

# SPECIAL MEETING of the San Mateo County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (SMCBPAC) Thursday, May 19, 2022 7:00 P.M.

# \*\*\*BY VIDEOCONFERENCE ONLY\*\*\*

On March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act in order to allow for local bodies to conduct their meetings telephonically or by other means. On June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21 extending the suspension of those provisions to September 2021. On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB361, that allows local bodies to continue to conduct meetings through teleconferencing when it has determined by majority vote that as a result of a proclaimed state of emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. No physical location will be available for the SMCBPAC meeting.

## Public Participation

- \* Written public comments may be emailed to <a href="mailto:jslavit@smcgov.org">jslavit@smcgov.org</a> 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. TELECONFERENCE MEETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE BROWN ACT (Action)

# 4. 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.

# 5. ACTION TO SET AGENDA

This item is to set the final regular agenda.

# **REGULAR AGENDA**

- 6. Review and Approve February 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Action)
- 7. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion (Information)
- 8. San Mateo County Safe Routes to School High Injury Network Presentation (Information)
- 9. Santa Cruz/Alameda de las Pulgas Complete Streets Project Presentation and Consideration to Provide a Letter of Support for Construction (Action)
- 10. Coleman and Ringwood Avenues Transportation Study Presentation and Re-nomination of a BPAC member to Serve on the Study Community Advisory Committee (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 May 19, 2022 SMCBPAC meeting may be accessed through Zoom online at: https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/98215054624.

The meeting ID is: 982 1505 4624. The May 19, 2022 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: <u>http://www.smcsustainability.org/livable-communities/active-transportation/</u>.

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 <u>islavit@smcgov.org</u>. 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 17, 2022 7:00 P.M.

#### 1. WELCOME

Chair Zyda called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. He 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 John Langbein Elaine Salinger William Kelly Christina Aquino Members Absent: Annie Tsai

County Staff: Joel Slavit, Julia Malmo-Laycock, Krzysztof Lisaj

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

#### 3. NEW TELECONFERENCE MEETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE BROWN ACT (Action)

Chair Zyda provided background on teleconference meeting requirements under the Brown Act.

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

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

No public comments were received.

#### 5. ACTION TO SET AGENDA

Chair Zyda introduced the item.

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

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

#### 6. Review and Approve December 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Action)

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

#### 7. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion (Information)

Member Langbein stated that work was occurring on Sand Hill Road, southwest of I-280, by the horse park in Woodside. He said the existing bike lane was carved up due to utility work. He noted in early December, for about a month, a temporary patch was placed in the bike lane for the better part of a mile that made bicycling very difficult. Complaints were lodged to the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Langbein said that a contractor for the Water Dept (CalWater) resurfaced the area at the end of January. He wondered how repairs like this can move forward to better accommodate bicyclists and said that he thought the County Department of Public Works may have contacted the utility company to make sure work happened quickly.

Member Salinger mentioned that there will be a Sherriff's candidate forum for the upcoming election with Sheriff Bolanos and Captain Corpus. She said that VideoCyclistEvidence.com is working to make sure the forums will include questions about cycling safety and dangerous driving that can put cyclists in danger. She said the forum will be an in-person event that will occur in Redwood City on April 27th at the Redwood City Women's Club. She said another event will be on Zoom and that questions for it can be sent directly to her.

Member Salinger also noted that VideoCyclistEvidence.com has been working to prepare a summary of why a Civil Grand Jury is needed in regard to a concern that the Sherriff's Office needs to be more proactive in following through on dangerous driving complaints being made by cyclists. She said this will be sent to Supervisor Pine's Office and other County supervisors soon. Member Langbein asked if the California Highway Patrol (CHP) should be included in a Grand Jury investigation since they patrol part of the unincorporated County. Member Salinger said it was specifically for the Sherriff's Department and city police departments. Member Salinger said she was unsure whether the County Supervisors can request that a Civil Grand Jury investigation also include the CHP. Member Salinger requested guidance from the Office of Sustainability on how to get input from the CHP on this topic.

Public member Sonia Elkes thanked the BPAC members and Member Salinger for their efforts.

#### 8. Middlefield Road Improvements Project (Information)

Mr. Krzysztof Lisaj, Principal Civil Engineer from the Design and Construction Division of the County's Public Works Department delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the Middlefield Road Improvement Project, which included an overview of work to date, project goals, general project layout, specific bicycle and pedestrian improvements, and project costs and timeline. Mr. Lisaj noted planned bicycle and pedestrian improvements that included widened sidewalks, bulb-outs at road intersections, high-visibility crosswalks, pedestrian-scale lighting, rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) at unsignalized intersections, buffered bike lanes and bike racks.

Member Kelly asked how the north and south limits of the project were identified and what will happen when bicyclists and pedestrians move beyond the project limits. Mr. Lisaj said the southerly limit was consistent with a prior power line under-grounding project that was completed south of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the northern limit is the border with Redwood City. Mr. Lisaj said that sidewalks have already been widened south of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the County will look at extending the bike lanes that are part of the Middlefield Road project from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Atherton.

Member Kelly asked why the Middlefield Road Improvements Project wasn't previously presented to the BPAC. Mr. Lisaj noted that extensive community outreach was previously conducted and that he wasn't sure why a prior presentation wasn't made to the BPAC, but that efforts would be taken to keep the BPAC informed moving forward. Member Kelly said this was a terrific project and that he could tell a lot of thought went into it.

Member Salinger agreed that it looked like this was a great project but expressed disappointment that a buffered bike lane was provided instead of a protected bike lane and asked how that decision was made. Mr. Lisaj noted that the County reached out to the North Fair Oaks Community Council and the local community and the preference was for a buffered bike lane. He noted other roadway elements that were considered, including concerns regarding reduced lane widths and wider sidewalks that may not have been possible with protected bike lanes.

Chair Zyda said he saw a pedestrian hit at the intersection of Middlefield and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues and that he was glad to see this project move forward. Member Langbein also expressed his excitement in seeing this project move froward and said he used to ride this section of Middlefield as part of his commute, which was very challenging with diagonally parked cars. He said he echoed Member Kelly's comment about the need to extend the bike lane further to the south to Atherton. He also noted that he was looking forward to seeing a road diet on Middlefield Road so there could be a connected bike network and that he was pleased with the buffered bike lanes. He said he always found the crossing of the Dumbarton railroad tracks challenging and would like to see more of a perpendicular crossing. Mr. Lisaj acknowledged the need to look at the southern section of Middlefield Road between 5<sup>th</sup> and Semicircular Avenues and that ideally it would be better to provide more of an angle at the railroad crossing but there wasn't sufficient right of way to provide a perpendicular crossing.

Member of the public, Drew, said he regularly drives on Middlefield and as a driver it isn't enjoyable. He said this was a great project overall. He thought that a quick build project could be an interim solution to be considered south of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He said he was surprised to hear that the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) owned the crossing and thought that SamTrans or Caltrain was the owner (County staff followed up and subsequently confirmed SamTrans owns the Dumbarton right of way).

9. Nomination of a BPAC Member to serve on a County Advisory Committee for the North Fair Oaks Bicycle and Pedestrian Railroad Crossing and Community Connections Study (Action)

Mr. Slavit delivered a presentation on the North Fair Oaks Bicycle and Pedestrian Railroad Crossing and Community Connections Study, which summarized the Study goal and objectives, context, stakeholders, and planned community engagement activities. He noted this was an action item for the BPAC to nominate a member to serve on the Community Advisory Committee for the Study

Chair Zyda asked about the time commitment for serving on the Community Advisory committee. Mr. Slavit said there would be roughly five meetings, not more than 2 hours each and that they would likely not be more frequent than once every three months.

Member Kelly stated this is a really important area and that having a connection across the tracks here is really important but also difficult. He expressed his appreciation for the presentation. Chair Zyda noted that he has experienced walking the long circuitous route to cross the tracks and said that this is a very useful project.

Member of the Public, Drew, expressed his support for this project. He noted that it could be beneficial to present to the Caltrain Bicycle and Active Transportation Advisory Committee (BATAC) and the Caltrain Citizens Advisory Committee. He said North Fair Oaks has been overlooked by Caltrain and that there was talk of a possible future station in North Fair Oaks. He also said that it may make sense to do an undercrossing due to conflicts with an overcrossing due to the Electrification overhead catenary system. Mr. Slavit stated that one of the tasks during the Study would be to seek a use variance from the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (JPB), which owns and manages the operation of the Caltrain Corridor, as their approval will be required for the crossing.

Member Salinger asked if Stanford would be a stakeholder. Mr. Slavit noted that the County hasn't reached out to them yet but could see how some of their employees at the Bay Road campus could potentially benefit from improvements proposed from the Study.

# Member Kelly nominated Chair Zyda to serve on the Study CAC, Member Salinger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Member Doherty suggested Member Langbein serve as an alternate member, as he had expressed an interest to be a back-up in case Chair Zyda wasn't able to attend a meeting.

## 10. BPAC 2022 Work Plan (Action)

Mr. Slavit presented the Final Draft Work Plan 2022 as an action item. Mr. Slavit briefly explained the work plan purpose and contents, and re-stated the proposed revisions made at the December 2021 meeting where BPAC members had the chance to weigh in on the first draft.

Member Langbein noted that he wanted to stay on top of capital improvement projects the County does, including repaying projects, and evaluate those. He said one of them was on the Alameda de las Pulgas through West Menlo Park, where there is a door zone issue. Member Langbein also asked that the Middlefield Road project be added to list on the work plan.

Member Langbein moved to approve the Work Plan with the proposed revisions, Chair Zyda seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

## 11. BPAC Member 2022 Neighborhood Responsibilities (Action)

Mr. Slavit introduced this action item and explained the purpose of the neighborhood responsibilities. No changes were proposed to the existing 2021 neighborhood responsibilities.

Motion: Member Kelly made a motion to approve, Member Langbein seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

## 12. County Updates (Information)

Julia Malmo-Laycock provided an update on the Coleman-Ringwood Study. She said that on January 11<sup>th</sup>, the Menlo Park City Council approved a funding agreement to allow the City to formally partner with the county on the Study. She said this was the first major step toward kicking off the project and that staff will be providing further details as work progresses on this project. She mentioned that community engagement will be a critical component of this project that includes a community advisory committee with members that may include representatives from schools, parents of school children, local residents, business and others. She said that community engagement activities were anticipated to begin this April.

Ms. Malmo-Laycock also said that the County's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities grant application for the Middlefield Junction Affordable Housing project in North Fair Oaks was awarded and that over \$1.5 million will be provided for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and related amenities.

Ms. Malmo-Laycock noted that this would be her last BPAC meeting as she had accepted another career opportunity. BPAC members expressed their appreciation for Ms. Malmo-Laycock's dedication and service on active transportation matters for the unincorporated County.

Mr. Slavit provided a reminder to BPAC members of the upcoming virtual Board and Commission Member Training on Zoom on March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 to 11:00 AM.

#### 13. Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 P.M.