



Agenda

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BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, February 24, 2011 5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

City Council Chambers

Ground Floor, City Hall

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from *January 27, 2011*

E. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES.

- 1) Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization – Bicycle Master Plan (Keith Wilson)

G. DISCUSSION

- 1) Presentation and discussion regarding the Pen Road Trail Connection (Engineering Staff).
- 2) Discussion and Action regarding staff's draft of the proposed Bike Law Ordinance. January 27th BTAC mtg. Police Review and Comment, discussed helmet law (Bike Education & Outreach Subcommittee-Bob Siqueiros).
- 3) City of Santa Fe Resolution welcoming the Subaru Trail Crew to Santa Fe and directing staff to enter into an agreement with the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society and the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe to complete trail project 10, a quarter mile connecting trail in La Tierra. (Bob Siqueiros).
- 4) "Bike Sharing Task Force" appointments (Councilor Bushee, Bob Siqueiros).
- 5) BTAC Subcommittee Updates
 - Multi-Use Trails
 - On-Road
 - Mountain Bike
 - Bike Education and Outreach
 - La Tierra (NWQ)

H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) BTAC Request for Information Log (Bob Siqueiros)

I. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

J. ADJOURNMENT

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BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 24, 2011

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**MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FÉ
BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 24, 2011**

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fé Bicycle and Trail Advisory Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Frank Herdman on this date at approximately 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

B. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Councilor Patti Bushee, Chair [arriving later]
Ms. Gretchen Grogan
Mr. Frank Herdman
Ms. Alicia Martínez
Ms. Lisa Miles
Mr. Tomás Rivera
Ms. Shelley Robinson

Members Absent:

Mr. John Longworth [excused]
Mr. Ron Pacheco [excused]

Staff Present:

Mr. Bob Siqueiros
Mr. Leroy Pacheco
Mr. Eric Martínez
Ms. Jeanne Price

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Siqueiros suggested moving the resolution right after #1 under the Discussion Items.

Ms. Miles moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from January 27, 2011

Mr. Rivera moved to approve the minutes of January 27, 2011 as presented. Ms. Miles seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

E. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR

There were no citizen communications.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

1. Santa Fé Metropolitan Planning Organization - Bicycle Master Plan

Mr. Wilson provided an update on the Bicycle Master Plan process. They had public meetings on February 8 and 12 with 36 in attendance.

They were looking for participants for the advisory group. Mr. Herdman and Ms. Miles were interested. They definitely wanted BTAC representation on this group. The first meeting would be March 16 at 5:15 and looking for a location.

Mr. Rogers said it would be at the downtown library from 6-8 p.m.

Chair Bushee arrived at this time.

Mr. Herdman thought it was an unrelated purpose.

Ms. Robinson might want to attend in the future.

Mr. Wilson said the meetings were open to the public. They wanted to keep some continuity of members. Some people were only interest in one aspect.

Mr. Herdman relinquished the gavel to Chair Bushee.

Mr. Wilson announced the webinar on Tuesday for which he sent out emails.

Chair Bushee asked if they could get a hard copy of it.

Mr. Wilson had asked if there would be a recording and had been asked not to do that.

He said they had been working with city staff on trail designs for the Master Plan.

Ms. Robinson asked if there were any volunteers from those 36 at the public meetings.
Mr. Rogers said they could have some.

Ms. Miles asked about using an email list. Mr. Rogers agreed.

Ms. Grogan asked how often it would meet.

Mr. Wilson said it would be once a month.

G. DISCUSSION

1. Presentation and discussion regarding the Pen Road Trail Connection (Engineering Staff)

Mr. Pacheco introduced Dennis Martínez as the consultant and provided a handout to some of the members.

Mr. Martínez said the interim grade access to the St. Francis-Cerrillos intersection was an interesting problem. They created access from the north side. Gannet Fleming West was hired to tackle the problem. The DOT and railroad and Chevron station were the most interested people there.

