



# **MEETING MINUTES**

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## **TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION COMMITTEE (TCC)**

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA  
Thursday, September 25, 2014, 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Boche called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

### **ROLL CALL:**

#### TCC MEMBERS

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

#### Attendance

Present  
Present  
Present  
Excused  
Present  
Present  
Present

#### CITY STAFF PRESENT :

Browning Allen, Transportation Manager  
Rob Dayton, Principal Transportation Planner  
Kim Thaler-Strange, Administrative Specialist

#### LIAISONS PRESENT

#### PUBLIC PRESENT:

### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

#### **1. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

### **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

#### **2. Approval of Minutes from the April 24, 2014, meeting where a TCC quorum was present.**

**Motion:** Approve the Minutes from the July 24, 2014, Meeting.

Motion made by Blackerby, seconded by France.

Ayes: 5      Noes:      Abstain: (1) Rodriguez      Absent: 1 (Coffman-Grey)

## REPORTS

### 3. Castillo Interchange Deficiency Plan (Plan)

Mr. Rob Dayton, Principal Transportation Planner gave a report about the Congestion Management Program (CMP), and a summary of the staff report.

The Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) has maintained the CMP. Level of Service E is the threshold that determines the need for a deficiency plan at an intersection. During the recession, traffic volumes went down. Recently, traffic volumes have grown and are currently at 2008 levels, except for some intersections. The intersection of Castillo and Haley is one of these intersections. It is monitored by SBCAG and is at LOS E.

There is a need for a deficiency plan. The City has a year to complete a plan that will look at the cause of the deficiency, which could include growth and fluctuation at the college. The plan would also identify the factors contributing to the deficiency and the solutions and costs to solve the problem. This process would be similar to the process that was completed for Mission Street in 1998. The Plan will include a capital project and systems recommendations. The intent is to take the plan to Council, then to the TCC and then back to Council.

One of the issues with this interchange is that it is under the water table, held down by pylons. Since it was opened, leaking has been a problem. Sometimes Caltrans will try to fix it, but it doesn't always work. Capacity is impacted by the fact that it is slippery for motorists, and there are a lower percentage of bicycles going to City College, which adds to congestion. Staff will come back to the TCC with a draft of the Plan.

#### Committee Comments

Ms. Blackerby wanted confirmation that Caltrans is working on another attempt at a temporary fix. Mr. Allen confirmed that they are looking at pavers.

Mr. France thanked staff for bringing this item to the Committee. This is an important path for pedestrians as well, since the beach and park are four blocks away.

Ms. Rodriguez asked if Castillo Street is all one-way, and is it one way coming from the DMV. The street becomes a one-way street at Cota Street.

Mr. Burnham asked about the process and timeline. Mr. Dayton indicated that staff would return to the TCC in February; go to Council in March and then SBCAG in April. Mr. Allen added that we have a year from last May when the determination was made by SBCAG. An award of Contract for the Plan will be going before Council in November.

Mr. France asked if the lot at the corner of Montecito and Castillo streets will be included in the process as it creates a dangerous situation for bicycles and pedestrians. Mr. Dayton indicated that there was a Land Development application for that site and staff is working with Derrick Bailey's staff.

Mr. Rodriguez asked if there are a significant number of intersections at LOS E or if this was a clear standout. Mr. Dayton replied that this is a clear standout, but there will be a domino effect when the US Highway 101 is completed.

Ms. Boche asked if the Plan doesn't work, does it need to be done again. Mr. Dayton replied that SBCAG Staff will not bring it up. Congestion is linked to the quality of life in the General Plan. The 1964 version of the General Plan discussed that Santa Barbara does not want to be like Los Angeles; our task is to have a congestion free town.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Allen announced that the City applied for 5 Active Transportation Project grants last spring, and received awards for four of our projects in the amount of \$8.6 million dollars. These funds will be used to complete the Cacique Bike Bridge, and add a bridge on Soledad; replacement of the Montecito Bridge, and a multipurpose pathway on Las Positas and Cliff Drive and sidewalk on lower Milpas Street. Jessica Grant and Brian D'Amour did a lot of work to prepare the applications.

The Committee thanked staff for all their work on the Eastside planning effort and their overall responsiveness to the neighborhoods.

Mr. Allen reported that Pedestrian Refuge Islands have been installed and the Safe Routes to School project on Salinas Street is still in progress. There is an upcoming Award of Contract for the traffic signal at De La Vina Street and Arrellaga Streets. There are HSIP grant funds for that signal, based on traffic collision history. That should be in before the end of the Fiscal Year.

We will be having a meeting on October 23, 2014. It will be a long meeting

Vice Chair Boche adjourned the meeting at 5:57.