



**REGULAR MEETING of the
San Mateo County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (SMCBPAC)
Thursday, October 20, 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 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. 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 August 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes** (Action)
- 7. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion** (Information)
- 8. Unincorporated San Mateo County Local Road Safety Plan and Consideration to Provide a Letter of Support** (Action)
- 9. Letter to the San Mateo County Sheriff-Elect** (Action)
- 10. Pescadero Road Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Safety Audit Update** (Information)
- 11. County Office of Education School Travel Fellowship Program** (Information)
- 12. County Updates** (Information)
- 13. 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 October 20, 2022 SMCBPAC meeting may be accessed through Zoom online at: <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/98215054624>.

The meeting ID is: 982 1505 4624. The October 20, 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: <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, Acting Program Manager – Active Transportation, 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, August 18, 2022

7:00 P.M.

1. WELCOME

Chair Zyda called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. BPAC members and staff would be connecting to this meeting either by video or audio.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Fred Zyda
Elaine Salinger
William Kelly

Members Absent:

Susan Doherty
John Langbein
Cristina Aquino
Annie Tsai

County staff: Joel Slavit, Hanieh Houshmandi, Khoa Vo, Harry Yip, Vanessa Castro

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

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

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

Motion: Chair Zyda moved to approve/Member Kelly seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Member of the public, Craig Davis, provided an update regarding his meetings with local law enforcement agencies to discuss building more awareness of the challenges cyclists face on San Mateo County roads.

Members of the public, Steve Lubin and Bruce Dughi, noted cyclist safety concerns regarding the County's 2022 Chip Seal Road Maintenance Project and commented on the verbiage for cyclists on posted signage. Their concerns included the use of chip seal as opposed to other methods, such as slurry seal. Mr. Lubin and Mr. Dughi expressed concern that the chip seal project will make these roads inaccessible for cyclists months after the project is completed. They also expressed concern that the loose gravel posed a safety concern for cyclists who do choose to ride in the area and that posted signage advising against bicyclists, as opposed to warning all roadway users was unwelcoming and perceived to deter cyclists.

Department of Public Works Deputy Director, Khoa Vo, noted that the roads identified for the chip seal project do not have the necessary structural components to support other kinds of seal, such as slurry. He noted that chip seals add a component of structural integrity. Mr. Vo addressed the concerns about the intent of the signs, stating that the signs are not meant to deter cycling, or to make cyclists feel unwelcome. The posted signs are there to serve as a reminder to all roadway users, drivers, cyclists, motorcyclists, to exercise caution. Mr. Vo also clarified that the signs need to stay up for some time after the initial pour, since the Department of Public Works will send crews to sweep excess gravel, but the intent with chip seal is that a good amount of gravel will become imbedded into the road as cars and other vehicles drive over it. Lastly, Mr. Vo noted that many residents who live along these roads have expressed gratitude that these roads would be chip sealed.

Member of the public, Mr. Lubin, thanked Mr. Vo for his answer and suggested changing the language of the posted signage to read "Cyclists Advised: Loose Gravel," so that it does not make cyclists feel unwelcome, and suggested that the County post A-Frame signs instead. Mr. Davis, followed up on Mr. Lubin's comments by stating that the signs are a nuisance for drivers, not a risk. He said for cyclists they are a risk, and drivers assault cyclists, drive recklessly, and endanger cyclists. Mr. Davis then stated that the posted signage feeds into the belief that cyclists don't belong on the road.

5. ACTION TO SET AGENDA

Chair Zyda introduced the item.

Motion to set the agenda: Chair Zyda moved to approve/Member Kelly seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. Review and Approve May 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Action)

Motion: Chair Zyda moved to approve/Member Salinger seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

7. BPAC Member Announcements and Discussion (Information)

Member Salinger shared a video of a middle school student riding an e-Bike in the East Bay, highlighting the dangerous conditions that cyclists often face. Member Salinger wanted to encourage members of the BPAC to always ride with cameras, and that having video evidence of near misses or dangerous driver behavior is the first step for creating safer roads for cyclists. She suggested the Board of Supervisors pass a resolution encouraging riding with cameras, or create a PSA.

Member Kelly noted that the key to safer cycling is to have more people cycling on the road and said that suggesting cyclists purchase cameras to mount onto their bikes could alienate more people than it would welcome. He said it could also create an adversarial message that cycling is not safe and that all drivers behave dangerously.

Mr. Slavitt noted that the BPAC can make recommendations to the Board but would need to follow up on this item about creating a PSA announcement.

8. Unincorporated San Mateo County Local Road Safety Plan Update (Information)

Mr. Harry Yip, from the San Mateo County Department of Public Works gave a presentation on the Draft Unincorporated San Mateo County Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP).

Member Kelly asked what baseline year was being used for the LRSP goal to reduce collisions that result in fatalities and serious injuries. Mr. Yip noted that the data collected in 2022 will serve as the baseline for the 2027 update to the LRSP as the plan will be updated every 5 years. He said staff would compare each five-year period. Member Kelly asked if the County had retrospective data. Mr. Yip said this LRSP contains data from the seven-year period from 2014 to 2020, which can be found in the report. Member Kelly asked which segment of Sand Hill Road was identified in the LRSP. Mr. Yip stated that it is the segment near Whiskey Hill Road. Member Salinger asked if the slide deck will be made available after the presentation, and Mr. Yip stated that it will be shared with the BPAC.

9. Pescadero Road Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Safety Audit (Information)

Hanieh Houshmandi from the San Mateo County Department of Public Works gave a presentation on the Pescadero Road Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Safety Audit.

Member Kelly asked about the pace of the project timeline and noted that it was moving more quickly than other County projects. He asked why this project seems to be an exception.

Ms. Houshmandi responded that once County staff were put in contact with the FHWA staff, the process began moving quickly, and that they were fortunately put in touch with a great group of people who were willing to help soon after reaching out. Ms. Houshmandi also noted that Pescadero Creek Road is a very complex road. It has many different posted speed limits, in some areas it can be windy, and in others it can be a straightaway, adding to its complexity. She noted that this roadway has always been a challenge for the County and its complexity could also be a reason why the FHWA assigned staff to this project so quickly.

Member Kelly noted that other projects often involve numerous meetings and expansive community input efforts, which in his opinion, prolong roadway improvements, and that this hopefully leads to changes relatively quickly.

10. North Fair Oaks Bicycle and Pedestrian Railroad Crossing and Community Connections Study Update (Information)

Mr. Slavitt from the San Mateo County Office of Sustainability gave a presentation on the latest activity with the North Fair Oaks Bicycle and Pedestrian Railroad Crossing and Community Connection Study.

Member Kelly asked about the status of the electrification project on the Caltrain corridor. Mr. Slavitt responded that electrification of the corridor was currently under construction. He said poles have been erected, and that a potential rail overcrossing would need to be approximately 37 feet above street level. He also noted some additional challenges with a potential crossing that included the location of significant utilities, the need to maintain sufficient clearance on adjacent local streets where ramps may be located to allow for emergency vehicle access, and impacts to on-street parking.

Member Kelly shared his opinion that this project may not be do-able, and that perhaps funds could be used for other projects. Mr. Slavitt clarified that this is not yet a capital infrastructure project and that this is a study. He shared that one of the main goals of the study is to answer questions about where a crossing could potentially be located, what kinds of improvements are possible, and what it might look like.

Member Salinger noted that the project could be difficult and expensive, and inquired whether there has been discussion about raising the train tracks or lowering the train underground. Mr. Slavitt noted that those kinds of changes would significantly drive project costs much higher.

11. County Updates (Information)

Mr. Slavitt introduced Vanessa Castro as the new Sustainability Specialist - Active Transportation for the San Mateo County Office of Sustainability. Ms. Castro provided a brief update on the status of the Coleman and Ringwood Avenues Transportation Study. Ms. Castro shared that the first phase of outreach was completed on Wednesday August 17th, and shared photos from the Live in Peace Bell Street Park Youth Day event. Ms. Castro shared that staff spoke with approximately 25 individuals at that event and completed 7 surveys. The next step of the project will be the Coleman and Ringwood Avenues Walking Tours, in which members of the community, TAC, CAC and interested parties join the project team and consultant to observe traffic and discuss potential solutions. The project is scheduled to enter the second phase of outreach in the fall and winter and the consultant will begin to develop different potential design alternatives in this phase.

Before adjourning, Member Kelly offered to draft a letter to the incoming San Mateo County Sheriff to inform her about some of the BPAC's concerns and to forge a positive working relationship during her tenure.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Member Kelly moved to approve/Member Salinger seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.