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**CITY OF SANTA FE**  
**BICYCLE & TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**May 18, 2016**

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**MINUTES OF THE  
BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, May 18, 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 5:30 p.m., on the above date, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Joseph Maestas, Chair  
Frank Herdman  
James Ronald Pacheco  
Tomás Rivera  
Shelley Robinson  
Jennifer Wellington [arriving later]

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Joseph Abbatacola [excused]  
Paul Cooley [excused]  
Gretchen Grogan [excused]

**OTHERS PARTICIPATING:**

Melissa McDonald, Staff Liaison  
Leroy Pacheco, City Engineer  
Rick Devine, City Staff  
Erick Aune, Santa Fé MPO  
Carl Boaz, Stenographer

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

**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.**

In the absence of a quorum, Chair Maestas went first to item 6.

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

### a. MPO Report (Erick Aune)

Mr. Aune reported that they are in the midst of Bike to Work Week. It started with a community cruise on Saturday and was very successful. There is a new event - Bike and Drive. Several people met at the Southside Transit Center at 7:00 a.m. He provided a videographer for the event. They made the cruise under 27 minutes. Paul Olafson was first to finish. Everyone arrived in 30 minutes. It gives a nice perspective that buses are a cool option. He will share the link with Ms. McDonald. They will also show it on Friday at Ft. Marcy. It was energizing experience.

Monday morning had a breakfast event at Rodeo Plaza and today is an event at 6 pm at Rob and Charlie's Bike Shop.

Member Rivera arrived at 5:40.

Mr. Aune said they had a ton of breakfast burritos at the Santa Fé Depot.

Member Wellington at 5:41, making a quorum.

Mr. Aune said City staffers put together patches and to get one, you have to arrive at one of the events.

He provided a memo to the Council on ideas from the MPO perspective. These are just suggestions and people in the room could come up with more projects to focus on.

Ms. McDonald said the memo is in the packet on the last two pages.

Chair Maestas said this is right on point with his vision to continue momentum on them and identify 2-3 projects in next couple of years. He wanted to hear from everyone on their vision of where BTAC should go and how we can prepare for a facilitated session on where people stand and get a shared vision for the Committee. This is a great start for us and definitely a synergistic effort.

He asked if BTAC is going to do half of the Santa Fe Century.

Member Herdman is doing half and Chair Maestas would like to do half.

Member Robinson asked if there is a scheduled City Vs County ride this year.

Mr. Aune said no because they didn't have the resources to do that.

Member Rivera said Chainbreaker is giving away a bike on Friday. He had a flyer on it. Because there was a quorum, Chair Maestas went back to the top of the agenda.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**a. February 17, 2016**

**Member Herdman moved to approve the February 17, 2016 as presented. Member Pacheco seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote except Member Rivera abstained.**

**b. April 20, 2016**

Chair Maestas said a date was incorrect on Bike to Work Week. On page 2, under Communications, Bike and Brew was dated in April and should be May 20.

On page 9 at the top, the statement in the first paragraph was by Joe Abbatacola, not Chair Maestas.

**Member Pacheco moved to approve the minutes of April 20, 2016 as amended. Member Herdman seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

**5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

There was none.

**b. Santa Fe Conservation Trust Report (Tim Rogers)**

Mr. Rogers was not present to make this report.

**7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION & ACTION**

**a. Crash Data Analysis (Keith Wilson)**

Mr. Wilson was not present to make this report. It will be presented at the next meeting.

**b. City urban trails project update (Leroy Pacheco)**

**1) CIP 859A - St. Francis Crossing from Acequia Trail to Railyard**

There was a memo in the packet for information. Not much action being done right now.

Mr. Pacheco introduced the consultants, Rich Wattle and Vince Martínez who were present.

Mr. Pacheco reported that the CIP 869A has passed Public Works and Finance and going to Council next Wednesday with recommended alternates one and two. The Arts Commission also provided \$150,000 for art in the underpass. So that is the proposed budget. He stood for questions.

