

**City of Oakland
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
(BPAC)**

**Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 21, 2004**

In attendance: Ron Bishop, (Chair), Jim Dexter, Jose Martinez, Jennifer Stanley, Mike Jones, Jason Patton

Meeting began at 4:05 with welcome from the chair.

Appointment of Note Taker: Jim Dexter

Minutes of September 23, 2004 meeting, prepared by Carol Levine, were approved without objection.

Information Items:

1. Jim advised that the proposed matrix of BPAC action items was not accomplished last month. He re-committed to develop a matrix during the next month, and to keep the matrix updated for posting on the PWA website.
2. Wednesday October 6th was "Walk your child to school" day. Jim indicated that there was activity at Joaquin Miller School, with interviews with the Principal, visits by OPD Officers Ansthorpe and Schmitt, various MSIC TPST members, and various parents. Evaluated traffic situation in front of the school during both morning and afternoon sessions.

12th Street Reconstruction Project:

1. **Plan Review:** Jose presented the consultant's detailed drawing of the 12th street reconstruction project and there was sufficient time given for review and input. General consensus that the plan looks very good overall, with only relatively minor ped/bike issues. There was special appreciation for the generalized amphitheatre at the 'center' of the plan, and discussion of the planned path width (15 feet) and proposed crosswalks, including two uncontrolled crosswalks (one on 12th street to the Kaiser Convention Center parking lot area, and one on the Lakeshore 'dead-end.'). The consultant will make a presentation at the November 18 BPAC meeting.
2. **Materials Discussion:** Jose asked for feedback on materials for the park paths. Options include concrete, asphalt, rubberized asphalt, 'running track' material (like Berkeley High School running track which Ron feels is quite durable and should be evaluated), as well as a sample of resin based material brought by Jose. Ron recommended that there be installation of materials in a test location, preferably on the lake path itself.
3. **Other Issues:** The consultants seem to be responding to BPAC comments though there is continued concern that they do not have bike/ped expertise. BPAC members were encouraged to attend the public plan presentation on Wednesday afternoon, October 27th. Nancy Nadel and Danny Wan's offices are keeping in the loop on bike/ped access. Robert had previously promised to arrange an on-site visit with CEDA staff of 3 bridges at the estuary.

City Racks Bicycle Parking

The City's grant application to TFCA for the CityRacks program has been approved. U-racks and E-lockers will be installed throughout the City. E-locker sites under consideration include outside the 12th and 19th Street BART stations and at downtown bus stops. Jason will assist with evaluating E-locker locations. There is a backlog of U-rack requests, so prioritization before installation begins (estimated by Spring 2005) may be required. The Oakland PWA website (oaklandpw.com/bicycling) will soon allow U-rack requests to be submitted online.

Bike Lane Restriping Project (initiated in 2003)

The grant for restriping faded bike facilities will be implemented by June 30, 2005. There was discussion about using the bike path symbol (universally understood) vs. text "Bike Lane" with lane direction arrow (current Caltrans standard). Jennifer explained that Robert Raburn had expressed strong favor for adhering to the Caltrans standard. However, the group expressed interest in considering support for using the symbol instead due to Oakland's diversity and reduced installation and maintenance costs. Jennifer will continue to research into this issue and return with a policy for BPAC to consider. The group also advised matching what other local cities are doing to ensure consistency.

Tangentially, there was discussion about Oakland's standard bike route signage (Caltrans SG45, also used in San Francisco). A physical real-size sign was provided for review. Oakland has been installing SG45s although some BPAC members have stated preference for other signage (see June 2004 minutes). Resolution: Live with the existing signage being installed, but recommend desired signage as part of Bike Plan Update process.

Bicycle Master Plan Update (initiated by Jason Patton in June 2004)

Bike plan update consultant to be selected among three that submitted proposals as soon after October 27 interviews as possible. Jason is already working actively on the plan. BPAC (and to-be-formed CAC—Community Advisory Committee) will be asked for input soon.

Brooklyn Bike Route

The Brooklyn bike route, identified in the 1999 bike plan, needs to be re-evaluated. Ron and Mike rode the route and determined it was not suitable due to overly steep grades. They will recommend an alternate route to the City, and Jennifer agreed to request halting signage installation on this path. Because PWA is utilizing the 1999 bike plan currently, a priority for the Bike Plan Update should be to correct deficient routes.

Note: At previous BPAC meetings, Jason has indicated that the base map for the Walk Oakland Map & Guide would be used to create a full-sized map of the proposed bikeway network. This map would be used for planning purposes and it would be distributed as an insert to the updated Bicycle Master Plan.

