



MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION COMMITTEE (TCC)

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA
Thursday, February 23, 2013, 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Blackerby called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM

ROLL CALL:

TCC MEMBERS

Hillary Blackerby
Cynthia Boche
Bob Burnham
Keith Coffman-Grey
Edward France
Susan Horne
Kathleen Rodriguez

Attendance

Present
Present
Present
Present
Present
Present
Present

CITY STAFF PRESENT :

Browning Allen, Transportation Manager
Derrick Bailey, Supervising Transport
Malinda Reese, Project Engineer
Laura Yanez, Project Engineer
Jessica Grant, Project Planner
Kim Thaler-Strange, Administrative Specialist

LIAISONS PRESENT

Cathy Murillo, Council Liaison

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. No Public Comment.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

2. Approval of Minutes from the December 13, 2012 meeting where a TCC quorum was present.

Motion: Approve the Minutes from the December 13, 2012, meeting.
Motion made to approve the minutes by Keith Coffman Grey, seconded by Susan Horne.

Ayes: 5

Noes: Abstain: 2 (Boche, Burnham)

Absent:

REPORTS

3. Introduction of new TCC members, Cynthia Boche and Bob Burnham.

Bob retired from MTD after 32 years as a dispatcher and customer relations. Cynthia Boche works at MTD as an Assistant Planning Manager. She was active in transportation activities when she lived in San Luis Obispo.

4. MTD Monthly Report

Mr. Allen reminded the committee that this is a standing informational item. There were no comments.

5. Safe Routes To School - Cleveland School

Malinda Reese, Project Engineer presented the Safe Routes to School, Cleveland School Project. This project includes improvements to 5 different intersections: Clifton Street at Canada Street, Clifton Street at Oak Street, Clifton Street at Salinas Street, Cacique Street at Salinas Street, and Santa Ynez Street at Eucalyptus Hill Road. The improvements include sidewalk access ramps, pedestrian street lighting and a realignment of the intersection of Salinas and Cacique Streets.

Mr. France asked about parking on Salinas Street between Ensenada and Cacique Streets. Ms. Reese indicated that there is currently no parking on the south side of the street. There is an extra wide driveway. Mr. Bailey is looking to evaluate the section of the street north of Cacique to possibly add a parking space. Mr. France indicated that he would like to see a little space to allow for bicyclists as opposed to a parking space. Ms. Reese indicated that would be evaluated.

Ms. Boche pointed out that there is bike lane striping in the proposed design that isn't in the plan. Ms. Reese explained that the shoulders will be 5 feet wide to accommodate bicycles.

Ms. Horne said that the school is in a bad location and asked what was done to evaluate the problems with the kids getting to school. She asked if there was any parental input. Mr. Allen replied that the grant application was generated through interactions with COAST, who has an active Safe Routes to School Program. The primary location in question is Clifton and Salinas; but Cacique has the potential to be a bigger problem because the intersection is offset.

Mr. France noted that there is access to the school on the back of Eucalyptus. The majority of students walk to campus and they need to walk their bikes up a steep ramp. The pedestrian ramp has bollards. Is the access ramp being investigated? Ms. Reese replied that the grant was limited to only those five intersections.

Mr. Burnham asked about the timeline for the project and asked if the goal was to reduce accidents and close calls to provide better safety. Ms. Reese indicated that the preliminary design will be in the 60 percent phase in the next couple of weeks. The Measure A money has to be spent before 2014, so construction will be scheduled in spring 2014. Mr. Allen added that the improvements were being made mainly for school-aged children.

Mr. France remarked about the grants that have been received and the willingness of the City to work with the schools.

Ms. Blackerby asked if there would be one access ramp on each corner. Ms. Reese said that there would be one ramp at each corner. The northeast and southwest corners will have to be a bit larger to accommodate the truck turn radii. The northwest corner has a small parkway and sidewalk.

Ms. Reese then replied to Ms. Horne's question about whether or not the sidewalk ramp will have a curb or something to act as a drop-off to try and prevent children from just running into the street. She said that there is a truncated dome that will act as a visual stop for children. Ms. Reese also said that Ms. Yanez will be taking over the project, as she is leaving the City.

Motion: Find that the Safe Routes to School Cleveland Project is consistent with the Circulation Element of the General Plan.

Motion made by Keith Coffman-Grey, seconded by Ed France

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Ms. Blackerby thanked City staff for their work on the project.

6. Debrief on Eastside Neighborhood Listening Workshop

Jessica Grant gave a brief presentation on the Eastside Listening Workshop that took place on February 2, 2013. She gave history of the workshop, which was part of a request from Council to put this together. She explained how the workshop was set up and the topics for discussion: speeding, traffic lighting, missing access ramps and sidewalk, bicycling and getting to the bus and bus stops.

She showed the maps for each issue area, and will be hosting a second meeting on April 6, 2013 to discuss approaches to these issues. Additionally, there was a community survey effort to solicit feedback. The Committee was given copies of the surveys. Ms. Grant is going to the Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) on March 13 to present this data.

Following the April 6 workshop, she will return to the NAC and TCC in May and June, and then go to Council in June or July.

Ms. Blackerby commented on how outstanding the planning process for this was, and how great the materials look; Mr. Coffman-Grey agreed. Ms. Horne commented on the great job of doing verbal outreach.

Mr. Burnham believed the focus of the effort to be perfect. He asked if the media attention about the Ortega and Milpas Streets intersection was brought up. Mr. Allen indicated that it was not brought up in the workshop, but neighborhood residents brought it to the forefront, which helped get this effort going. They recognized that Milpas was not the only problematic street. This resulted in an effort to make improvement throughout the corridor. Staff is on a tight schedule; however, which prevents us from doing some things, but are getting great info and feedback and will be able to come up with some solutions.

Mr. France complimented the workshop, and the fact that it was a large City effort. He mentioned that the ability to break into smaller groups for feedback resulted in more and better feedback from the community.

Ms. Grant made note that Inside SB is airing a segment on the workshop and planning effort.

7. Selection of Chair and Vice

It is the first meeting of 2013. At the last meeting, it was decided to let the new committee help choose the new Chair and Vice Chair. Traditionally, the Vice Chair becomes the Chair, but this is not set in stone.

Mr. France noted that it takes time to get up to speed as Chair, and indicated that he would like to have Ms. Blackerby entertain the idea of remaining Chair for a bit longer. Mr. Allen indicated that the number of meetings was cut because of budget constraints and lack of items. Ms. Blackerby agreed to be open to it, but solicited other nominations.

Ms. Boche supported Ms. Blackerby's nomination.

Motion: Ms. Blackerby remain as TCC Chair

Motion made by Ed France, seconded by Cynthia Boche

Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Abstain: 1 (Blackerby) Absent: 0

Motion: Mr. Coffman-Grey as Vice Chair

Motion made by Ed France, seconded by Hillary Blackerby

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

8. Announcements - New Guidelines for City Advisory Boards

Mr. Allen announced the Council adopted guidelines for Advisory Committees at their February 12, 2013 meeting. He asked the Committee to sign the page that was distributed with the guidelines indicating that they received a copy of the guidelines. If the Committee wishes, an informal workshop could be done. Also, on May 8, 2013, there is a Brown Act and Ethics training being given by the City. Committee members are welcome to attend that; though we are not designated to go through the training. Email Kim if you are interested. Mr. Allen also reminded the Committee about conflicts of interest – if you have to abstain from an item, then you need to leave the room. There is a monitor in the hallway that will allow you to watch the item. If you are unsure if you need to abstain from an item, let Mr. Allen know and he will seek the advice of the City Attorney.

There will be a meeting in May, and possibly a joint meeting with the DPC in April (April 11, 2013) to discuss the Bikestation Survey.

Finally, Mr. Allen asked how the Committee feels about starting the meetings at 5:30. Mr. Coffman-Grey indicated that it would be difficult for him.

Ms. Blackerby adjourned the meeting at 6:32.