

CITY OF MERCED
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
678 W 18TH STREET
MERCED, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY
October 27, 2015

Chairperson TYLER called the meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Commission to order at 3:02 p.m.

(B) ROLL CALL

Present: Robert Tyler (Chairperson)
Justin Hicks
Lisa Kayser-Grant
Isai Palma

Absent: Jules Comeyne
Tom Hothem (Vice Chairperson)
(Three vacancies, one voting member and two Ex-Officio)

Staff Present: Bill King, Principal Planner
John Sagin, Principal Architect

(C) APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2015

ON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HICKS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PALMA, DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE (ONE VACANCY), TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 25, 2015, MINUTES, AS SUBMITTED.

(D) ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications

(E) BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION REQUESTS, INFORMATION ITEMS AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT, on behalf of Commissioner HICKS, requested that Staff take action on the following items:

- For the City to commit funding and personnel regarding the 2nd Annual Director's Ride;
- List of active and pending infrastructure projects based on or related to the Bicycle Plan;
- Receive more active communication as to what input the City Council wishes to receive from the Bicycle Advisory Commission (BAC), and how they want it. Can the City Council more actively recruit for vacant positions? On a related note, the BAC meeting time is a major impediment to filling vacancies.
- Either do further expansion of the bikeway signs on Main Street, or do a pilot project strategically placed in the City to test the viability as signage as education.

CAPITAL PROJECT RELATED ITEMS (Engineering Department)

(F) ATP GRANT – MULTI-USE PATH PROJECT (BNSF RAILROAD AND HWY 59)

Principal Architect SAGIN presented a report about the schedule and plan for the project, which adds a separate multi-use pathway across the BNSF rails at Highway 59, and answered questions from the Commission. Bicyclists and pedestrians currently share the vehicle travel lanes at this site. Construction of the project is likely to start in 2016.

(G) BLACK RASCAL CREEK BIKE PATH

Principal Architect SAGIN presented a report about the nearly completed project, noting that lighting will be added in the future.

(H) BEAR CREEK BIKE PATH

Principal Architect SAGIN presented a report about the project, noting that the segment between 16th Street and the BNSF Railroad right-of-way is no longer part of the project, but that the improvements to the north of the rails are still included. Commission members expressed interest in offering comments to Caltrans concerning bikeway needs after learning from Principal Architect SAGIN that Caltrans is working on design plans to upgrade the intersection of Highway 59 and Santa Fe/Olive Avenue with a large roundabout.

POLICY/BIKE PROMOTION/DEVELOPMENT RELATED ITEMS (Planning Department)

(I) DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: “THE MERCED GATEWAY PROJECT”

Principal Planner KING presented a report about the project and then invited the Commission and public to a workshop setting to review plans and offer recommendations to the project applicant and designer regarding inclusion of bikeway infrastructure. After the workshop, Staff collected the Commissioners’ recommendations.

(J) ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION GRANT UPDATE

Principal Planner KING announced that the California Transportation Commission awarded the City \$134,000 to prepare an Active Transportation Planning/Safe Routes to School (ATP/SRTS) Plan. If accepted by the City, work on the plan would begin in July 2016. In preparation for that work, and consistent with prior and independent needs expressed by the BAC, Staff requested members of the BAC to participate in data collection projects, namely: the frequency, type and location of pedestrian and cyclist accidents; counts of pedestrians and cyclists; and examining potential local benefits of actions by the Federal Highway Administration to reduce its vehicle travel lane width in cities.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER KAYSER-GRANT, SECONDED BY CHAIRPERSON TYLER, DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE (TWO VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT, ONE VACANCY), TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER PALMA AND COMMISSIONER KAYSER-GRANT TO PARTICIPATE IN A TEMPORARY ATP/SRTS CITIZEN FOCUS GROUP; AND FOR COMMISSIONER HICKS AND CHAIRPERSON TYLER TO BE PART OF A TEMPORARY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION THAT WILL SCOPE NEEDS AND ALTERNATIVE METHODS TO CONDUCT A COUNT OF CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS; AND FOR COMMISSIONER HICKS TO EXAMINE POTENTIAL RAMIFICATIONS OF REDUCED LANE WIDTH.

(K) AD-HOC HIGH-SPEED RAIL CITIZEN’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Principal Planner KING presented a request by the City for a member of the Bicycle Advisory Commission to be a member of the Ad-hoc High-Speed Rail Citizen’s Advisory Committee.

ON MOTION OF CHAIRPERSON TYLER AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HICKS, DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE (TWO VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT, ONE VACANCY), TO SEND CHAIRPERSON TYLER TO THE FIRST MEETING OF HIGH-SPEED RAIL CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

OTHER

- (L) CANCELLATION OF THE DECEMBER 22, 2015, MEETING (TO BE HELD DECEMBER 8, 2015)
- (M) ADJOURN TO THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015, AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Chairperson TYLER opted to seek actions on items L and M concurrently.

ON MOTION FROM COMMISSIONER GRANT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HICKS, DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE (TWO ABSENT, ONE VACANCY), TO CANCEL THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED DECEMBER 22, 2015, BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING AND SCHEDULE IT TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2015, AND TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:07 P.M. TO THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015, AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 678 W. 18TH STREET, MERCED, CALIFORNIA.

BY:



BILL KING
COMMISSION SECRETARY

APPROVED:



ROBERT TYLER, CHAIRPERSON
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION