



# **MEETING MINUTES**

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

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

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA  
Thursday, March 23, 2017, 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Blackerby called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

### **ROLL CALL:**

#### TCC MEMBERS

Hillary Blackerby  
Edward France  
E. Howard Green  
David Hodges  
Susan Horne  
Kathleen Rodriguez

#### Attendees

#### CITY STAFF PRESENT :

Rob Dayton, Transportation Planning and Parking  
Manager  
Kim Thaler-Strange, Administrative Specialist  
Mindy Jackson, Administrative Specialist  
Peter Brown, Associate Transportation Planner  
Derrick Bailey, Supervising Transportation Planner  
Jason Dominguez, Council Member

HB Introduced David Hodges, the newest TCC Member.

### **PUBLIC SPEAKERS:**

Frank Peters is a new resident to SB. He noted that the lanes near the MOXI (intersection of Yanonali and State Streets) are narrow. Neither cars nor bikes are slowing down in this intersection. Safety is a priority. He sent a letter to Rebecca Bjork. He is requesting bike lanes.

Ms. Rodriguez noticed that the people on bikes in the picture are from a hotel and not wearing helmets. Mr. Dayton replied that a helmet is required for riders age 16 and younger.

Ms. Horne asked Mr. Peters what he would like to see and how to correct it?

Mr. Peters replied that the bike lane is too narrow and he would like to see a physical separation between the cars and bikes.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Approval of Minutes from the November 10 and December 8, 2016, meetings of the Transportation and Circulation Committee, where a quorum was present.

MOTION: To approve the Minutes from the November 10 and December 8, 2016, meeting.

Motion made by Horne, seconded by Hodges

Ayes: 6      Noes: 0      Abstain:      Absent: 0

### **REPORTS**

#### **MTD Reports**

Mr. Steve Maas was available to answer questions regarding the MTD Reports.

Ms. Horne noted that all the ridership is going down. Mr. Maas attributes that partially to the fare increase in 2012.

Mr. Hodges noted that the time it takes for the shuttle to make the trip has increased. Mr. Maas replied that this is a long term trend that could reduce ridership, but no one knows how much of a reduction that caused. There are new vehicles on order to be put into use later this year. Mr. Hodges asked if bikes could be put on shuttles. They cannot be put on the shuttles, but that might be an option for the new shuttles.

#### **Cota Street Bike Lane Implementation**

Mr. France will be recusing himself as he works for the Bike Coalition. Peter Brown, Associate Transportation Planner, and Derrick Bailey, Principal Traffic Engineer, will be jointly presenting this item.

Mr. Brown gave updates about the few projects that can be started this summer, and other improvements that are a bit closer to being started.

Mr. Bailey discussed the mechanics of the projects and how to get the best possible projects in the City, as well as the analysis of Cota Street as a one way street.

Ms. Rodriguez asked about the dead end at Haley Street and the flow of cars. Mr. Bailey replied that the traffic flow has to do with the way the model is put together.

Mr. Hodges asked if there would still be problems on Garden Street regardless of the project. Mr. Bailey said that there are issues on Garden and Haley.

Ms. Blackerby clarified that this isn't an action item; but an update. The projects were adopted as part of the Bicycle Master Plan. Mr. Dayton added that Council was told about the study during the BMP process. The decision to remove parking on Cota was made, but staff planned to do a study, at the request of the public, to see if making Cota Street one way would be beneficial.

Mr. Hodges asked about bike lanes. Mr. Bailey said that there will be bike lanes on one side of the street, and that there will be a couplet on Ortega Street.

**Public Comment:**

John McKormick of 710 East Cota, sees a lot of extra lawn in front of the school and park. He suggested that the bike lane could be moved on to property instead of street, which would save parking spaces. Parking is at a premium for residents, and it would be safer to get it out of the street. If the parking has to be removed, he would like to see resident parking stickers in that area.

Ms. Blackerby reminded speakers to keep comments to 2 minutes.

Joanna Kauffman, Program director for COAST, appreciates implementation of the bike lanes, and BMP and the update. The benefit to the community will include Safe Routes To School. COAST Supports any efforts to improve biking across town.

Cameron Grey, on behalf of CEC, recognizes that the loss of 76 parking spaces will prevent hardships for community. The community must continue to acknowledge that the bike lanes will be beneficial. Given the narrow window for the allocation, he commends the City for their foresight. This will ensure that none of the money will go to waste. CEC continues to stand behind the City.

Joey, of SB Bike is pleased to see a route from Haley to the Eastside, as currently there is no clear way to return from the Eastside. This project will go towards the goal of the BMP, and will get more people riding their bikes. He echoes COAST'S comments about Safe Routes to School.

Howard Green arrived at 6:10

Sebastian Aldana thanked those who took part in making Cota Street a one way street and is glad that the bike lane is off the lawns of the Jr. High and the park. He acknowledged that the 600 and 700 blocks of Cota Street are losing parking and suggested that permeable pavers get put in the 700 and 800 block of Quarantina. He also pointed out that a bike lane cannot be placed in a park if it is not part of the park's use.

Michael Menassey, owner of 415 Rancheria Street, which is a legal, non-conforming building with 6 parking spaces. At least half of his tenants use parking spots on Rancheria. The blocks near City College have a different dynamic, and the street is usually busy on school days, and at night by residents. He suggests that there be resident-only parking.

Lorie Lauriba is an Eastside resident. Cota is calm on weekends for bike rides. She will not ride on Canon Perdido at night. She asks that bike lanes not be put in the driver's door zone.

Michael Montenegro is a college student on the Westside. He says that a bike lane on Rancheria would make his commute more accessible.

Betsy Spaulding has lived in Santa Barbara for 30 years. She uses Haley to get to the Eastside and is looking forward to having a route home.

Ben Croft thanked the Committee for listening to public comments. He sees lots of bikes going to and from City College. Rancheria is such an important connection, please hold your ground on this. The students feel this is an important connection.

Jeff Grow lives on Garcia Road. He supports the Cota Street bike lanes, but says that the Canon Perdido Street bike lanes are congested.

#### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS:**

Mr. Dayton acknowledged Mr. McKormick's idea for the bike lane. The City Attorney said that the City could not do that.

Ms. Horne asked about permit parking for the apartment on Rancheria. Mr. Dayton said that it would be possible, but it takes a certain number of residents to implement it. Please see the Downtown Parking Staff about that.

Ms. Rodriguez's daughter and son-in-law live on Gutierrez, which is a very problematic street. Drivers tend to drive at speeds of up to 40 mph. She's sorry that the analysis didn't work, but glad that the traffic isn't increasing. Traffic is really bad between APS and Milpas.

Mr. Bailey said that staff was going to take a block by block approach for the Configuration of the bike lane. There are different land uses, and staff will minimize areas where bikes are near cars. Lanes will be near curbs, and there may be room for buffers.

Ms. Blackerby asked about the size of a bike lane generally in conjunction to the shoulder. Mr. Bailey said the minimum standard is 5 feet, but staff is working for 6 feet, with a 20 foot buffer.

Howard Green: Would there be any action that the committee could take to facilitate residential parking? Mr. Dayton replied that the process is initiate by residents.

Ms. Rodriguez said it was unfortunate that Rancheria is highly impacted and there will be a loss of parking, but the change will help avoid serious bike accidents.

Mr. Hodges asked if the residents could be given help in starting the permit process. Mr. Dayton said that staff will be happy to help.

Ms. Blackerby thanked staff for moving on this. She is excited to see these changes.

Mr. Brown gave the Committee copies of the BMP.

#### **US 101 and Castillo Interchange**

Rob Dayton, Transportation Planning and Parking Manager, presented this report, which included a discussion of the history of the pavement under the freeway. He is recommending that Council send a letter to Caltrans to ask that planning and implementation of repairs to this

underpass start immediately. The number of collisions in this location has doubled since the last project.

### **COMMITTEE QUESTIONS**

Mr. France asked if the scope of the project was limited to the underpass of Highway 101 or if it would extend out on either end. Mr. Dayton said that it would extend to the intersection as a replacement would include the entire corridor.

Mr. Green pointed out that the project was from June through September. The spring semester at City College ends in May and the fall semester starts in August. The project would need to be accelerated to complete it before the start of school. Mr. Dayton said that Caltrans does band aid fixes during the summer.

Ms. Rodriguez expressed interest in getting documentation of ambulance pickups done in that spot as well as other documentation regarding collisions. Mr. Dayton said that we have anecdotal info, but unless the Police show up, there is no report. Mr. Bailey added that if an ambulance shows up, there should be a police report.

Ms. Blackerby commented on the near misses on that route.

Mr. Hodges asked about the pending funding for Geosynthetic sheet bridges. Mr. Dayton said that Caltrans would like to have it done in June. They have not gotten authorization and funding. Mr. Hodges asked if the Rancheria bike lane will be in place at that time. Mr. Bailey said that there is an intention to do the project this summer. There are competing interests and a lot of Cycle 1 projects for delivery.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ann Mica is a Santa Barbara resident. She had an accident last April travelling down Castillo. Her wheel was caught in a rut. Unfortunately, the police report cited unsafe speed as the reason for the accident. This brings up the issue that accident reports may not be cited correctly.