They involved the Archaeological Review Committee and the Mayors Committee on Disability and these parties. The design was for 500' of paved hard surface trail from the intersection with a driveway opening. It was where the bikes hit the trail now.

A yellow line on the map he shared was the 25' setback from the railroad tracks. If they put it closer it would raise special restrictions so tried to stay out of that. The Rail Runner asked them to consider a barrier there. Other issues included drainage and ADA sidewalks. The pedestrian entrance would be the sidewalk crossing there. It was a simple design. They could do construction for \$62,000 and it would take two weeks to build it. So they were ready and wanted to present it to BTAC.

Ms. Price asked how she could walk to the rest of the trail.

Mr. Pacheco briefly explained how to get from the DOT complex between Cordova Road and this connection. When the Rail Runner came in and built the Rail Trail, somehow within the south capital area it was not clear. So they built from the north side to the St. Francis intersection. The City was dealing with it on the interim at-grade basis. The crosswalk to the south had not delineated the trail. Currently there was a grade enhancement coming to this point. It was a very good question from an ADA perspective. There was not enough money to get the best possible configuration. Currently, pedestrians and cyclists were using the paved Pen Road there. There was no sidewalk.

Ms. Price concluded there was still going to be a gap.

Mr. Martínez said this design served an immediate need between the intersection and Pen Road. It was relatively simple. There was a longer term need there and Mr. Wilson was addressing that through the Bike Master Plan. It didn't preclude the City from going further on it with a later project with either a sidewalk or a paved path.

Chair Bushee asked if there was nothing available from impact fees or some other place for it.

Mr. Martínez said that was pretty well depleted right now.

Mr. Pacheco pointed out that there was a sidewalk along Walgreens. They had to comply but some businesses had been there for decades. In the interim they addressed ADA and the bike Master Plan.

Ms. Robinson asked about the offset and if the sidewalk was usable. There was a ditch there. She felt they needed that continuum to avoid using Pen Road.

Mr. Pacheco said the alignment there would be better to follow the yellow line which was a straight line from one end to the other and they would make it look right. They were also closing access from the gas station to Pen Road. So the cable would keep cars from going in and out and gas tank trucks. Right now it was all open for all of those modes.

Ms. Miles asked if there would be any signs to direct people how to get around.

Mr. Pacheco said there was traffic control signage for the trail but way-finding was not included in this project. Once it was fixed up they would be reseeding after removing lots of old pavement. It would be far more attractive. It would begin to open up possibilities for open space.

Ms. Grogan asked about drainage.

Mr. Pacheco said there was a large drainage culvert running along the railroad tracks. It was not solving the larger drainage issue but they were dealing with surface street drainage. It would get the water out of that area so people wouldn't be biking in swamps.

Ms. Robinson asked if in the future when the rail trail was finished there was any idea where they would meet and if there would be a fork close to the cable or a sidewalk there.

Mr. Pacheco explained that once it was a funded project they would look at all of the factors. There was a cross there at the drain where someone died. It would become a full-fledged discussion and this didn't preclude any of those options.

Ms. Robinson wanted to make sure it was a smooth connection.

Mr. Herdman asked him to explain the interconnection between trail and road. There were good standards and the city had often gotten that wrong. He asked if the cyclist going down stream on the trail would find themselves on the sidewalk and then falling off to dirt.

Mr. Pacheco said it would be for bicyclists and pedestrians and would be at-grade with a smooth connection and compliant with the standards.

Mr. Wilson said the MPO was doing bikeways mapping and did a prioritization. He asked about connecting to Alta Vista. It was a project that would come before the BTAC. He saw the connection as a top priority for the City or DOT. He hoped it would be an adequate surface for cyclists. It might have to be ripped up later for further connections to happen. It would still meet ADA standards. There were also AASHTO bicycle standards. The MPO had suggestions for sign placements and how to improve visibility like near Otori's drive through where the large pine trees were and perhaps markings like sharrows.

Chair Bushee said alignment was Mr. Longworth's concern.

Mr. Pacheco said the alignment was to be where it was most visible. They had a really close design for construction and would continue to meet with Mr. Rogers to have best public safety. Comments from planners could be addressed and changes made as appropriate. From just the bicycle perspective, he was not sure it would save money to stop at the closed road sign. It did reintroduce some of the problems this design was solving. There was a surface issue after precipitation that this design would solve. He hoped they could get the Rail Trail done in five years but didn't know. This was integrated and fit with future designs both on and off road. He recommended implementing this plan.

Ms. Robinson thought if it could get moved toward the northwest there would be more space to approach this trail from the north and before putting in the post and cable fence maybe they should do some seeding in that area. They wouldn't have to spend a lot in that part.

Mr. Pacheco said they were getting the right seed mix and figuring out when to do it. This \$60,000 was about a third of what it would take to get it across to the other side. He offered to walk anybody through it. Maybe Mr. Siqueiros could get a date set within a week. In terms of construction he was holding up taking it to Public Works until after getting BTAC's blessing on it.

Mr. Herdman suggested BTAC take action with some condition on it.

Chair Bushee preferred a field trip. She said it was not an urgency. She didn't think BTAC had to vote one way or another but to review it.

- 3. City of Santa Fé Resolution welcoming the Subaru Trail Crew to Santa Fé and directing staff to enter into an agreement with the Santa Fé Fat Tire Society and the Trails Alliance of Santa Fé to complete trail project 10, a quarter mile connecting trail in La Tierra. (Bob Siqueiros)**

Ms. Price said she had a conversation at the Public Works Department about how to accomplish this and it needed clarification. So instead of "agreement" it would just say "work with" because they were not issuing a permit. She didn't know exactly what the arrangement was until yesterday. This would be the resolution to direct staff.

Chair Bushee understood.

Mr. Pacheco said he was the one questioning how to do it. Within the Master Plan they determined a trail that needed to be connected. They would hire an archaeologist and work to get the trail designated in the Master Plan. The Archaeology could be done. They were basically also agreeing that city staff and the Fat Tire Society were meeting biweekly. This was a pilot stewardship project for trails and he was happy for this volunteer organization. The specifics on how to accomplish it might be more on their collaboration to make it happen. They had the same goal. So if the resolution could be more nuanced on the collaboration - that language could give more room.

Chair Bushee asked if they needed insurance. Ms. Price didn't know but there were set procedures to determine that.

Ms. Alexander and Mr. Ward came forward.

Chair Bushee said if it was to be city sponsored there was not a need for insurance. She didn't want anyone to have to provide insurance.

Mr. Pacheco said they did a similar project with the Trails Alliance at Dale Ball and had workers sign a waiver of liability. Ultimately the city was responsible but they had done it already on wilderness trails with city permission. It was a signed release of liability on that day.

Mr. Ward said the main goal was to encourage volunteer stewardship. There was only one day of trail work and they were not sure how far they could get. Between REI, the I Alliance and Fat Tire Society they could get it done.

Chair Bushee agreed. She welcomed them and congratulated everyone to get the trail finished. This was really just official recognition. She didn't want anyone to incur any cost.

Mr. Ward said they were here four days and would do a presentation on Thursday on the economic benefit in having more trails. It would be at Zocalo at 3:00 on March 5th.

Mr. Siqueiros clarified that this went through Public Works and would go to Finance on Monday.

Ms. Price read some language for it.

Mr. Ward clarified that their official name was Subaru Trail Crew.

The BTAC agreed on the suggested language.

Ms. Martínez excused herself from the meeting at this time.

Mr. Herdman asked where the trail was.

Ms. Alexander said it was just west of the pumphouse and went to the ridge to the north of the pumphouse.

Mr. Ward said it created another loop.

Mr. Herdman moved to approve the resolution as discussed. Ms. Miles seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. Discussion and Action regarding staff's draft of the proposed Bike Law Ordinance. January 27th BTAC meeting Police Review and Comment, discussed helmet law (Bike Education & Outreach Subcommittee - Bob Siqueiros).

