



# Agenda

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## **BICYCLE AND TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers--Ground Floor, City Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from October 21, 2015
5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR
6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES
  - a. SF County Report on Memorandum and Greenway Trail (Erik H. Aaboe)
    - i. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SANTA FE AND THE CITY OF SANTA FE FOR THE SANTA FE RIVER TRAIL PROJECT
  - b. MPO Report –Transit budget (Staff)
  - c. Conservation Trust ,Trails Report (Tim Rogers)
7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION & ACTION
  - a. A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A GRAND UNIFIED TRAIL SYSTEM (GUTS) THAT ALLOWS NON-MOTORIZED USERS TO TRAVEL IN A LOOP AROUND THE CITY OF SANTA FE, BETWEEN POPULAR NATURAL-SURFACE TRAIL NETWORKS, AND BETWEEN THE CITY CENTER AND THE PERIPHERY, AND DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO WORK WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS TO HELP ACHIEVE THE “GUTS” VISION. (Councilor Bushee) (Melissa McDonald)
  - b. New Bike Laws Might Make It Legal to Roll Through Stop Signs (Councilor Bushee)
8. BTAC Subcommittee Updates:
  - a. Re-evaluation of standing subcommittees (Councilor Bushee, Gretchen Grogan)
    - On-Road
    - Off-Road
    - Going for the Gold: Bike Education & Outreach
    - La Tierra Master Plan La Tierra Trails-- completion status (staff)
9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS—Project updates
10. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS
11. ADJOURNMENT

***Next Scheduled Meeting for BTAC is December 16, 2015, Packet Material due by December 8, 2015***

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**CITY OF SANTA FE**  
**BICYCLE & TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**November 18, 2015**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>PAGE(S)</b>
2. ROLL CALL	Quorum present	1
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved as amended	1-2
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 21, 2015	Approved as presented	2
5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR	None	2
6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM AGENCIES		
a. Santa Fe County Greenway Trail	Presented by Erik Aaboe	4
b. MPO - Transit Budget	Reported by Staff	4
c. Conservation Trust - Trails Report	Reported by Tim Rogers	4-5
d. Camino Real de Adentro Trail	Reported by Erik Aaboe	3
7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION AND ACTION		
a. GUTS Resolution	Approved	2
b. New Bike Laws	Discussed with SFPD Officers	5-7
8. BTAC Subcommittee Updates		
a. On-Road	Not considered	7
b. Off-Road	Not considered	7
c. Bike Education and Outreach	Not considered	7
d. La Tierra Master Plan	Not considered	7
9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS	Not considered	7
10. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS	Not considered	8
11. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.	8
Next BTAC Meeting	December 16, 2015	

**MINUTES OF THE  
BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, November 18, 2015

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Bicycle and Trail Advisory Committee was called to order by Councilor Patti Bushee, Chair, at approximately 5:43 p.m. on the above date, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Patti Bushee, Chair  
Frank Herdman, Vice Chair  
Joseph Abbatacola  
Gretchen Grogan  
James Ronald Pacheco  
Tomás Rivera

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Paul Cooley  
John Longworth  
Shelley Robinson [excused]

**OTHERS PARTICIPATING:**

Melissa McDonald, Staff Liaison  
Erik Aaboe, Santa Fe County  
Tim Rogers, SFCT  
Carl Boaz, Stenographer

There was a quorum of the membership in attendance for the conducting of official business.

**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**

To the agenda was added Approval of MOA with Santa Fé County for \$150,000 partial local match for

El Camino Real de Adentro, Phase 1.

Chair Bushee wanted to move up item 7 a up earlier in the agenda.

**Member Rivera moved to approve the agenda as amended. Member Abbatacola seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 21, 2015**

**Member Herdman moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2015 as presented. Member Abbatacola seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

#### **7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

- a. A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A GRAND UNIFIED TRAIL SYSTEM (GUTS) THAT ALLOWS NON-MOTORIZED USERS TO TRAVEL IN A LOOP AROUND THE CITY OF SANTA FE, BETWEEN POPULAR NATURAL-SURFACE TRAIL NETWORKS, AND BETWEEN THE CITY CENTER AND THE PERIPHERY, AND DIRECTING THE CITY STAFF TO WORK WITH PUBLIC ND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS TO HELP ACHIEVE THE “GUTS” VISION. (Councilor Bushee) (Melissa McDonald)**

Mr. Rogers reported on this item. He first spoke to the description of GUTS and explained it is not a request for City funding but a collaboration. This effort has private funding. There are 11 partners working on a parallel track with the County. Santa Fe Community College expressed their intent to sign it as well.

Ms. McDonald added that this will go through committee reviews in December.

Member Grogan said she would recuse herself because she is one of the project managers.

Member Pacheco said this is a great job. The idea of a trail around town is a great idea.

**Member Pacheco moved to approve the resolution. Member Herdman seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote except for Member Grogan who abstained.**

#### **5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

There were no citizen communications from the floor.

