



MINUTES
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
Dec 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Gerhard Eschelbeck, Erik Lindskog, and Muni Madhhipatla.

Absent: Jennifer Shearin

Staff: David Stillman (Senior Civil Engineer)

Others Present: Skylar Widmann, Matt Widmann, and Larry Dean

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 20, 2019 Minutes

- The November 20, 2019 minutes were approved unanimously with the addition of noting the suggestion of using bollards along protected bike lane by Commissioner Madhhipatla.
- It was also pointed out by Commissioner Eschelbeck that the documents presented at the meeting should be included in the minutes. David Stillman to follow up.

POSTPONEMENTS

No postponements.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Larry Dean provided information about West Valley Community Services bicycle repair event January 4, 2020 10 am – 2 pm. Volunteers needed. Contact Josh Selo.

David Stillman provided information about the pedestrian fatality on Bollinger Rd on December 12, 2019.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Email regarding Bollinger Rd from Liana Crabtree forwarded by Liang Chao was entered as written communications.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business agenda items.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Commission Proposals for FY 2020-21 City Work Program (Stillman)

David Stillman provided information about the work program process and referred to the attached document 'GUIDANCE ON COMMISSION PROPOSALS FOR CITY WORK PROGRAM'.

Ideas to be submitted in December and January Bicycle Pedestrian Commission meetings.

Some work plan items are already in the old plan: school bike paths, traffic calming and school audits.

David proposed the following two new work items:

- Bollinger Rd study, and
- Work on new bike plan for 2021. It is expected to take approximately 18 months to complete. Also suggested that the bike plan is combined with the pedestrian plan.

Commissioner Eschelbeck suggested that we don't make a new bike plan but instead work on completing the projects we have in the current bike plan.

Commissioner Lindskog agreed with David Stillman's proposal to include working on the 2021 bike plan in the work program, citing that it is possible that aspects of the current plan needs to be revised or have additions.

Commissioner Madhhipatla pointed out the importance that we complete the protected bike lane project along McClellan Rd.

Commissioner Lindskog proposed that studying converting residential streets in front of schools to walk-bike streets, with cars allowed, be included as an attempt to address the school drop-off problem.

The outcome of the discussion was to bring back work plan items to the January 2020 Bicycle Pedestrian Commission meeting.

3. McClellan Road Right-Turn Hook (Stillman)

David Stillman presented a possible solution for the McClellan Road Right-Turn Hook problem. This solution consists of mimicking a “Dutch protected intersection”. The available space puts some constraints on the solution. In general, the Commission was positive to try this solution.

Commissioner Lindskog asked if with this solution, it would be possible to mount the sign informing cars to yield to bicycles closer to the car-bicycle conflict point.

Commissioner Madhhipatla suggested we push back the waiting point for cars turning left, such as to leave more space for large vehicles turning left around them.

4. McClellan Road Two-Stage Left-Turn Bike Boxes (Stillman)

David Stillman presented the issue with the Two-Stage Left-Turn Bike Boxes at some of the intersections along McClellan.

Currently, a right turn on a red light is not allowed where these bike boxes are present. This is causing some delays for cars.

David presented a solution where a right turn is allowed on a red light even with the boxes present where there is space, and/or removing some of the bike boxes.

Commissioner Lindskog pointed out that if we are mimicking a “Dutch protected intersection” (see previous agenda item), then the bicyclist would likely wait inside the then created barrier, and thus in these cases a bike box may not be needed.

David to study the problem further.

STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

5. Staff Report (Stillman)

David Stillman reported on:

Regnart Creek Trail

Work on Regnart Creek Trail is continuing. Would like to get the environmental permit issued in time for the Water District to move the access ramp before the next rainy season. Some items need to go to Council. There was a suggestion to agendize the Regnart Creek Trail for the next Bicycle Pedestrian Commission meeting.

Bike boulevards

Speed tables installed in first rollout. No feedback so far.
Permanent concrete bulb-outs next. Now with bollards.

Carmen Rd Bridge

Need easement from at least one property owner. Property owners are discussing among themselves.

6. VTA BPAC Report (Lindskog)

Commissioner Lindskog reported from the latest VTA BPAC meeting:

Caltrans presented the Pedestrian Plan for Caltrans District 4. The presented plan was not very detailed at this point in time though.

The City of San Jose presented their Vision Zero program. One of the more interesting facts is that pedestrian fatalities, nationally, has in the last 10 years since 2009 reversed all gains (a reduction from ~6500 to ~4000 fatalities per year) made in the previous 20 years. Distracted driving and popularity of SUVs are suspected reasons. Also, speed is pointed out as the general biggest problem.

7. Public Relations Subcommittee Report (Heller)

Commissioner Heller has resigned from the Commission and was thus not present to present on this topic.

8. Report on Committee assignments and general comments

Commissioner Lindskog to send notes from last Mayor's meeting to David.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8.55 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



Erik Lindskog, Commissioner