

City of Emeryville
Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Subcommittee
Of the Transportation Committee

Minutes from the meeting on April 2, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

In the Garden Level of Old Town Hall at 1333 Park Avenue in Emeryville, California

Attending:

BPAC Members: Laura McCamy, Heather Ashcroft, Celeste Burrows, Betsy Cooley, David Kritzberg, Tom Modic, Sean Moss, Racheljoy Rodas, Svante Rödegård, Ryan Stahlman

Council Members: Jac Asher, Ruth Atkin

City Staff: Arly Cassidy, Amber Evans, Joel Hannon, Ken James, Maurice Kaufman, Mike Roberts

Excused Members:

Additional Attendees: Dave Campbell, Scott Donahue, Robert Prinz

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call: 5:35 p.m.
Chair McCamy called the meeting to order and all the committee members and guests introduced themselves.
- II. Public Comments: There was no public comment.
- III. Approval of March 5, 2012 Minutes: approved by acclamation.
- IV. Action Items:
 - A. Signal Timing/Grouping and GHG Implications (Kaufman). Maurice Kaufman presented information on a grant the Public Works department is applying for to study signal timing and grouping. The grant would allow the City to retime signal groups, update pedestrian cycle times, give more time for bikes to clear intersections, and possibly give signal priority to buses. Kaufman also mentioned that Public Works will find and mark the best place for bicyclists to stop at intersections with video detection. Committee members requested that pedestrian signals cycle through a walk signal without a button being pushed, and change to a walk signal when a button is pushed, if the cycle timing allowed. Committee members also requested that any signal timing adjustments consider that promoting pedestrian and bicycle travel, sometimes to the expense of auto travel, may be the best way to reduce greenhouse gas emission (rather than improving auto traffic flow).

(Kaufman asked if Item V.B. could be moved forward on the agenda; McCamy agreed)
 - V.B. Kaufman reported on SeeClickFix, a new mobile app that allows citizens to report issues in the public right of way directly to the city. Staff is analyzing the software and considering implementation; Cassidy will keep BPAC up to date with any progress.
 - B. Review of PBAC Member Applications (Atkin and Asher). Councilmembers Atkin and Asher indicated that they were interested in any BPAC responses on two applications to fill two vacancies on the committee. A number of members expressed their individual opinion, followed by two separate votes for the respective applicants:
 - a. Recommendation to TC to City Council to Approve Scott Donahue's BPAC Application MSP (Modic, Ashcroft – 9-0-1)
 - b. Recommendation to TC to City Council to Approve Brian Donahue's BPAC Application MSF (Cooley, Burrows – 4-2-3) Motion fails since a majority of votes did not approve.
 - C. Bike to Work Day 2012 Planning (Campbell). Dave Campbell of the East Bay Bicycle Coalition handed out posters and fliers for Bike to Work Day, explained how Bike to Work Month, or Team Bike Challenge, works, and invited people to volunteer for the day's events. Cassidy also shared the finalized list of energizer stations and invited BPAC and the public to take part in the City Council Ride at 8am at City Hall on Bike to Work Day.

- D. Berkeley Anti-Harassment Law (Cassidy). BPAC discussed the impact of such a law, and heard from Police Chief James, who did not feel the law was effective. BPAC was generally in support of adopting the law in Emeryville:
- a. Recommendation to TC to the City Council to adopt an Anti-Harassment Law similar to Berkeley's, with the addition of a definition of harassment reading "For purposes of this ordinance, 'Harassment' is defined as any Prohibited Conduct as defined in this ordinance" (McCamy, Stahlman – 9-0-1)

- E. Idaho Law – EBBC Support (James and Cassidy). James stated that a mechanism was needed to change the state vehicle code, such as a lobbyist, if that was BPAC's goal. BPAC members asked about lowering the priority of enforcing bicycle violations, especially at stop signs, and Hannon stated that that was already the case, and that most violations were issued as a matter of safety. Prinz described a program at UC Berkeley, in which violators can have their fine reduced if they attend a bicycle safety class; James and BPAC members expressed interest in such a program. Prinz and James will return at the next BPAC meeting to discuss potential program details and implementation.

Further, BPAC felt that Council should support a legislative change to the state vehicle code:

- a. Recommendation to TC to the City Council to write a letter to state legislators supporting a change to the language of the state vehicle code to allow bicycles to treat stop signs as yield signs (Moss, Stahlman – 9-1-0)
- F. Bike FixIt Stations (Cassidy). BPAC discussed possible locations for two new FixIt stations, to be installed by Public Works. Members felt they should be installed in safe locations adjacent to bike corridors, but also provide access for low income residents.
- a. Recommendation to TC to the City Council to install Bike FixIt stations on Frontage Road/the Bay Trail and along the Greenway (Modic, McCamy – 8-0-1)

V. Information Items:

- A. Cassidy gave a recap of March TC, PC and CC meetings, and upcoming events.
- C. Update on Safe Routes to Transit project (Evants). Evans gave a presentation on the status of the traffic impact study for the grant project.

VI. Staff Comments: none.

VII. Committee Member Comments: Rödegård stated that it would be nice if the Emery-Go-Round could serve the Senior Center.

VIII. Adjournment: 7:50 p.m.