## **6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES**

### **d. El Camino Real de Adentro Trail.**

Mr. Aaboe described the request which is to approve the MOA between the City and County to bring city funding to the joint project (GO Bond funding) in the amount of \$150,00 toward the cost of this project.

It has been through Public Works and Finance. It is a two-phase project. The first goes from the River under NM 599 to the MRC where a cloverleaf will go through the box culvert to get on the east side of Caja del Rio and then to Highway 62 and turns from a 10' wide paved trail to a 30" wide track along the BLM easement to the landfill and right on BLM and Forest Service land back and forth between them. The County is working on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for all of it. The feds are running the project and they will bill the County for the match and the County will request reimbursement from the City on the MRC portion. The match funds will come from the GO Bond reallocation from the underpass project. The County portion is \$425,000 and the City portion is \$150,000.

He explained that the surface for Phase 1 is similar to the River trail – 10' paved and then it will have a natural surface trail past MRC with 30" of crusher fines. That starts at Caja del Rio and Highway 62. On the map it says phase 2.

Member Herdman asked if they have the entire funding.

Mr. Aaboe agreed but clarified that without the EA, they cannot use the available funds in enough time. The County Manager believes it will all go through but BLM clearance is hard to get.

Member Herdman asked about the status of the River Trail where it connects.

Mr. Aaboe said that portion is completed. There is an MOU at the County to get City approval to purchase properties for open space within City limits. That will come back in a few weeks.

Member Herdman noted that there are gaps now in the trail property acquisition from downtown.

Mr. Aaboe said once the MOA is signed we will get it together with funding to build it. We have to acquire the parcels and then do a build-out.

Ms. McDonald noted that a copy of the MOA is in the packet.

Member Grogan asked over what time period it would be constructed.

Mr. Aaboe said it would take a year from September 30 but construction would not start until they have the EA clearance. They have Ms. Colleen Baker as project manager. He also clarified that is a national historic trail. It is actually along the old Chili Line trail there.

Ms. McDonald said she would bring it back at a future meeting.

**a. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SANTA FE AND THE CITY OF SANTA FE FOR THE SANTA FE RIVER TRAIL PROJECT**

Ms. McDonald clarified that the City will take over the maintenance from the MOA.

Mr. Aaboe added that the requirement is that if the County buys open space within the city limits it must get approval from City. If approved, the County will construct it and convey it to the City. A couple of technical issues will come back. Frenchy's to Siler Road is the next step and then Agua Fria Village property. We hope to start as soon as that is approved. There are many sections of property yet to acquire. This is a very big project on which the City and the County have worked for a long time.

Chair Bushee said BTAC wanted to hear about it. It is a critical connection.

**b. MPO Report - Transit Budget (Staff)**

Ms. McDonald referred the Committee to the report from Erick Aune in the packet. The bike ordinance should be on the next agenda and the MPO intern will probably come back in December.

Chair Bushee asked who tracks the bus pass rebate program. She would like an update on what happened with the money. It could be in writing if they can't come.

Member Rivera said Chainbreakers track that as well. Most of it goes for bicycles and they get the annual bus pass.

The Committee briefly discussed the bike sharing public meeting to be held on November 19 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Ms. McDonald said this is separate as MPO information. It is an MPO event.

Member Rivera asked if the Committee would hear about the Transit Budget.

Ms. McDonald said it is in the back of the packet.

**c. Conservation Trust - Trails Report (Tim Rogers)**

Mr. Rogers handed out his report for October and said the September report is in packet. He highlighted from the report. There were 300 students and parents from Camino Real Academy for working on La Tierra Trails. It was switched from Dale Ball to La Tierra and work depends on the weather. He announced that La Tierra Trails are off limits to motocross. The road there is called Chile Line Trail and hopefully the name will be changed to "Road." He is meeting with Richard Carter on Friday about it.

SFCT has scheduled appreciation for volunteers on December 1 at 6 p.m. and BTAC is invited. It is at the Women's Club. It is an opportunity for BTAC to meet the trail volunteers.

Mr. Rogers reported on a public meeting in November for La Cañada Trail. People from Zocalo and condominiums attended. They were told that the City has the right to put in the trail and lots of people would benefit from it. This is obviously a priority in the MP from Zocalo north to Tano Road. It is an obvious connection for walking and biking. The reserve parking lot could be used. There were issues of crime and lowered property values that were addressed by Leroy Pacheco. It is a straightforward project. There are some engineering challenges with topography. A handful said "Calle Mejia is crazy - how can we connect with that road? But many of us use it now."

Chair Bushee asked if there was some consensus by the end of the meeting.

Mr. Rogers agreed.

Ms. McDonald said they asked for a meeting on options as they looked at topography. She put this on the next agenda.

Chair Bushee asked about the wilderness meeting.