Ms. Grogan recounted that at their last meeting they got the officer here and there was a question about the language. The subcommittee said they would find some language for it. There was not a city ordinance requiring helmet use now.

The subcommittee met and worked on this language and proposed to integrate it. Mr. Siqueiros e-mailed the proposed language to the members.

Mr. Siqueiros added that Ms. Price and Legal said it was fine and was enforceable. They could either put it in verbatim or reference the statute.

Mr. Herdman noted the fee was \$10.

Mr. Rivera was concerned about the cost of helmets. There were lots of kids whose parents didn't have the money or the motivation.

Ms. Grogan said the ordinance had been approved but they were requested to look at this part. They had a representative who came and didn't see any issues with it.

Chair Bushee didn't think they passed the ordinance.

Mr. Siqueiros agreed. They talked about registration a lot and how to implement it.

Ms. Downing said they had a chance last time to hear the comments from police and the officers didn't

even know there was a registration ordinance. They didn't see a problem but didn't see a need for it except to help with tracking down stolen bikes. She understood not getting kids to wear helmets but it was an obligation to follow state law.

Chair Bushee wanted this on the next agenda as a recommendation from the subcommittee whether to include it or not and bring it to a vote next time.

Mr. Herdman understood the registration to not be a part of this. What was required by ordinance for a license was good to go. As far as helmets went, he favored putting this on for final approval now. He was prepared to do that.

Ms. Robinson thought the positive education approach and encouraging helmets were good but requiring helmets takes away and was negative. She had a problem with enforcement. It was like the five feet pass. To expect the police dept to follow this was not realistic.

Mr. Rivera agreed. His only concern was that there was a bill in the Senate now that would affect the ordinance.

Ms. Miles said that was the idle stop bill. She didn't think that was effective.

Mr. Rivera said it allowed the cyclist to slow down and proceed if the way was clear.

Mr. Wilson understood that cyclists should obey all laws so if the state changed the traffic law you would still be okay.

Mr. Herdman moved to recommend adoption of the ordinance in the packet with the addition of the clause "unless a less stringent requirement specifically applicable to bicycle applies."

Ms. Downing didn't think that a change was necessary.

Mr. Herdman explained that in this code the term "vehicles" applied to motor vehicles.

Ms. Downing was okay with the amendment but didn't think it was necessary.

Mr. Herdman said it was a clarification.

Chair Bushee said this would go to Public Works and Public Safety and on to Council. She just wanted to make it clear.

Mr. Herdman commented that the motion excluded the helmet provision.

Mr. Rivera seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. “Bike Sharing Task Force” appointments (Councilor Bushee, Bob Siqueiros)

Chair Bushee asked to not do this at this meeting but to ask Mr. Siqueiros to continue working on it.

5. BTAC Subcommittee Updates

a. Multi-Use Trails - Bob Ward

Mr. Ward said they were working with the Trails Alliance on Pecos.

Chair Bushee said the expansion of the Pecos wilderness was lost last night when a person from Glorieta said it would be open to all other uses. It was going to get tabled for six months. It was on the consent calendar. They upheld the resolution and rescinded the previous resolution.

Mr. Ward said Representative Luján wanted to work with them on a nice compromise. They had conference call with IMBA. He also wanted to meet with the councilors who wanted to table it.

b. On-Road

Ms. Grogan talked about sharrows and the BTAC discussed where sharrows were needed including on Washington Street near Paseo. She added that Jim Harrington would like to be part of this subcommittee.

Chair Bushee said he didn't get kept on the mailing list.

Chair Bushee said it looked like they needed to get rid of multi-use or merge it with Mountain Bike.

Ms. Robinson said multi-use was the trail system. Maybe it didn't need to be subcommittee as much as the citizens' advisory committee.

c. Mountain Bike

The report was given under Multi-Use.

d. Bike Education and Outreach

Ms. Downing wanted to work with Ms. Price on a draft resolution on a trail segment for acceptable designation and have it for next meeting.

Chair Bushee said it was done but the location was not determined.

Ms. Downing said she would get with her.

She said regarding La Tierra that one thing that didn't need approval was trash removal. There was a lot out there to be done. Maybe they could get that on the schedule sooner than later.

Also the MVD handbook didn't get approved under the last Secretary of Transportation so she was going to meet with the new Secretary. Raul had been helpful.

Ms. Robinson asked to go with Ms. Downing for the meeting.

Ms. Miles said they finished printing and it was coming together.

e. La Tierra (NWQ)

Mr. Martínez said about ten minutes ago he sent an email to Parks about La Tierra and would follow up with Mr. Siqueiros.

H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1. BTAC Request for Information Log (Bob Siqueiros)

Mr. Siqueiros said he updated the log at the last meeting and didn't include it in this packet.

Chair Bushee asked about the St. Francis intersection update.

Mr. Siqueiros said the tunnel plan got through Public Works and was going back to Finance on Monday both for underground at Zia and the trail on the east side.

Ms. Grogan asked if they were trying to work out easements.

Mr. Siqueiros agreed. They went through the attorney's office. It would probably be very simple for them to work it out.

Mr. Wilson said they met with Public Works and resolved their questions for a connection at Siringo and a part going to St. Michael's. The question was whether they were spending money for trails when they could have an on-road connection. He was working on it with Ike Pino.

Mr. Martínez clarified that Public Works went out and built them only after being vetted through BTAC. The actual alignments were vetted at BTAC in 2008. That was the reason they were building it.

Chair Bushee thought someone from Public Works needed to come to BTAC meetings. Sometimes the paper reports didn't translate as well.

Chair Bushee said this one in particular generated some interest in the public. Sometimes there was mis-communication on it. This one did take awhile. She wanted to know if all things were "go" on it.

Mr. Wilson explained that the reason the question came up for MPO was because of the planning undertaking and the beneficial trails review. They began reevaluating the trails system so that was why it came up at the last minute.

Chair Bushee thought there were a lot of things engineered that BTAC didn't understand.

Mr. Wilson said they were going to make it better at those points where it was important to communicate.

Mr. Martínez said they were always open to comments and suggestions. Over the course of time some things got lost but over the long term they had been pretty good about coming to BTAC to ask for input. He held their planning department in high regard. There were things they could address that the users and Mr. Wilson could bring to the table. During the early stages of the project they tried to bring stakeholders together and then the engineers started looking at all the details. So early on was the best place to get the planner's perspective.

Chair Bushee thanked him.

Mr. Siqueiros recalled that was trail #7 and 8 when they started on it.

I. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Rivera wanted to see an on ramp at Richards Avenue, especially when it was raining there. Someone asked him the status of the trail behind Calle Mejia but he couldn't find anything on the map.

Mr. Siqueiros said that was private property there. The City had no plans there.

Ms. Miles excused herself from the meeting at this time.

Mr. Herdman said he was very impressed with the presentation at this meeting. He asked if the family bike thing should be on their radar. He asked that they put it on the next agenda for discussion.

Mr. Siqueiros said the ordinance was going to be key to that.

Chair Bushee suggested they keep it on under staff communication each time.

Chair Bushee asked about map update.

Mr. Wilson said they were working on it and hoping to have it finished by Bike to Work Week.

Ms. Robinson thanked Mr. Herdman and Mr. Wilson for what they did here because it really made her feel empowered. They answered the big picture in a comprehensive way and it always made sense.

She also thanked staff for the new trail out of the Railyard.

She thought Gail Ryba was at Council last night. Chair Bushee said it wasn't.

Ms. Grogan thanked Mr. Siqueiros for his work lately and good response time.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled for March 24th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Approved by:

Patti Bushee, Chair

Submitted by:



Carl Boaz, Stenographer