addition of a bike path on the rail bridge but that they may not have heard of this request. He said the SamTrans response was that as they move forward with future study, they'll consider a potential multi-use path on the corridor. Chair Doherty asked if we could include language in the Plan for this and Mr. Slavitt said language could be crafted to include this.

Member Salinger noted that the Plan was hard to follow but that she could find things when she really searched for them. She asked whether the planning costs were realistic in Appendix D. Julia Malm-Laycock noted that they were high level costs and they were reviewed by Public Works staff. Member Kelly thanked staff for their responsiveness to comments, and while the Plan wasn't perfect, he certainly supported recommending it to the Board of Supervisors.

Chair Doherty moved to recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Plan/Member Zyda seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Chair Doherty asked if a letter of support was needed. Mr. Slavitt said the BPAC could provide a letter of support and that they would need to go over the content of the letter in the meeting. Chair Doherty suggested the letter include the following content: that the BPAC recommend that the Board adopt the Plan, that it reflects months and years of work with substantial community input and that it serves as a blueprint for the future. Member Langbein noted that there was a lot of community input and that it was easy for the community to make comments. Member Kelly agreed to polish the letter.

Chair Doherty moved to develop a letter of support for the Active Transportation Plan/ Member Langbein seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

9. Presentation on Sheriff's Office Safety Education, Engagement & Enforcement Efforts

Captain Corpus introduced the item and Deputy Murphy delivered a presentation on what the Sheriff's Office was observing in terms of cyclists and motorists, and some of the activities they have rolled out for enforcement and education.

Member Langbein asked if it was possible to obtain an educational brochure that was mentioned in the presentation. Deputy Murphy said he would send the brochure to Mr. Slavitt and Captain Corpus said it could be uploaded to the Sheriff's Office website as well. Member Salinger thanked Deputy Murphy for being passionate about safety. She said the presentation seemed somewhat skewed in terms of showing cyclists not behaving. She expressed a desire for staff in the Sheriff's Office to cycle the areas they patrol so they can experience the feeling that the cyclists do. Deputy Murphy said he had a meeting with cycling clubs to talk about behaviors that were observed. He said he knows exactly what the cyclists are talking about regarding drivers intimidating cyclists. He said if he sees someone not behaving correctly, he'll address it. Member Kelly thanked Deputy Murphy, and said the anecdotes Deputy Murphy pointed to were pretty representative and that sometimes in the committee, cyclists are viewed without sin. He said that big cycling groups can be a danger to other cyclists.

Member Langbein commented about stop sign enforcement. He said officers seem to pull cyclists over a little too frequently for stop sign violations. Captain Corpus said their goal is to remind people and to educate them that they have to stop. She noted that we all have to follow the rules of the road, and her fear is that someone could get hurt. Chair Doherty said she is a Woodside resident and asked who directs the Sheriff on what the priorities are for Woodside. Captain Corpus said she receives feedback from community, looks at the crimes that are occurring and conducts intelligence-led policing. One of the number one priorities is traffic.

Isabella Chu, member of the public, thanked Sheriff's staff for presentation. She said she would encourage law enforcement to ride the roads themselves. She said there is a huge power asymmetry with cars and bikes. Ms. Chu said in the last 20 years there have only been three fatalities in the Tour de France, all automobile-related. She said cyclist behaviors are protective and that motorists generally pass with three feet of space when she is centered in the road but if she is riding to the right, motorists

pass too close. She said bicyclists also need space to ride downhill given their speed and that riding in packs is a protective behavior.

Mr. Waring said he appreciates the efforts of the Sheriff's Office and that he echoed the comment that cyclists are getting hit by cars and that's the concern. He noted that the presentation didn't show photos of motorists violating the three foot rule or motorists passing on blind curves and that they should also be included. He asked how many citations have been issued for violating the three-foot rule and that he'd like to know those statistics. He said there are clinics for cyclists and said there should be the same for drivers, especially young drivers.

Chair Doherty noted that Agenda Item #10, "In Search of Equal Protection of the Law for Bicyclists and Pedestrians", was postponed until the February BPAC meeting and that both Captain Cavett and Captain Corpus and Deputy Murphy were invited to attend.

11. Discussion on BPAC 2021 Work Plan

Mr. Slavitt shared a draft BPAC Work Plan, based on activities from the 2020 Work Plan. Member Kelly asked if there were countywide or other initiatives that are kicking off in 2021 that the BPAC should consider. Mr. Slavitt referred to a number of programs and policies in the Draft Unincorporated San Mateo County Active Transportation Plan. Member Kelly asked that staff provide a menu of upcoming and new initiatives. Ms. Malmo-Laycock noted that staff will be focused on implementing projects in the Active Transportation Plan and that staff could share items from their Work Plan. Member Kelly asked that staff put together a menu of items for the BPAC to consider at its next meeting. Mr. Slavitt said that was reasonable. Chair Doherty said we'll revisit this at the next BPAC meeting.

12. Election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for Calendar Year 2021

Mr. Slavitt explained that regular members of the BPAC can nominate members for the Chair and Vice Chair for calendar year 2021, and he described the responsibilities of both positions.

Member Langbein nominated Chair Doherty to continue as Chair in 2021. Chair Doherty accepted the nomination. Member Kelly mentioned that in the past, the BPAC has rotated these positions among its member and asked if anyone else was interested.

Member Salinger moved to nominate Chair Doherty to continue as Chair for 2021/Member Kelly seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Member Salinger nominated Member Zyda to continue as Vice Chair, Member Doherty seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

13. County Updates

Mr. Slavitt noted that the San Mateo County Transportation Authority formally awarded \$700,000 to the County for the environmental and design phases for the Santa Cruz/Alameda de las Pulgas Improvements Project at its December 3rd meeting.

14. Adjournment

Motion: Member Langbein motioned to adjourn, Chair Doherty seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

DRAFT