

CITY OF MERCED
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

Via Teleconference
TUESDAY
April 27, 2021

Chairperson FRIEDMAN called the meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Commission to order at 4:02 PM.

(C) ROLL CALL

Present: Greg Friedman (Chairperson)
Lisa Kayser-Grant (Arrived 4:09 PM)
Ann Thurston
Tom Hothem (Vice-Chairperson)
Dwight Ewing
Michael Meloy
Margaret Buchmann-Garcia (Ex-Officio)
Sabrina Abong (Ex-Officio)
Mitch Vanagten (Ex-Officio)

Absent: None
Two Vacancies: (One Voting, One Ex-Officio)

Staff Present: Michael Hren, Principal Planner

Others Present: Michael Smiley

(D) PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Principal Planner HREN introduced Ex-Officio Commissioners BUCHMANN-GARCIA and ABONG, and Commissioner MELOY. Each briefly introduced themselves to the Commission. Mr. HREN noted that there is one remaining Ex-Officio position and one voting member Commissioner vacancy, representing District 2.

Public comment was closed at 4:08 PM.

(E) CONSENT CALENDAR

E.1 MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2021

M/S HOTHEM/MELOY, AND DULY CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE (1 VACANCY), TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS EWING, KAYSER-GRANT, HOTHEM,
MELOY, THURSTON, CHAIRPERSON FRIEDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE (1 VACANCY)
ABSTAIN: NONE

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION REQUESTS,
INFORMATION ITEMS, AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

(F) BUSINESS

F.1 Great Central Valley Bicycle Route Discussion

Commissioner HOTHEM introduced the item, describing the proposed route and purpose of the Great Central Valley Bicycle Route (GCVBR). He introduced MICHAEL SMILEY, an urban designer working on the GCVBR. Mr. SMILEY provided details on the genesis of the route and plans for the route in the future. The Commission discussed with Mr. SMILEY the plans for the route, including the potential locations for a spur or spur loop into the City of Merced, the potential for signage both along the route in its entirety and in the City of Merced particularly, clarity of signage and identity, safety, intercity tourism, the potential for inclusion on the U.S. Bicycle Route system, the linkage to Caltrans, timing of the implementation, and other matters.

F.2 Bike Month Proclamation

M/S KAYSER-GRANT/HOTHEM, AND DULY CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE (1 VACANCY), TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE BIKE MONTH PROCLAMATION.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS EWING, KAYSER-GRANT, HOTHEM,
MELOY, THURSTON, CHAIRPERSON FRIEDMAN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE (1 VACANCY)
ABSTAIN: NONE

(G) REPORTS

G.1 Information Items

Principal Planner HREN noted that the City Council had voted to return all Commissions and Boards to in-person meetings with public access. The next meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission will take place in the Council Chambers.

G.2 Commissioner Comments

Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT noted that she had spoken to Stephanie Russell with County Public Health regarding green bicycle features and sharrows, and would staff to follow up with her. She also asked about the status of the City's design standards. Mr. HREN noted that the City Engineer would be asked to provide an update at the next meeting. Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT also asked regarding the status of the Programmatic Climate Action Plan. Mr. HREN noted that staff would be providing an update on the status of that item to City Council later this year.

Commissioner EWING noted some events that the Merced Bicycle Coalition would be hosting for Bike Month, including a scavenger hunt and a road ride.

Commissioner MELOY noted that the plaque near Applegate Park commemorating the Bicycle Path dating to 1976 would have its 50th anniversary in 2026, and suggested that there be some way to honor the path and its anniversary in the future.

(H) ADJOURNMENT

M/S THURSTON/MELOY, AND DULY CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE (1 VACANCY), CHAIRPERSON FRIEDMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 5:29 P.M.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS EWING, HOTHAM, KAYSER-GRANT,
MELOY, THURSTON, CHAIRPERSON FRIEDMAN

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE (1 VACANCY)

ABSTAIN: NONE

BY:



MICHAEL HREN, AICP
PRINCIPAL PLANNER/
COMMISSION SECRETARY

APPROVED:



GREG FRIEDMAN, CHAIRPERSON
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION