

**Oakland BPAC Meeting – Draft Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 20, 2005**

Attendees: Ron Bishop, Damali Cruz, Jim Dexter, Carol Levine, Jason Patton, Robert Raburn, Paul Russell, Jennifer Stanley

Announcements: Jason Patton provided a work plan to the BPAC as an informational item. It identifies the projects and committees he is currently involved with.

**Caltrans 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Overhead Structure Seismic Retrofit—Robert Raburn**

The Design Committee of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) reviewed the Caltrans proposal for the seismic retrofit of I-880 over the Channel. Caltrans needs a permit from BCDC because of the project's proximity to the Bay. There are concerns that the current proposal does not adequately provide for access to the Bay. The Design Committee identified three areas of the proposal for improvement: (1) improved pedestrian and bicyclist access on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue; (2) a ped/bike bridge over the railroad tracks and along the channel; and (3) open space between the freeway directions to allow more light underneath the elevated structure. The BCDC Commission will hear the Design Committee's recommendations at their next meeting.

**Action:** Robert Raburn will draft a letter to BCDC voicing BPAC support for these three recommendations. The letter will also request pavement treatments on the freeway that reduce noise. The letter will be cc'd to the City Administrator, District 2 councilmember, At-Large councilmember, and the Transportation Services Division manager. The draft letter will be reviewed by BPAC via email.

**Transportation Services Division Project Updates—Jennifer Stanley**

- 12<sup>th</sup> Street Dam interim bike access: An in-house solution is being developed using k-rail. Drew Winsor's group in Maintenance is leading the project.
- Temescal Path signage: New bike route signs were recently installed on Broadway, Broadway Terrace, Mountain, and Thornhill in the vicinity of the Temescal Path. The path itself has yet to be signed.
- Market Street bike lanes: The striping for Market Street from MacArthur to 55<sup>th</sup> St is now complete. The lanes were dropped at 53<sup>rd</sup> St because of the intersection's LOS analysis. That intersection, however, due to its proximity to Santa Fe Elementary, had previously been identified by the Oakland Pedestrian Safety and the Safe Walk to School programs as a location to calm traffic. Thus, Jason Patton noted that school safety concerns should be considered in future projects with similar circumstances. Jennifer also reported TSD's plans to conduct a feasibility study to analyze and design solutions for improving connections between Oakland and Berkeley via Genoa/West/Adeline and that the intersection could be revisited as part of the study.
- Upper Telegraph Ave bike lanes: The existing bike lanes on Telegraph Ave from Highway 24 to the Berkeley border will be restriped after March 1 (when the weather dries out, per PWA-Maintenance procedures).
- Telegraph Ave bike lanes EIR: The Kimley-Horn contract for studying bicycle lanes on Telegraph Ave from Highway 24 to 20<sup>th</sup> St had been on hold because of contract compliance issues with the City's Equal Benefits Ordinance. Those issues are now resolved and the project is moving forward.
- Whole Foods (27<sup>th</sup>/Harrison): No news available at this time. Jason Patton will provide an update at the next BPAC meeting.

### **Bike to Work Day Planning—Jennifer Stanley**

Planning is now underway for Bike to Work Day 2005. A key issue is getting the word out early so people know about the event. Two ideas were (1) hanging banners across major streets and (2) ensuring that the poster is printed early to allow for wide distribution. Other ideas included having music on the Plaza in the morning and, as in previous years, developing pedal pools to ride in with council members from around the city.

### **BPAC Role and Responsibilities/BPAC charter—group**

Jim Dexter provided a summary of the BPAC charter that was developed in January 1995. He explained that the charter generally describes what BPAC does while noting a number of differences. Membership and reporting are two areas where the charter is not being followed. For example, the charter specifies the participation of representatives from the Police, Parks & Rec, and all other agencies involved in bike/ped related issues. It also specifies that BPAC make recommendations directly to department heads and provide quarterly reports to PWA. There is interest in the BPAC on continuing the discussion of BPAC's role and possibly revising the charter. Jim Dexter agreed to do more research on the topic.

Beyond Oakland's BPAC charter, such advisory committees are a necessary condition for receiving funding allocations from the Transportation Development Act (TDA) as per MTC's Resolution 875. (BTA does not require BPAC review.) This resolution specifies that the purpose of BPACs are to (1) review plans; and (2) prioritize projects. The group also discussed the role of the BPAC in providing citizen oversight on the implementation of Oakland's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans. For facilitating project review, Jennifer Stanley noted that she is interested in developing a protocol for project managers and BPAC, including specifying how to communicate BPAC recommendations, and how project managers might be invited to provide project updates/status reports following receipt of BPAC recommendations.

### **Review of BPAC Tracking Spreadsheet—Jim Dexter**

Jim Dexter provided a draft spreadsheet to be used as a tracking tool for projects and issues that come before BPAC. The goal is better institutional memory and thereby better follow through by BPAC. Feedback to Jim included the importance of an overview page that provides basic details on the most important projects. A separate page on each project would provide details on past actions.

### **Montclair Safety & Improvement Council Ped/Bike Survey—Jim Dexter**

Jim Dexter presented the results of a survey of Montclair residents regarding walking, cycling, and school transportation issues. With 138 respondents, the results show strong support for walking and cycling but deep concerns over safety.

### **Action Items**

- Robert Raburn will draft a letter for BPAC to BCDC supporting improved ped/bike access in the vicinity of I-880 and the Channel.
- Jason Patton will provide an update on the Whole Foods project at the next BPAC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Jason Patton.