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CITY OF SANTA FÉ
BICYCLE & TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 20, 2016

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**MINUTES OF THE
BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Bicycle and Trail Advisory Committee was called to order by Councilor Joseph Maestas, Chair, at approximately 5:33 p.m., on the above date, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilor Joseph Maestas, Chair
Paul Cooley
Gretchen Grogan
Shelley Robinson [arriving later]
Jennifer Wellington

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Frank Herdman, Vice Chair [excused]
Joseph Abbatacola [excused]
James Ronald Pacheco [excused]
Tomás Rivera

OTHERS PARTICIPATING:

Melissa McDonald, Staff Liaison
Leroy Pacheco, City Engineer
Erick Aune, Santa Fé MPO
Tim Rogers, SFCT
Bob Siqueiros, Public Works
Carl Boaz, Stenographer

There was not a quorum of the membership in attendance for the conducting of official business but a quorum was achieved later in the meeting.

NOTE: All items in the Committee packets for all agenda items are incorporated herewith to these minutes by reference. The original Committee packet is on file in the Public Works Department.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No action was taken on approving the agenda until a quorum was achieved.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 17, 2016

No action was taken on approving the minutes until a quorum was present.

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no citizen communications from the floor.

6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

a. MPO Report (Erick Aune)

Mr. Aune related his experience seeing a Harley Davidson motorcycle being parked inside the bike corral at Cowgirl Hall of Fame.

Mr. Aune announced Bike to Work Week and handed out a draft poster. He said there is a nice group planning on a weekly basis. The Bike and Brew at Fort. Marcy will happen on April 20. He described the events of the Bike to Work Week including a movie at Warehouse 21 and will finalize the schedule tomorrow at 2 pm at the Railyard offices. The schedule is attached to these minutes as Exhibit 1.

Member Cooley thanked him for his good work.

Mr. Aune provided a brief update on Bike Share. Rio Metro approved taking over bike share in Albuquerque which legitimizes that it is a public transit service. They included Santa Fé in the expansion plans. He has been working for eight months on four bike stations with two downtown, one at Railyard and one at the Coop on Alameda. They applied for a \$20,000 grant to move it forward. The bike stations are small and he wants to appeal the required brown color. Each rack is pre-painted black at the factory.

Chair Maestas asked when the 2012 Bike MP will be updated.

Mr. Aune said they just updated the MPO Master Plan in August, 2015 and are now looking at updating the Bicycle Master Plan in 2017-2018. It is still relevant and used. So it would just be updating and not a full rewrite.

Chair Maestas wondered if changes in the new federal transportation bill that would affect the MPO plan.

Mr. Aune didn't think so. The TAP is modified a little.

There were no other questions.

Ms. McDonald said next month Mr. Wilson will report on the crash data related to the stop as yield resolution.

Chair Maestas asked if BTAC has any formal representative on the Public Safety Committee.

Ms. McDonald said no but she would ask about the rules.

Chair Maestas said if the City brings the most progressive bike laws in the country, we need a voice there. Councilor Harris is the new chair and he will consult with him about an appointment there.

Mr. Aune said the folks at BTI do community bike awards and sent him an email to vote. He will ask Ms. McDonald to send it to Chair Maestas.

a. Santa Fe Conservation Trust Report (Tim Rogers)

Mr. Rogers presented his report. He shared some summary reporting of the activities for February and March [Attached to these minutes as Exhibit 2]. His efforts now are with the City Parks and the motocross track users group and got funding for it. It includes a pedestrian walking path that might help to connect with the abandoned chili line. He is also working with the County Volunteer Coordinator at SFCC in the Master's Program on a demonstration project for GUTS and have private foundation support for the PSA.

Member Robinson arrived at 5:49 making a quorum.

Mr. Rogers described the trail maintenance work for Dale Ball trails and field trips in that area.

He announced several bike promotion events in May including Bike to School Day on May 4th [attached as Exhibit 3], and CommUNITY Cruise on May 14th [attached as Exhibit 4].

His City contract calls for work with Public Works and Parks and continued reporting to BTAC.

Chair Maestas asked if there were now fences where the City demolished the filter building to prevent bikers from trespassing in that area.

Mr. Rogers agreed. It is bigger than we expected so the trail connector will be moved west of that. It will connect the informal trail right to the Dale Ball Trail.

At 5:59, with a quorum established, the Committee returned to the agenda beginning.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Cooley moved to approve the agenda as published. Member Robinson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 17, 2016

Member Grogan said she would have to abstain because she was not at that meeting.

Chair Maestas said there would not be a quorum to approve them.

Ms. McDonald said she would just hold on to them for consideration next month.

7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION & ACTION

a. City urban trails project update (Leroy Pacheco)

Mr. Pacheco distributed a spreadsheet of 13 trail projects and also included an overview map of the trail system map. [A copy of the spreadsheet is attached to these minutes as Exhibit 5.] He went through the spreadsheet to make comments on them including the allocations established for each of them.

The Volunteer Trails Coordinator position had been funded with CIP bond money and that would end on June 30 with a seamless transition to Parks and Recreation. It was a good three-year demonstration and most of his maintenance was with Parks Division.

The Acequia Trail connections are with bridges behind the New Mexico School for the Deaf. He handed out an overview map of the trail [attached as Exhibit 6]. It was marked in orange because it is partially complete. Harrison was approved and will be built this summer by the Country Club company. Also along Otowi is not yet contracted but they will be using the remaining bond money. One of the two bridges is designed and one is almost complete. But the funds are insufficient to build those two bridges which he estimated at a deficit of about \$200,000 or possibly less. The Otowi to Maclovía got a modest allocation of \$80,000. The conceptual phase is completed with a good turnout at Frenchy's. The scope of work is to make a connection north to the Casa Alegre neighborhood and it would require an ADA right-of-way connection and would use up the remaining \$66,000. And it will proceed west through the park. At this juncture it would be helpful to have some direction from BTAC in order to do it.

The Casa Alegre Neighborhood Association is willing to go forward with it. They are expecting some compensation so we would have to negotiate that unobstructed private connection. It would be helpful to get BTAC's pulse. One option would be to use remaining funds to make the connection through Casa Alegre. It would likely require the remaining budget which means they would defer the connection west through Otowi. They can do one or the other but not both.

Chair Maestas asked what the basis of these numbers were since the budget and engineer's estimate are different.

Mr. Pacheco explained that the budget is what the Council approved and that came out of the 2012 Mater Plan process. So that is the budget. Some projects have benefitted from the fund remainder of other projects. He would need to get a scope for the contract.

For the Rufina to South Meadows section, there was an ENN meeting with a good turnout in February on a snow day. They will move forward with it as the conceptual plan is complete. He offered to email a summary of the ENN meeting.

The next on the list is the Arroyo Chamisos Trail at Santa Fé Place Mall. It went out to bid and the description of bond sale included those improvements so it was supplemented by Council with \$17,500 more. This includes the contingency amount. That will be built this summer.

Member Cooley asked if the extension is along the dirt road.

Mr. Pacheco said it gets you west from the soccer field to the transit stop at the mall. It is short but on the bank. The right-of-way was donated. It did come through BTAC with an option of low or high and we decided to go with the high road option. That money came mainly from a sizable amount for maintenance on that trail that was unspent. The City resurfaced the trail which turned out to cost less money than budget so the remaining funds went to this project. They are in the same business unit. It is in the memo that went to Council last week.

The next one is the crossing at St Francis and Cerrillos. The RFP included the cost of design. The City put in about \$700,000 and there is \$4.29 million available. "We bid it out because we knew the budget was humble related to the scope. It is a utilitarian project that can be built." the alternates include hardscape, ramada, benches and a sculpture in the tunnel per the Arts Commission. It is a beautiful piece as a landmark for City. The last alternate was planting of trees and bushes. It is mostly DOT money and requires bidding and awarding.

Member Cooley said the lights would be the most difficult to install later.

Mr. Pacheco agreed. The bid alternates are also relatively low cost because they are on the coattails of larger project. There are savings with that because they would be much more expensive to do later.

Next is the Rail Runner extension and \$390,000 is the remaining budget. The engineering final design has gone through. It was a difficult process to complete as it involves NMDOT and the Rail Bureau.

Chair Maestas pointed out that we don't typically disclose the engineer's estimate before bids are submitted.

Mr. Pacheco said the construction phase is not contracted yet. He was told that we definitely need to find more money to build it. They are awaiting the final design to figure that out.

The City wayfinding is complete. BTAC ratified the general wayfinding documents. As part of the package, the company also provided final construction documents down through La Cieneguilla. In

discussions with the supervisor, he hoped the remaining contingencies can use some remaining money and integrate it.

Tierra Contenta is about 80% finished and six properties are in right-of-way negotiations. Fortunately, a large part is owned by Santa Fé Public Schools and mostly are donated.