Joanna Kauffman is frustrated that problem hasn't been solved. This interchange is not a rider friendly place along with the Fairview/Calle Real intersection. There are gaping holes in the pavement. She suggested looking at making the improvements so that a rider can go straight down Castillo.

Sebastian Aldana is aware of problems on Castillo. He suggested a water pump could be installed.

Betsy Spaulding uses the Castillo underpass to get home. There are lots of undocumented problems; it is slippery and wet.

### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS:**

Howard Green does not understand the recommendation. It says nothing about the pavers. Mr. Dayton clarified that everything will be ripped up and a new slab will be placed. There will be a gap so that water will be able to flow into drains. It will work initially.

Mr. France confirmed that the floating slab would be for all lanes, but only under the more northern part of the bridge. Mr. Brown said that the project limit is just to the north of the bridge.

Ms. Rodriguez is not sure which directional signs exist, but there is a sign that says "dismount" going both ways. Person was oblivious to signs. There is a nice pedestrian crossing on Cabrillo with flashing lights. Maybe that would be helpful.

Ms. Blackerby reflected on the times that she biked on that route, and what would the summer fix do for the sidewalk? Mr. Dayton said that the sidewalk would be left as it is. Mr. Brown said that slope is being considered as well. There will be no water on any lane or the sidewalk. Ms. Blackerby encouraged the public to report incidents. She supports the recommendations.

MOTION: Recommend that Council send a letter to Caltrans District 5 and Headquarters requesting a permanent fixed interchange reconstruction project.

Motion made by France, seconded by Hodges

Ayes: 6                      Noes: 0                      Abstain: 0                      Absent: 0

Mr. Dayton will make sure that the Committee is notified when this item goes to Council.

### **Carshare Update**

Peter Brown, Associate Transportation Planner, gave the update on Carshare. The Contract is signed with Zipcar and locations are being determined. It is possible that cars will be available to rent next month.

### **COMMITTEE QUESTIONS:**

Mr. France asked how many cars are going to be here initially. Mr. Brown said that there will be approximately 11 cars. The data will be analyzed in the first three to six months and cars can be added or reduced.

Ms. Rodriguez asked if there are two cars at City College. Mr. Brown said that there were, but Zipcar has a contract with City College. Also, other entities can arrange with Zipcar. UCSB, Westmont, Airport and Isla Vista use Zipcars.

Ms. Horne asked about fees. Mr. Brown said that there was a monthly option for \$10 or an annual option for \$70. It costs about \$8-\$15 per hour, including fuel and insurance. There is also a possibility of bike parking, but the cars have bike racks. Bike parking can be installed as the program grows.

Mr. Green would prefer that the maps that were shown have no overlays.

Mr. Brown told Ms. Horne that the program is currently a one-way pilot program.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Cameron Grey said that the CEC has been advocating for carsharing. CEC understands some contracting challenges and commends staff for working to resolve those issues. They are pleased with the proposed locations and suggested that maybe developers can be encouraged to get a benefit for subsidizing zip cars.

Joey does not own a car, and says it is great to see Zipcar introduced with a low rate.

Mr. Green is pleased that the effort is going on. He uses public transit.

Mr. France asked if the City was ready to add parking spaces. Mr. Dayton replied in the affirmative. This will save parking spaces if it is successful.

Mr. Brown explained that there is a full time marketing person for Santa Barbara as well as a PR person. Staff is working with them to do a water bill/utility mailer to go out in May. There is a ribbon cutting around April 18<sup>th</sup>. Staff will let the Committee know.

The real success of the program will come down to the amount of hours a car goes out every day. Mr. Brown has contacted social media.

Mr. France asked about the eta. Mr. Brown said that staff hopes to have Zip cars out by Earth Day.

Ms. Blackerby asked how the pavement will be marked. Mr. Brown said that is to be determined, but the City is looking to have a picture on the ground, but needs to be careful of signage and paint in case there are changes to be made. He also said that the vehicles will be fueled through a card that will be kept in the car.

Mr. Green got a card and said that they will mail it.

## **Election of the Chair and Vice Chair**

Ms. Blackerby encouraged the Committee to self-nominate. We would like to have a variety of people, and we are short a member.

MOTION: To nominate Hillary Blackerby as TCC Chair

Motion made by Rodriguez, seconded by Green

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0                      Abstain: 1 (Blackerby)                      Absent: 0

MOTION: To nominate Kathleen Rodriguez as TCC Vice Chair

Motion made by Blackerby, seconded by France

Ayes: 6                      Noes: 0                      Abstain:                      Absent: 0

Adjourn: 7:44