Discussion of BPAC Charter and Effectiveness (initiated by all in September 2004):

There was a lengthy discussion of the BPAC's role. It seems as if there is no City policy that determines which projects are submitted for BPAC review. Though the BPAC may not have the resources to review every project, there should be more transparency regarding what projects are taking place, and a policy should be formed that outlines staff responsibilities for seeking BPAC input. A brief review of early BPAC documents showed that the BPAC began as an advisory body with representatives from EBBC, REBAC, the School District, an at-large Oakland community member, and five City agencies, whose role, among other tasks, was to research and review a wide range of bicycle and pedestrian projects including those done in Oakland by other agencies.

Continued August/September discussion items:

1. Potential bicycle improvement between Rockridge BART and Lake Temescal – Ongoing. Commitment to install bike route signage up to Lake Temescal, Jennifer to research the difficulties in getting signage through Temescal Park on the new bike path. Discussion of possible routing from Park to Montclair Village, expression of difficulties in marking the path with only route signs when a path is in the plan; fears that installation of the route signs would delay/remove plans to install the path.
2. Crosswalks at uncontrolled intersections – Current PWA policy is no new crosswalks at uncontrolled intersections. Jason reported that this is an ongoing sensitive discussion within PWA and CEDA. City liability concerns sometimes result in a reluctance to install crosswalks at uncontrolled intersections. Jason is reviewing current research to develop approaches that address PWA's concerns, and promote pedestrian safety and access, and is pursuing development of approaches acceptable to both agencies. In-street

crosswalk signage sites are being evaluated within PWA for future implementation. Jim reported that there is one new in-street ped sign at the Cabot/Mountain intersection.

3. Ron reported that the Whole Foods Project is still on hold. Jim suggested that this might be the best time to attempt to influence the design for pedestrian and bicycle issues before the pressure to move forward quickly returns.
4. 7th Street Urban Design Plan – On hold, funding appeal failed, truck routing issues unresolved.
5. Tunnel Road signage and hazard elimination – Signage is done. Jennifer reported that a recent EBMUD leak was detected and repaired, and further monitoring was being performed to determine if the problem persists. If so, the problem will be addressed, potentially using a Caltrans Hazard Elimination and Safety (HES) grant that would also address other issues on Tunnel.
6. Support for 10th St/Measure DD – BPAC letter NOT written yet, Ron committed to do it this month.
7. Bicycle/Pedestrian access to the Oakland Airport. Ron did not receive a response to his letter to the Port about bike/ped access to the Oakland Airport, and so will re-send.
8. Foothill Bikeway and Resurfacing – 36th to 41st Street – Bike route signage being installed.

Anticipated Events for the Next Meeting on November 18th:

1. Presentation by contractor of detailed engineering on the 12th Street Dam Project (Measure DD).
2. Presentation by Claudia Cappio on the Whole Foods Bike/Ped Safety and Access.
3. Presentation by Lee Nordlund on the Catholic Cathedral.

Summary of BPAC Action Items:

<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Person Responsible</i>	<i>Action Item</i>
11/18/04	Jim Dexter	Create tracking matrix of action items/projects in Microsoft Excel.
11/18/04	Jennifer Stanley	Publish matrix on PWA website.
11/05/04	Ron Bishop	Ron Bishop will contact Lauren Eisele at Port of Oakland about Bike/Ped access, write a new letter that will ensure an appropriate response from the Port of Oakland.
11/05/04	Ron Bishop	Write letter on supporting 10 th Street Bridge, Measure DD to Kerry-Jo.
11/05/04	Ron Bishop	Write letter on Whole Foods.
11/05/04	Ron Bishop	Write Letter on Potential bicycle improvement between Rockridge BART and Lake Temescal and the new Lake Temescal Bike Path
11/05/04	Ron Bishop/Mike Jones	Submit recommended Brooklyn bike route to Jennifer.
11/18/04	Jennifer Stanley	Continue to monitor and report on progress on bicycle improvement between Rockridge BART and Lake Temescal and the new Lake Temescal Bike Path
10/27/04	Jim Dexter Ron Bishop	Attend and participate in the public 12 th Street Dam Reconstruction presentation.
11/5/04	Jennifer Stanley	Arrange for consultant presentation of 12 th Street Reconstruction Project to BPAC
11/18/04	Jason Patton	Ongoing discussion of crosswalks at uncontrolled locations.
11/18/04	Jason Patton/ Robert Raburn	<i>Whole Foods</i> – monitor progress on this project

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Jim Dexter