Cañada Rincon had an exciting ENN meeting and a follow-up with MPO. BTAC actually gave direction for the design on the city's existing right-of-way. Since then, the Reserve Board of Directors asked the City to take a second look at the western alignment. He asked them to work with their architect for something he could bring to BTAC for consideration. He hasn't heard back from them but will contact them before the next BTAC meeting. The City does own the right-of-way on the east side.

Mr. Pacheco reported the MRC Trail has a \$50,000k match and the project is to connect with Diablo Canyon. It is funded through construction.

He reported that the Flow Trail is now complete.

He clarified that the last item RR Crossing, has DOT funding for the underpass at the Rail Trail and will likely be part of the City's match. The project is scheduled out 2-3 years in the STIP.

Member Cooley asked about the no trespassing sign on Acequia Trail at Maclovía.

Mr. Pacheco said it is in the best interest of the Casa Alegre association that it become a public trail. They would like to be compensated on their terms. So it is just negotiating to make it a public trail and would have to improve it for ADA.

Member Cooley asked if there was any thought of just using the dirt trail now.

Mr. Pacheco said it is public involvement, right-of-way and drainage. The City has to begin those elements. Right now the dirt trail is a mountain bike use trail. The Master Plan intention is to have a paved ADA compliant trail into the park. It would be great to have a BTAC motion. To do the bridge, he would hire a service company, develop an easement appraisal and then the City could own the bridge. ADA might be as little as ramps.

Chair Maestas asked Mr. Pacheco to bring that recommendation to BTAC so we can vote on it.

Member Grogan asked when the underpass alternates would come to Finance.

Mr. Pacheco said it has to go through Public Works, Finance and Council. He has to go through his chain of command so the recommendation will come through the Department. It is very helpful to have BTAC seal of approval.

8. BTAC SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

a. On-Road - Paul Cooley

Member Cooley said they met with John Romero on March 1 and dealt with many items; the biggest being the underpass at St. Michaels. A copy of the report of the On-Road Subcommittee is attached to these minutes as Exhibit 7.

Mr. Aune said for the record, that the underpass at St. Michaels is funded for design in 2017 and construction in 2019.

Member Cooley said the green lanes and actuators are a pilot study and he does not know what Mr. Wilson and Mr. Romero have in mind afterward.

Mr. Aune said they are studying how the material reacts to weather. In a year (next fall) a report will be developed for the City. These are the trial areas and recommendations for installation at other areas will be made.

Member Cooley said the biggest street project is for the bike lanes on Galisteo to San Mateo and then to St. Francis.

Their big question was about the railroad crossing at Alta Vista when the striped shoulder will be taken away. Both Mr. Wilson and Mr. Romero said that a median refuge would help with pedestrian safety and that outweighed the bike lanes on Alta Vista. Shortly after, he and Mr. Rogers measured it and there seems to be room for both. There are drawings in the packet for the various options. The one least invasive for change orders would be option #2 - to keep an 8' median refuge that would allow a bike towing a trailer to fit with a bike lane to the east and a shared symbol heading west. It actually measures 38' across. It could have gone with six-foot lanes but wider is a little better. It could also have 10' lanes and striped shoulder on both sides. This seems to be the best option.

Chair Maestas asked if it is ready for the construction bid.

Mr. Pacheco said it should be final at month end. It is not just the consultant but also staff and the Rail Bureau that provided for the final design.

Chair Maestas said ideally, it would be good to maintain continuity of the shoulders but at the rail crossing it would be difficult. If you reduce the lane width, you need to have continuity. St. Francis is about 10.5 feet, less than 12' standard.

Mr. Pacheco agreed.

Member Cooley noted that with the rail trail crossing shifted to the east, it takes the pedestrians and bikes at a place where there is no gate. He asked if they will put one in.

Mr. Aune said that is imperative.

Mr. Pacheco agreed and that would be a DOT responsibility. They are managed through the DOT process. The crossing exists so there will be no new infrastructure other than the ADA ramp. He agreed that it is complicated.

b. Off-Road - Ron Pacheco (absent)

There was no report from the Off-Road Subcommittee.

c. Going for the Gold -Bike Education and Outreach - Gretchen Grogan

Member Grogan reported. She and Member Robinson are the BTAC members on this subcommittee and jointly prepared the written report. [A copy of the report is attached to these minutes as Exhibit 8.], They are talking about the basic responsibilities on messages for sharing the road and looking for a 3rd BTAC member or a public member for the subcommittee. The other responsibility for the subcommittee is to improve the Silver status to Gold or Platinum by the LAB and will submit a new application at the beginning of 2017.