The options included 85% of funding from federal sources and the City matched 15%. We knew that, based on the engineer's estimate, it would not likely be enough for artistic work, landscaping, etc. Alternative 1 is hardscape; 2 is light structure; and 3 is plantings. The City is able to do one and two. The planting components whose value is approximately \$100,000 is not included. Based on fact that it is a federal project, it needed DOT approval. So at the moment, this is what DOT has approved. The base bid is for \$3.7 million, plus alternatives one and two. He didn't think Councilor Trujillo was at Public Works when it was approved but it has gone through the committees.

Chair Maestas repeated what he said at the Committee meeting. BTAC has supported it and it includes reallocation from the Alameda to Acequia trail crossing. It establishes a key connection. One of our overarching goals is for connections. Based on the renderings it will be really a work of art. The symbolism behind it is also quite substantial so his hat is off to BTAC members. It is definitely a milestone.

Member Pacheco agreed. Staff did an incredible job. It was once an overpass and then became an underpass. He congratulated Mr. Pacheco. One month we discussed it wasn't going to happen but then suddenly it would.

Member Herdman asked if the landscaping would happen in the future.

Mr. Pacheco said it is a really important component. He did approach Parks and Rec on the design and permaculture architect. He spoke to the future but city Staff all want it. It is the most visible intersection in the City. At this stage, they need to acknowledge insufficient funding and defer it to the future. It is a leadership question.

Member Herdman supported it entirely and did not support holding this up. He said, "We will find the money somehow." He asked about groundbreaking.

Mr. Pacheco said May 25 is approval and they hope to break ground sometime this summer. He hoped they could celebrate the groundbreaking.

Chair Maestas said Council is in the final stages of approving the CIP budget. He asked if BTAC ever passes a motion for an expression to Staff or a department to request funding Alternative #3. It might have significant meaning if we could ask Public Works to fund #3 in the CIP. It would take \$96,905 to fund it. He asked if he could hear a motion.

**Member Herdman moved to request that \$86,905 be added to the CIP plan in order to fund Bid Alternate #3 for \$96,905 and added that if the funding was not secured, that it would not delay the project going forward. Member Wellington seconded the motion.**

Chair Maestas added that it would happen at the end of the project.

Member Wellington asked if it would help if BTAC members came to City Council meeting.

Mr. Pacheco said public involvement was a big component in this project. It is always a good component for BTAC representatives to be present.

Member Rivera asked who this is directed to.

Member Herdman said it is to Public Works Committee.

Mr. Pacheco reasoned that, based on the fact it is federal funding and DOT recommendation, Alternate 3 would be independent of this contract. So it would not be part of this contract. This project was designed from a permaculture manner. Water will infiltrate the soil so that element is part of Alternate 1. So he didn't expect things to be washed away. The \$100,000 is a planting list. It is part of infiltration. Richard Thompson and Ms. McDonald worked on it. If we sacrifice anything, the planting could come later and not affect the design.

Member Herdman asked if the city has ever asked citizens to sponsor a tree.

Mr. Pacheco said he was previously a board member for the Trust for Public Lands Board and they did that for the Railyard. He got a call from the Deaf School who was very concerned about the planting. He had been contacted by the LANL Foundation with a small grant as symbolic and someone from New Mexico contributed \$100.

Member Herdman said he would step up to the plate with it.

Chair Maestas asked if there is a plan.

Mr. Pacheco said "definitely" with Solange and Richard Thompson.

Chair Maestas said the federal funding is hard to come by for a city our size. So that, in and of itself is a coup.

**The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

Gary Sheffmiller, on behalf of Bicycle Santa Fe, expressed their appreciation for Staff and BTAC efforts. He has been promoting it for long time. This is a real milestone and the crown jewel in the Santa Fé Trail System. "Thank you so much."

**ii. CIP 438B - Acequia Trail: Otowi to Maclovia**

Mr. Pacheco said this does require action and recommendation. The ENN meeting at Frenchy's had a hundred people in the barn. It reallocated money to the underpass. The email is in the packet. It is now half way through. He reviewed the bullet points.

At the ENN on February 2 at Frenchy's, a significant amount of time was focused on the bridge connection with Camino Alegre. The subdivision built in 1980's is on private property. There was a previous history to the ENN with misunderstanding that escalated to animosity between the HOA and the City as reflected in those minutes (in the packet). Shortly afterward they posted a no trespassing sign by the bridge itself.

With time and patience that will de-escalate. There is now a document that HOA that will work for a win-win for an easement between the two public streets. All the streets are public and maintained by the City. It appeared to him that Pueblo Alegre does own that land between the streets including the Acequia Madre. They would like to be compensated and have their liability mitigated. So based on the amount of energy that requires a limited budget, he recommend focusing these limited funds specifically to designing and construction of the trail there. Not the connection to Maclovia Park - currently is used on off-road type way.

Our experience from the 2008 bond is that the money cannot be capitalized until the project is built. So we can narrow the scope to this connection and make it happen. It is north-south between Otowi and Camino De Chelle. He provided the list of attendees, the minutes, a letter from Elaine, and an email from Fred Shriner, the HOA President. In return, he sent Mr. Shriner a draft of a perpetual trail easement template.

There are 5-10 easements from downtown. The Deaf School actually exchanged land with the City. So he believes with this money, that we could narrow our scope on it. It is to study the ROW to the west.

Chair Maestas recalled it was controversial when the bond funds were allocated. As a reaction, Council approved a policy for reallocation, requiring a public hearing. The recommendation doesn't include acquisition. So he asked if it requires a reallocation for easement only. The acquisition estimate was \$66,000.

Mr. Pacheco said the right-of-way is part of the design process so it is covered. So there is not a scope change on acquiring ROW and drainage. He suggested that the remaining funds are for ROW acquisition, design and construction. He hoped it could all be done for the \$66,000 but could do it all. It should leave some after acquisition to do all of it.

He asked BTAC to just focus on this connection and not the part to the west to Maclovia Park. These have been processed through BTAC in the past and BTAC has been actively involved in most of the trail projects. The public process is really done. It is an ADA compliant connection between Otowi and Camino de Chelly for this amount. The motion would be to defer the design and construction of the trail connection west to Maclovia Park to a later date and then, based on remaining funds, to focus on

acquisition of easements and designing the necessary improvements and to construct the proposed public easement, ADA complaint.

Member Pacheco asked if accommodation of bikes part of that.

Mr. Pacheco said the bridge design is obsolete and not something we would do today.

Ms. McDonald said the bridge has always been there.

Mr. Pacheco said it would be a simple bridge over Acequia Madre. Right now, it is a narrow, six-foot width and bikes have to yield to pedestrians. But the design would keep it bike and pedestrian friendly for simultaneous movement.

Member Robinson asked how old the design is.

Ms. McDonald said it is from the 1980's.

Member Robinson reasoned that at some point, the community decided to have access to Otowi on their own property.

Mr. Pacheco thought a lot of people in the neighborhood have used it as access to Acequia Trail. Their concern was with liability. There was a park in that neighborhood and in the meeting they discussed how to interface with the City. It is complicated and they are looking for a solution.

Member Robinson understood they made the connection and built the bridge. Maybe there was some agreement with the City then. But it was not funded by the City. She felt they are trying to get as much out of the City as possible. But the easement is a way for the City to own the bridge.

Mr. Pacheco said there is a sample easement in the packet. It has been vetted through legal and each right-of-way is specific. This is an example of one. The legalese is in there. Mr. Wilson is on the Development Review Committee and advocates for the trails in that context. He didn't know the history of Pueblo Alegre. It may turn out that the City does have something historic so it would be less money for title acquisition. We would get a title company to do research and if we don't have to buy it, it would come out of that due diligence.

Member Robinson said as long as we can come to an agreement.

Mr. Pacheco agreed and they are willing to talk.

Member Herdman said it would be imperative to look at the original subdivision plat because many times they are on the plat. Also consider that this is a perfect candidate for public prescriptive easement and the value is probably zero. He hoped the City would consider that longevity that it is already recognized as a public prescriptive easement and hoped that goes into the evaluation.

He asked if the City has an amount in mind for the acquisition.

Mr. Pacheco said the City hires a professional appraiser and first asks if they are willing to donate it.

Member Herdman said the appraisal won't consider public prescriptive easement.

Member Rivera supported Member Herdman's suggestion. He didn't have a lot of sympathy for their claims. They claimed there was an ENN and they were not notified.

Mr. Pacheco said that was discounted at the ENN meeting. There was emotion when they came in. It is a political dance. This is beneficial for everyone to build a connection and good will in the neighborhood. We moved the ENN signs a few times to satisfy the people who were complaining. So we did what we needed to do to satisfy them in the negotiations.

Member Rivera felt the posting does speak to a larger issue how we can get the public to participate in the process. It is not on Mr. Pacheco's shoulders.

**Member Rivera made the motion to defer the design and construction of the trail connection west to Maclovio Park to a later date and then, based on remaining \$66,000 funds, to focus on acquisition of easements and designing the necessary improvements and to construct the proposed public easement, ADA complaint. Member Herdman seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

**c. Street striping, bike lanes and sharrow plans (Rick Devine)**

Mr. Rick Devine said in the packet is the proposed on-street striping on St. Francis and he was looking for BTAC approval to proceed. Page 3 is where we started on St. Francis - bike lanes on the traffic lanes should work out well and tie in to Siringo to the west. It is in the budget.

Member Rivera said they had some sharrow material left over and asked if they would use that.

Mr. Devine said the Staff does replace them. We could use up our old stock and then purchase more.

Chair Maestas saw a price agreement and asked if it is still in effect.

Mr. Devine agreed. He believed it expires in August 2016 if we use these.

Chair Maestas said Texas has a texture on their striping as a run off road deterrent. He asked if there has been any application here. They are like a rumble strip on the edge.

Mr. Devine said no.

Chair Maestas commented that with anxiety between cyclist and motorists, that edge would help to

separate them. It is probably more critical than the green lanes. He asked Staff to look into that and bring back a recommendation for discussion.

Mr. Devine agreed to do so.

Member Herdman asked if there is an AASHTO standard for where sharrows are to go. At times he couldn't tell where the driving lane is on Siringo - close to the middle of the road. He referred to the last page photographs.

Mr. Devine said Siringo is one lane in each direction and parking on both sides. It is a foot off the driving lane but parking there.

Chair Maestas said Albuquerque has designated bike routes and asked if Santa Fe does that as a matter of practice. The whole motorist awareness that they are on a designated bike route helps safety. Do we install those signs?

Mr. Devine said the install signs on designated bike routes but don't have any on Siringo. He could add that to the project. He believed there is a designated bike route there.

Member Robinson thanked Mr. Devine for this. Botulph has recently been repaved so bike lane there and bike lane on St. Francis She asked if that is why BTAC is looking at this.

Mr. Devine understood that BTAC designated this to be looked at so that was why he was here to present it.

Member Robinson said Mr. Rogers had questions about locations of sharrows.

Chair Maestas asked about the time frame.

Mr. Devine said the sooner the better, but they have until early November or late October.

Member Herdman described some confusion on striping and parking areas. If the cars are parked there it reads as a one lane road. If the cars are not there, the parking lane could be used by bikes. It would depend on the frequency that cars are parked there.

Mr. Devine said he could look at that. The only problem is the sharrow is on the through lane. But in off-peak hours, once rush hour is over, the bike could use the parking lanes but the sharrows would be out on the through lanes.

Member Herdman thought sharrows make sense if there are often cars parked there. Striping would make it a road diet. So it depends on the intensity and frequency of the parking.

Member Robinson said it should be designated the same from Botulph to St. Francis. When cars are there as school is letting out,

Member Pacheco left the meeting at 7:00.

Mr. Devine said they do limit parking there now. It is possible to do that.

Ms. McDonald reminded them that school kids are often new riders.

Member Robinson agreed and more would ride their bike if it was well marked.

**Member Herdman moved to postpone this until the next meeting. Member Robinson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

Member Robinson mentioned the Calle Mejia at Zocalo trail project. People won't ride bikes on Calle Mejia because they feel it is ridiculously unsafe - There is no center line marking. It seems to be very fitting because we want the neighborhood to understand it is a nice connection. It would be simple striping to designate lanes on the hill. She asked if that could be brought back next time, too.

Mr. Devine thought it was not a big problem. The policy is that greater than 3,000 cars a day warrants striping.

Member Herdman said the Committee cannot take action on that now.

Chair Maestas asked Mr. Devine to bring it next time.

## **8. BTAC SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:**

### **a. On-Road - Joe Abbatacola**

Mr. Abbatacola was not present to report.

### **b. Off-Road - Ron Pacheco**

Mr. Pacheco had already left the meeting.

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

Ms. Grogan was not present to give her report.

Ms. McDonald recalled at the last meeting, we were asked to renew our membership with LAB. Mr. Siqueiros followed up and did do that.

Member Robinson reported on their efforts to get the video that was mentioned at the last meeting for incorporation into driver's education.

Mr. Aune said he got a copy of that video when BTAC is ready. It is 30 minutes long.

Chair Maestas wondered if BTAC could see just part of it.

Member Robinson said it is a story of a man who was hit and crippled and how he got back on a bike.

**d. La Tierra Master Plan La Tierra Trails - Frank Herdman**

Member Herdman said BTAC needs to determine the amount of money left and decide what to do with it. He would still like a connector from the dog park to the underpass of 599. Then maybe we could put it on the agenda.

Mr. Pacheco said the Finance Department is finishing up the capital budget. He could ask Mr. Rodriguez but how it is being reallocated is outside of our level of conversation.

Member Herdman recalled that BTAC discussed using it for the Zocalo trail connection and didn't know if that every happened.

Mr. Pacheco said this business unit has its own number - 426008. Whatever is left can be answered. He did not know the recommendation for its use.

Member Herdman thought the remainders was \$200,000. If BTAC could get that report then they could decide what to do with it.

Mr. Pacheco suggested BTAC could formally ask Public Works about it. The Zocalo connection was one of the last ones before Patti Bushee left.

Member Herdman asked that it be an item on the next agenda.

Chair Maestas said it should be as a discussion/action item.

Member Herdman said that is the last thing left for La Tierra Trails.

**9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. McDonald said we were asked to brainstorm with collective vision at next meeting. She asked how much time the Committee needed.

Chair Maestas said he wanted to have a facilitated session on it. Whether it is the Bike MP or your bucket list and create the shared vision and translate into short-term and long term projects. It is an important exercise to take to bring us together.

## 10. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Member Robinson said she didn't have a calendar for the next few months.

Ms. McDonald said the meeting is always the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. She offered to pull it out of the January packet.

Member Robinson said they usually don't get a quorum in July.

Member Wellington and Member Robinson won't be present for the July meeting.

Chair Maestas asked if BTAC meetings could be added to the consolidated calendar.

Ms. McDonald agreed to ask the City Clerk.

Member Rivera thanked Ms. McDonald for the hole punches. He announced that Chainbreaker is giving away a bike as the 2,000<sup>th</sup> bike. He also shared the announcement of the bike mechanics training, 12 mechanics over a 12-week session for bicycle mechanics. Almost every bike shop in town has hired people who went through that training. Chainbreaker will be taking applications and it starts at end of July.

Member Rivera welcomed Chair Maestas to BTAC.

Chair Maestas said the trailhead where the City demolished the filter plant is going through many changes and many departments are involved. We are going to modify the entrance area to come in from Cerro Gordo and exit to Upper Canyon Road. He asked to put that on our radar screen to work on that. It seemed to have gotten forgotten. We had some drawings of parking modification. BTAC can be the catalyst for that.

Mr. Pacheco agreed and said he would bring Eric from the Water Department to present it.

Mr. Pacheco announced National Trails Day on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Friday in mid-afternoon. The City, county and St. John's College are updating the kiosk and trail signage at Atalaya/Wilderness Gate and St. John's College. We usually have someone cut the ribbon. So if Chair Maestas can come it is on Friday.

Chair Maestas emphasized how special this week is for BTA and our community - especially the Bike and Brew that has added a new dimension. It just continues to grow in Santa Fe for bike enthusiasts. This week is really special and he was proud to be a small part of it.

**Next Meeting Date: June 15, 2016**

11. ADJOURNMENT

The BTAC meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Approved by:

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Joseph M. Maestas, Chair

Submitted by:

  
Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.