Mr. Rogers said it is very high altitude planning and was on the same night. There were maybe close to a hundred people and Fat Tire was well represented. There were good feelings at the meeting. The Forest Service is taking input and keeping things open. He brought up the prohibition of bikes on the shuttle bus and got the Forest Service to promise to discuss it again. They won't be using bikes during ski season. May and June, they will go back to the summer mode. The Supervisor of Santa Fe National Forest is an important person in the negotiation.

## **7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

- a. A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A GRAND UNIFIED TRAIL SYSTEM (GUTS) THAT ALLOWS NON-MOTORIZED USERS TO TRAVEL IN A LOOP AROUND THE CITY OF SANTA FE, BETWEEN POPULAR NATURAL-SURFACE TRAIL NETWORKS, AND BETWEEN THE CITY CENTER AND THE PERIPHERY, AND DIRECTING THE CITY STAFF TO WORK WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS TO HELP ACHIEVE THE "GUTS" VISION. (Councilor Bushee) (Melissa McDonald)**

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

- b. New Bike Laws Might Make It Legal to Roll Through Stop Signs (Councilor Bushee)**

The Committee discussed this issue with comments made both for and against the idea that cyclists might be able to slow down and roll through an intersection without stopping. Some felt it was a wonderful idea and should be legal when no pedestrians and cars are present at the intersection.

Member Grogan cautioned that saying we would have the opportunity to blow through stop signs is overstating it. She would still slow down and make sure no one is coming just to conserve her energy. To stop and get off the bike and restart doesn't promote cycling as a form of transportation. It would be like asking someone in a vehicle to turn off the ignition and then look around and turn the car back on. There would be education needed that it is a yield solution. With red lights it is different.

Member Pacheco said conceptually it is a good idea but busy people have priorities and it is hard to do messaging. "You are legalizing something that is already bicycling."

Mr. Newhall said they are getting numbers out of Idaho to see if yielding and not stopping does reduce bicycle accidents. His feeling was that it will not. He thought everyone should quit saying "blow through the intersection." Those on bikes need to proceed cautiously. Idaho has done it for 4-5 years.

Member Herdman said the laws need bright lines. You can tell when someone is blowing through rather than slowing down to go through. He said he does a rolling stop. My mass is very small mass, vs a car mass. At 2 miles per hour is very slight.

Member Rivera said going uphill with groceries makes it hard. He asked if the City could have bicycles have the right of way.

Member Abbatacola thought that was a law in Europe.

Officer Andrew Padilla said he and two other officers were here to provide their opinion on it. The officers are not stationed at intersections to pull over bikes who didn't stop at the intersection. But when they get hit by a vehicle is when it becomes a decision to be made and issue a citation.

Member Grogan asked if an officer would not pull over a cyclist if they yielded and went through a red light. She said she was on Zia Road at a stop sign with only traffic on the north so she kept going and the officer coming the other way put on his flashing lights to give her notice it was not legal.

Officer Padilla said they are issued a citation only if they are involved in a crash. The ordinance would need some work.

Chair Bushee clarified that she was not in pursuit for red lights but just for stop signs.

Jason - Traffic Sergeant, said "I'm on a motorcycle every day. We respond to all major crashes, all the fatalities. This ordinance and your discussion I understand. Even riding a motorcycle, I understand what you are saying. I can stop without putting my foot down at an intersection. You have a lot more visibility on a cycle. So you can see more. I would have to say though, from looking at statistics - and cities comparable to us with theirs - a red light would be out of the question. Motor vehicles have to stop and so do pedestrians. The stop lights are designed for bigger intersections than just a stop sign and this would open us up to more accidents. 50% of them happen in the intersection. A lot of them occur at night and average age is 32 for bicycle fatalities. It would be reasonable at stop signs but not for red lights."



Officer McCord agreed. "If we start limiting the amount of responsibility for cyclists, they will begin to break more laws. We became lax with bikes on the plaza and they started violating the ordinances. If you are going to allow them to run the stop signs, then you are going to allow biking on the wrong side of the street. It could benefit some places but we have to stay away from that rolling stop. California started doing that with vehicles. We can do a good job with the ordinance. I would never tell a teenager not to stop. I would not advocate that."

Chair Bushee said educating them is needed to just try to correct bad practices.

Member Rivera said ordinances like this can incentivize people to ride bicycles. It doesn't resonate with him because most traffic laws are made for cars. He would like to see this move forward before March.

**Member Rivera moved to postpone the rest of the agenda. Member Herdman seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

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

### **a. Re-evaluation of Standing Subcommittees (Councilor Bushee, Member Grogan Grogan)**

Postponed.

### **b. On-Road**

Postponed.

### **c. Off-Road**

Postponed.

### **d. Going for the Gold: Bike Education and Outreach**

Postponed.

### **e. La Tierra Master Plan La Tierra Trails - completion status (Staff)**

Postponed.

## **9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS – Project Updates**

Postponed.

## **10. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**

Postponed.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Approved by:

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Patti J. Bushee, Chair

Submitted by:

  
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Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.