Mr. Bob Siqueiros put the original application together that got silver status and he will be our point person in new application. We asked him to come to answer questions about it.

In the packet is the status of where Santa Fe stands on metrics that LAB looks at when rating an application [attached to these minutes as Exhibit 9]. After we submitted the application, someone from the LAB came and did an assessment.

Mr. Siqueiros added that they also made a presentation at Council. We had the luxury of having a representative from Washington, DC to use our facilities.

Member Grogan said this will be our big project and could use another BTAC member or a public member. She asked if BTAC or staff puts the application together.

Mr. Siqueiros said it requires a government agency as the applicant. Police and Fire will also weigh in. He is documenting how we have improved. A lot has been accomplished since the Silver award and we are ready to go for Gold or Platinum. Our Silver expires December, 2017.

Mr. Siqueiros has been in contact with the League. They have changed the whole application. The port is user-friendly and he is the point person.

Chair Maestas said it will require a concentrated sustained effort so he will work with the subcommittee.

Mr. Rogers agreed to help with it.

Ms. McDonald said the MPO needs to be involved too. She asked Mr. Siqueiros for something about being a paid member since she does not have a budget to pay that membership cost.

Mr. Newhall said a big factor for the League is bicycle education. All members of BTAC should take the Bicycle 101 class using the curriculum designed by LAB.

Member Wellington said she and Chair Maestas participated in the SOB class and it was great. The Bike Santa Fé mission is also safety and education and Mr. Newhall is giving a course on maintenance for Bike to Work Week.

d. La Tierra Master Plan La Tierra Trails - Frank Herdman (absent)

There was no report given.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. McDonald announced that the La Tierra Trails Master Plan will be closing down. Member Herdman just kept it open until the bond reallocation was finished.

She noted that Member Wellington was assigned to that off-road committee as a placeholder for John Longworth. She may want to reevaluate that.

Mr. Pacheco said the Dale Ball Trail Map evolved into the Foothills Trails map and they will soon be gone. They printed 30,000 in last year's update. We are at a place where the third iteration is something needed. The distribution is through the CVB office but the redesign should come here to BTAC. Dale Ball did the first map and it evolved from there. Claudia Horn's office did the design. It is about a \$5,000 cost.

Chair Maestas asked Mr. Pacheco to estimate how much an update would cost so he could share the numbers for the budget hearings next week. It seems logical for the City to take on that responsibility.

Ms. McDonald said for the next meeting she will bring back the February minutes and these minutes. Mr. Wilson will report the crash data. Chair Maestas will bring information about the Public Safety Committee liaison and find the line item for LAB membership costs. Mr. Pacheco will share the ENN summaries. She will email members about the Acequia Trail underpass at St. Francis and the line item for the Casa Alegre bridge. Rick Devine will give a presentation on striping. And she will check on two budget costs and an update from Patricia on distribution locations.

Member Robinson noted the next meeting is during Bike to Work Week. That is appropriate.

Ms. McDonald thanked members for the written reports. It is very helpful.

10. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Member Cooley said he will be absent at the next meeting.

Chair Maestas said he is gratified to be the new Chair. Patti Bushee was a giant in advocating for bikes and trails and he will do his best. He shared his background and his love of biking. "We need to do a lot more on bicycle safety and motorists respecting distance. We have an obligation for progressive laws and promotion of the trail system. Patti did a fantastic job but I'd like to take us to a higher level. With your help we can move to higher level. Work with staff to help us succeed. We need to work together. We will go for some bike rides together and stop to discuss places where we need to work. I hope with time we can do that."

Member Robinson said his familiarity with Albuquerque trails is also important.

Member Robinson said on Friday, she watched a program on KQRE on bicycle safety.

Member Grogan said they showed it on KNME also. It is about sharing the road.

Member Robinson said she was impressed. It was succinct and done on the road with Keith Wilson commenting. She would like for BTAC to see it as part of the education committee. It would be great if it could be shown during Bike to Work Week and it is short enough that it could be shown in driving schools. She could not remember the exact title.

Mr. Aune agreed to follow up on it.

Next Meeting Date: May 18, 2016

11. ADJOURNMENT

The BTAC meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Approved by:

Joseph M. Maestas, Chair

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.