

**CITY OF SAN JOSÉ
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

6:15 P.M. September 9th, 2019
City Hall, 200 E. Santa Clara St, 8th Fl, Room T-847
San José, CA 95113

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

- (a) **Call to Order/Introductions** – The meeting was called to order at 6:16 pm.

Members Present

Brandon Alvarado, Chair
Daniel Filip, Vice Chair
Diane Solomon
Emily Schwing
Timm Borden
Michael Norris
Lucy Chavez
Gail Seeds
Richard Coolman

City Staff

Ryan Smith, Department of Transportation
Nick Danty, Department of Transportation

Members of the Public

Nikita Sinha, California Walks
John Cordes, Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition

Members Absent

Scott Broberg
George Voon

- (b) **Approve Order of Business** – Order of business changed to hear items (f)(1), (f)(2), and (f)(3) after item (c); approved without objection.
- (c) **Public Forum** – No public forum.
- (d) **Approve Minutes of July 1st, 2019** – Approved with changes with no objection.
- (e) **Old Business**
- (1) **VTA Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting Update** – No update.
- (f) **New Business**
- (1) **California Walks Vision Zero Coalition Update** – Nikita Sinha provided an overview of the Vision Zero Coalition that California Walks is currently developing. Efforts of the coalition include tracking progress of the City's Vision Zero program as well as developing a two-year action plan. The group meets once a month and is open for San Jose BPAC members to attend as members of the public.

BPAC members asked for DOT staff to determine if a member of BPAC can serve in an official capacity on the coalition as a liaison between the committee and the coalition. The committee asked to have this as a future agenda item.

BPAC asked about the various improvements being considered for San Jose's Vision Zero, about how collisions are being reviewed, what types of collisions are reviewed, and how data is being analyzed. Member Norris said that the Vision Zero banners placed on city corridors are not useful because motorists are driving too fast to see them. Staff told the group that the City's Vision Zero Program Manager would be at BPAC the following month and could address some of these questions then.

(2) Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition BPAC Effectiveness Report – John Cordes presented the findings of a recent survey conducted by the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition concerning the effectiveness of BPACs in Santa Clara County. Cordes also shared information about a number of BPAC trainings that will be offered by the Bicycle Coalition in the near future.

Member Coolman asked if the study found a difference between committees and commissions in terms of effectiveness. Cordes said there wasn't, however member Borden said he was surprised by this and that, from his experience, he has found commissions to be more effective due to the close relationship between the committee and the Councilmembers.

The committee asked Cordes to provide more information on the effectiveness of committees versus commissions.

(3) San Jose Department of Transportation Annual Bikeway Work Plan and Overview and Committee Input – City Staff Nick Danty gave an overview of the City's pavement-bikeways implementation program. Danty then presented the corridors where that City was planning to add new bike lanes and enhance existing bike lanes this paving season. These projects include elements of lane reductions, protected bike lanes, and parking removal.

Staff member Smith told the committee that a standard operating procedure was being developed in order to present these plans to the committee twice per year at different phases of development, and to bring the paving list to BPAC sooner in the process to gather more input from the committee. Danty said that the streets shared at the meeting would be emailed to each committee member for further review. Staff also asked the committee to help think additional ways for BPAC to provide meaningful input.

Chair Alvarado commented that the green bollards being installed in Downtown San Jose bikeways provide no protection, providing only a false sense of protection. He also commented that the beat-up condition of the bollards does not help provide a sense of safety.

Vice-Chair Filip reiterated the importance of using data, asked for staff to send data to committee members, and for the City to create a single map of all bikeway projects rather than maps of individual programs. Seeing all planned bikeways together would be helpful for review. Additionally, and that it doesn't matter to the public where new bikeways come from, but what they will be and connect to upon completion.

Committee member Seeds asked how the committee could make certain corridors in the paving-bikeways program a priority.

Member Coolman asked what the City's position is on the use of sharrows, stating that he believes they are useful to bicyclists. He pointed out that he has requested sharrows on Hicks Avenue for several years. Danty said that the City is moving in the direction of bike boulevard treatments instead of sharrows.

- (g) **Staff Report** – No staff report.
- (h) **Chairperson's Comments** – Alvarado thanked the Committee and thinks that the committee is operating in a much more productive way. He shared information on the forthcoming Day of Remembrance on November 17th to remember bicyclists who have died on our roadways. Sinha added to this that California Walks is planning a similar event for pedestrians.
- (i) **Committee Comments** – Member Chavez shared information of a RideESSJ event on October 31st at the Sunset Bridge, with information found at Sunset680.com
- (j) **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.