



**REGULAR MEETING of the
San Mateo County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (SMCBPAC)
Thursday, April 15, 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 February 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes** (Action)
- 6. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion** (Information)
- 7. BPAC Meeting Process and Roles** (Information)
- 8. Caltrans Bay Area Bike Highway Study Presentation** (Information)
- 9. Enforcing Laws for Bicycle Safety Follow-up** (Information)
- 10. AB 122 Support Letter** (Action)
- 11. County Updates** (Information)
- 12. 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 SMCBPAC 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 April 15, 2021 SMCBPAC meeting may be accessed through Zoom online at <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/98215054624>

The meeting ID is: 982 1505 4624. The April 15, 2021 SMCBPAC meeting may also be accessed via telephone by dialing US: +1 669 900 6833 (Local). Enter the meeting ID: 982 1505 4624, 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, February 18, 2021
7:00 P.M.

BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

1. WELCOME

Chair Doherty called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. She 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.

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, Captain Christina Corpus, Deputy Brett Murphy

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Jonathan Penn, member of the public, stated that last Spring that was in a serious accident cycling on Lower Skyline, north of State Route 92 at the terminus of the Sawyer Camp Trail. He said a car came out of a dirt parking lot, didn't look as he was approaching, and he flipped over the car. Since late summer, after his accident, he said he personally witnessed two other collisions, and several near misses between the northern end of Canada Road, through State Route 92 to Lower Skyline at the Sawyer Camp Trail. He said there were several high risk sections of roadway in this area including blind turns, highway connector ramps, and a stretch of road with no shoulder that is narrow. He said Elaine Salinger, BPAC member, shared a proposed plan, which he supports (this plan shows a shared use path on the west side of Lower Skyline from the southern terminus of Lower Skyline that continues on the west side of SR 92 to Canada Road). Chair Doherty thanked Mr. Penn for his comments.

4. ACTION TO SET AGENDA

Chair Doherty introduced the item.

Motion: Member Kelly moved to approve/Chair Doherty seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Review and Approve December 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Action)

Chair Doherty introduced the item.

Motion: Member Kelly moved to approve/Chair Doherty seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

6. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion (Information)

Chair Doherty introduced the item. Member Kelly noted that he took the opportunity to ride from the northern end of the Sawyer Camp Trail to the southern end, but rode back before going to State Route 92. Her stated that completing the gap in the trail system should be in the BPAC work plan this year. Member Langbein stated that he, Chair Doherty, Mr. Slavitt and the Parks Director, Nicholas Calderon met to discuss the concern regarding the boulder at the Greer Road entrance to Huddart Park, which impedes access by requiring cyclists to dismount. He said there was a need to make access more bike friendly for cyclists to use to avoid the Woodside stretch of Kings Mountain Road. He said the bottom line was that Mr. Calderon is concerned about liability if the boulder is removed, and that Mr. Calderon said he would look into it with staff from the Public Works Department.

7. Presentation on Enforcing Laws for Bicycle Safety (Information)

Craig Davis, the founder of CyclistVideoEvidence.com, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the need for the enforcement of laws for bicycle safety. He stated that he used to ride 36 miles every

morning but stopped because he didn't feel safe. He said the mission of CyclistVideoEvidence.com is to increase the number of cyclists who feel safe and confident riding on roads and noted that there is a huge latent demand for cycling and a dramatic increase in cycling due to the pandemic. He stated that the top reason cyclists stop riding and why many people won't cycle is due to fear of riding on the road and that when a cyclist is hit or involved in a near miss incident that it must be investigated, cited and treated as any other incident involving a deadly weapon. Mr. Davis stated the definition of assault with a deadly weapon from the California Penal Code. He presented information detailing five incidents between cyclists and drivers in San Mateo, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and mentioned concern regarding the need to enforce laws.

Mr. Davis noted that most cyclists do not report collisions to law enforcement, noting FHWA research on the matter. He posed a series of questions asking if law enforcement has a bias against cyclists and whether law enforcement receives sufficient training to enforce laws for cycling safety. He mentioned the need to increase training time for law enforcement on pedestrian and bicycle laws and issues. Mr. Davis noted that near misses and perceived risk are the top reasons cyclists stop cycling or don't start and that near-miss incidents and close calls are overwhelmingly more frequent than collisions. He noted that Cyclist Video Evidence offers a web resource for bicyclists, enforcement agencies and others to share videos of close calls and submit incident reports. Mr. Davis cited the need to change law enforcement and government's exclusive focus on collisions to near misses because it prevents collisions.

Mr. Davis encouraged cyclists to follow the rules of the road, ride with a camera to provide objective video evidence and to report all collisions and near misses to his organization's free incident management system, identifying dangerous areas and dangerous drivers before collisions occur. He noted several actions cities can take to increase road safety and to achieve safe shared streets. He mentioned that his organization is working on legislation to add cyclist and pedestrian safety to the driver's manual, driver's examination and the reckless driving law. Mr. Davis shared links to additional information on the closing slide of his PowerPoint presentation.

Member Salinger asked Mr. Davis whether there has been legislation written to his liking. Mr. Davis responded that his organization has written language and that they are trying to get it passed. He noted that they are trying to secure an author in the State legislature. He encouraged people to add their names to a petition. He specifically mentioned Senator Lee, as he is relatively new and might not have the backlog that other legislators do.

Member Kelly asked if the goal of the legislation was to change law enforcement behavior or change the laws. Mr. Davis indicated it was aimed at law enforcement and drivers. Mr. Davis said his organization wasn't seeking to be adversarial. Member Kelly said there could be collateral consequences if a car is defined as a deadly weapon.

Member Langbein said he felt that one of the reasons law enforcement is hesitant to do anything with respect to acting on cycling incidents is the district attorney. He said that the district attorney has many cases to consider, and that choices need to be made about what they will prosecute. He said because district attorneys are elected, they will look at cases that will play well in the press, so that may trickle down to the police department. Mr. Davis suggested that data will help hold district attorneys accountable if people use his organization's incident management system. Mr. Langbein posited that it's more of a deeper, societal issue and that he's not sure how this can be addressed.

Mr. Langbein suggested the legal system might be overwhelmed if everyone had cameras, and wondered if another set of laws would help. Mr. Davis responded that his organization sets a legislative precedent.

8. BPAC 2021 Work Plan (Action)

Mr. Slavit spoke to the Draft BPAC Work Plan and said that updates since the last meeting were highlighted in red text that incorporated: BPAC member neighborhood responsibilities, reporting out on community concerns and issues as well the inclusion of new projects, updates on best practices and information on funding programs. Chair Doherty requested that, “keeping updated on bicycle safety measures” should be included, such as efforts pertaining to what Cyclist Video Evidence is involved in. Mr. Slavit said he would add, “keeping updated on bicycle safety measures” to the Work Plan. Member Kelly said he supported the Draft Work Plan with the updates.

Motion: Member Kelly moved to approve/Member Langbein seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

9. BPAC Member Neighborhood Responsibilities (Action)

Mr. Slavit explained the background on the BPAC neighborhood responsibilities, stating the intent that there be at least one member assigned for taking responsibility for covering bicycle and pedestrian activities in each of the listed unincorporated areas and adjacent towns and cities, leading BPAC discussion regarding individual neighborhood concerns. Mr. Slavit noted that there were openings for BPAC members to fill in the unincorporated areas of Devonshire, Broadmoor/Avalon and the northern coast of the West County that were previously covered by former BPAC members. Member Kelly commented that the idea for assigning BPAC members to cover the different unincorporated areas was his brainchild.

Member Aquino offered to represent the Broadmoor area. Chair Doherty mentioned that she could cover West County, northern coast. Member Kelly and Member Salinger volunteered to cover Devonshire. Member Tsai noted that she mostly cycles in San Mateo and could cover Burlingame Hills with member Salinger. Member Kelly made a motion to approve the assignment of members to the unincorporated areas as offered by BPAC members.

Motion: Member Kelly moved to approve/Member Doherty seconded. The motion carried 5-0

10. County Updates (Information)

Sergeant Ferguson, from the California Highway Patrol, provided an update regarding patrols on Kings Mountain Road. Sergeant Ferguson said that while officers were patrolling Kings Mountain Road during the past few weeks, no violations were observed from motorists or cyclists and that officers would continue to patrol Kings Mountain Road. Sergeant Ferguson noted that he is cyclist and that he has been on rides up Mt. Diablo and understands the risks bicyclists face. Mr. Slavit provided an update on the striping and signage project on King’s Mountain Road stating current delays due to the need for a continuous dry week of weather before work could begin. He also noted a Caltrans traffic advisory for tree removal on State Route 84 that began on February 8th that was projected to continue for two to three weeks with detours on Kings Mountain Road, likely delaying the striping and signage project until that ends.

Mr. Slavit thanked BPAC members for their letters of support for the County's first ever Active Transportation Plan for unincorporated San Mateo County and stated that the Board approved the Plan at its February 9, 2020 meeting.

Mr. Slavit also thanked BPAC members who were able to provide a letter of support for the County's submittal of a Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant proposal for the North Fair Oaks Bicycle and Pedestrian Grade Separated Railroad Crossing and Community Connections Study. He noted that this proposal follows through on a recommendation from the County's Active Transportation Plan to provide a new crossing of the Caltrain tracks, while also looking at making bicycle and pedestrian connections to community destinations on both sides between El Camino Real and Middlefield Road. Mr. Slavit said applications were due on February 12, 2021, prior to the BPAC meeting, which is why staff reached out to BPAC members individually for support letters and that Caltrans is anticipating the announcement of funding awards in June.

Mr. Slavit also restated information regarding a notice that was distributed to the BPAC regarding upcoming meetings hosted by the San Mateo County Transit District and its partners for the Dumbarton Rail Corridor Project with the first meeting on February 23, 2021, focusing on the communities of North Fair Oaks, Belle Haven and East Palo Alto. He noted that another general meeting would be held in March.

11. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM