

BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 20, 2013 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 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 16, 2012
- E. DISCUSSION AND ACTION.
 - 1) Discussion and Action Regarding the Trails Coordinator Resolution, "that the City Manager is Directed to Establish a City Position for the Purpose of Managing Trails and Coordinating Volunteers for the Maintenance and Improvement of the City's Bike-Pedestrian Trails Network". (Bob Siqueiros).
 - 2) Discussion and Action regarding Councilor Calvert's Resolution Directing the City Manager to Explore Options for Establishing a Parks, Trails and Open Space Public Safety Type Position to Monitor the Facilities for Vandalism and Other Public Safety Hazards and to Enforce City Ordinances. (Bob Siqueiros)
- F. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR
- G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES.
- H. DISCUSSION AND ACTION
 - 1. Discussion Regarding MAP 21 Federal Transportation Authorization Bill (Keith Wilson, MPO Senior Planner)
 - 2. BTAC Subcommittee Updates:
 - On-Road
 - Mountain Bike
 - Bike Education and Outreach
 - La Tierra Master Plan
- I. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS
 - 1. BTAC Request for Information Log (Bob Siqueiros)
- J. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS
- K. ADJOURNMENT

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN NEED OF ACCOMMODATIONS, CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 955-6520, FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO MEETING DATE

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MINUTES OF THE

CITY OF SANTA FÉ

BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 20, 2013 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fé Bicycle and Trail Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Patti Bushee on this date at approximately 5:40 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

B. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Patti Bushee, Chair Frank Herdman, Vice-Chair Gretchen Grogan John Longworth [arriving later] Lisa Miles James Ronald Pacheco Tomás Rivera [arriving later] Shelley Robinson

Staff Present:

Bob Siqueiros

Mr. Siqueiros announced that all terms had expired.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Herdman moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Miles seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Longworth and Mr. Rivera were not present for the vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES JANUARY 16, 2013

Mr. Pacheco moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2013 as presented. Mr. Herdman

seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Rivera and Mr. Longworth were not present for the vote.

Mr. Rivera arrived at this time.

F. Citizen's Communication.

Mr. Joel Abbatcola, 223 North Guadalupe, #105, said he spoke once before about the dangerous intersection crossing at Zia and St Francis. He showed a helmet cam video of that area where cars heading south and turning right on Zia ignore the no right turn on red sign there. The video showed a conversation had had with the motorist who claimed she turned right on green.

He hoped some additional traffic enforcement could be done there. He had talked with other bicyclists who also had problems there. A pregnant woman was almost struck by a vehicle.

Chair Bushee asked him what district he lived in. He lived in Councilor Dimas's district.

Mr. Steve Newhall, 601 W. San Mateo, Unit 92, said nothing happened on the plan to make traffic signals change with bicycles. That needed to happen on Pacheco at St. Mike's and on Hospital at St. Mike's. Most the signal lights in the City had that problem.

Chair Bushee said she took a road trip and talked with other cities about how they did that. She understood lots of signal detectors didn't work with bicycles.

Mr. Newhall said some do of them did but most did not. Another bad one was Siringo and St. Francis.

Ms. Miles agreed.

Mr. Newhall said he used to run the red light at Don Gaspar early every morning for about ten years because it wouldn't change.

Mr. John Critchfield, 2210 Miguel Chávez Unit 814, said he could vouch for the Siringo/St. Francis intersection.

He spoke about a new nationwide program called Bicycle Benefits that was initially sparked by Pedal Pass in Salt Lake City. It was a card to get discounts at retail businesses. Seven of the 20 towns on the LAB that have received platinum or gold BFC awards have this program in place.

Businesses could order a kit with stickers to sell to bicycle riders and the riders with stickers on helmets could get discounts with it. It encourages people to ride bikes when they might think of driving instead. He was interested in spearheading the program in Santa Fé. He had talked with some businesses around the Railyard and Plaza areas. He would use it and would ride his bike more if businesses had it.

Www.bicyclebenefits.org was the web site. It was a nonprofit started in New York by a college student. He asked BTAC to give him some feedback on the idea.

Chair Bushee asked him to give Mr. Sigueiros his address.

Chair Bushee suggested contacting the popcorn man at the Depot who might be willing to deal with bike rentals. They also hoped to have coffee shop there.

- Ms. Robinson thanked Mr. Critchfield for his effort. Santa Fé wanted to get BCF platinum. She suggested he might set up a table during Bike to Work Week.
 - Mr. Critchfield thanked them and agreed he might kick it off that week to sign up businesses.
 - Mr. Siqueiros thought Liz Roybal might spearhead that event.

G. Communications from other Agencies.

- Mr. Wilson reported that the DOT was doing a study of the Zia intersection and had selected a consultant with whom he would talk about the parameters.
- Mr. Pacheco said BTAC agreed with Mr. Abbatacola about the Zia Crossing and thought the video should be shown at City Council.
- Mr. Wilson said enforcement was definitely needed there and was the answer. He should have recommendations soon from the study and the state would evaluate that issue.

Chair Bushee thought she might take them on a field trip.

- Mr. Wilson added that there was a Senate Memorial on the study of this intersection and he would be involved in it and would report back to BTAC.
- Mr. Wilson said the DOT had hired a new planner for MAP 21, Rosa Kozub, who would take on the bike, pedestrian, equestrian issues. She had been at a few meetings and he had talked with her.

He reported also that their previous intern had given a report on Bike Share back in December. She would be back during the spring break which coincided with the BTAC March meeting because she was finalizing her thesis and wanted to present here findings.

- Ms. Grogan agreed it was great to do that study but as an interim solution she wondered if there was a way to make the signage more effective. People just didn't see the sign.
- Mr. Wilson agreed. People were not used to stopping there. BTAC could ask for traffic enforcement there from Chief Rael. He said if you check that at any intersection, people were not stopping when they turn on red.

Chair Bushee suggested that Councilor Trujillo was the person for Mr. Abbatacola to meet with. Zia

stacks up and that causes people to not want to miss the light.

- Mr. Rivera said any turn on red was very dangerous.
- Mr. Wilson agreed and any right turn on red still required the motorist to come to a complete stop.
- Ms. Robinson said it was a critical crossing for the Rail Trail. She asked if it could be a place where walkers or bicyclists on the trail could activate flashing lights.
 - Mr. Wilson said the walk signal was on the trail. The red arrow comes on with the walk signal.
- Mr. Herdman said that did work and after hitting the button the red arrow comes on for walking across. But when you walk you might get hit by traffic on Zia. The usual deterrent didn't exist there.
 - Mr. Wilson said if everyone stopped at the red arrow then there wouldn't be a problem.
- Mr. Rivera said when the train came through there was a box where no one could stop. Something changed there with the train arriving.
 - Mr. Longworth arrived at 6:09.
 - Chair Bushee suggested a public hearing to them as part of the state's study.
 - Mr. Wilson agreed to follow up and to forward Joe's video to BTAC.

E. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Chair Bushee combined these two items into one discussion:

- Discussion and Action Regarding the Trails Coordinator Resolution, "that the City Manager was Directed to Establish a City Position for the Purpose of Managing Trails and Coordinating Volunteers for the Maintenance and improvement of the City's Bike-Pedestrian Trails Network."
- Discussion and Action regarding Councilor Calvert's Resolution Directing the City Manager to Explore Options for Establishing a Parks, Trails and Open Space Public Safety Type Position to Monitor the Facilities for Vandalism and Other Public Safety Hazards and to Enforce City Ordinances

Chair Bushee said these resolutions went to Public Works and there were amendments. These were meant to be part of the city budget work. The one brought back here was that she had a request. One councilor had talked about having it as a volunteer coordinator over trails, parks, and open space. The City didn't have a trails department but did have a parks department. The trails had nothing right now. Even

Parks was short staffed. But there was no one for trails. So she wanted to bring it back here to take a formal vote on the resolution. BTAC could reject amendments or refine things.

Councilor Calvert's resolution talked about transients causing fires in the hills and was a public safety resolution. Ms. Byers was here to rewrite and Eric Martínez was here to listen and Ben Gurulé was here from the Parks Department.

Mr. Pacheco had two questions. BTAC had talked specifically about the trails maintenance needs that would justify a position just for that. He didn't think they talked about the public safety one. He would rather see "establish a position" instead of just saying "explore."

Chair Bushee said this resolution was not a job description but almost.

Mr. Herdman moved to recommend adoption of the resolution sponsored by Councilor Patti Bushee with the following amendments:

A new paragraph saying "Whereas the City has invested a substantial amount of money in the creation of trails, but city resources alone are not adequate to provide for the maintenance of these city's trails.

Revising the whereas provision that starts, "Whereas abundant volunteer resources exist await but are in need of..."

On the second page, the first whereas statement should strike the word "central."

In the decredal paragraph to say "Now therefore, the City Manager is directed to explore the creation of a city position..."

In the first bullet point, add a whereas statement saying, "Whereas the creation of a position to coordinate such volunteers is a good use of city funds because it would promote volunteerism as a means to maintain trails in lieu of paying city employees to perform such work."

In the bullet on page four where it says regular coordination and in the other bullet points, each one should start with a verb so this one should start "Maintain regular coordination."

The bullet point starting "ongoing knowledge" should have the verb "Acquire."

The next bullet point should being "Develop and maintain social media and a dedicated city web page for volunteer activities."

Mr. Rivera seconded the motion and asked for a friendly amendment in the second bullet point to add "attend meetings of voluntary organizations to recruit and educate volunteers <u>and to gather</u> feedback from those organizations."

Mr. Herdman accepted the amendment as friendly.

Chair Bushee left the room and Mr. Herdman chaired the discussion.

- Ms. Grogan was curious about the second amendment why they wanted to delete #2 and insert the paragraph that said explore the options for establishing a parks and trails position for the purpose of managing. She asked if there was a feeling that the Parks Department didn't have enough staff to maintain the parks.
- Mr. Siqueiros said that was the case. The City couldn't keep up with the infrastructure being built and still maintain things.
- Ms. Grogan asked if it was feasible for this person to coordinate volunteers for parks maintenance as well as trail maintenance.
 - Mr. Siqueiros said it was primarily to maintain the trails.
- Mr. Ben Gurulé (Parks Director) said the position would be within the Parks Department. BTAC would make the policy, however.
 - Mr. Rivera asked if there was a volunteer coordinator for the parks.
- Mr. Gurulé said no. They had 32 full-time permanent employees and another 50 temporary hires in the summer now funded through CIP. Currently the liaison was Ms. Esparza, Special Projects Coordinator.
 - Ms. Grogan what the Parks budget total was and didn't have that information with him.
- Ms. Grogan commented that there was no one on city staff whose job description was to maintain the trails but there were 30 people to maintain the parks.
- Mr. Gurulé said the City had grown and those staff also handled all arterial landscaping and trails and it had spread the staff thinner and thinner. One supervisor and five workers were strictly for trails maintenance.
- Mr. Rivera proposed an amendment to say, "Whereas increased trail connectivity is a benefit for providing for a viable means of transportation."
- Mr. Pacheco said BTAC was pretty clear this person should be specifically for trails maintenance volunteer coordination but not for parks.
 - Mr. Gurulé said he made that amendment.
 - Chair Bushee added that the budget was yet to happen.
 - Mr. Herdman commented that by recommending adopting Councilor Bushee's version, he was not

proposing that Councilor Calvert's resolution be adopted. He was sure that Parks didn't have adequate resources but trails had nobody and nothing for maintenance. They were desperately in need of maintenance. So a position broader than trails volunteerism would weaken that position.

Mr. Herdman clarified that he rejected amendment 1 and amendment 2 (in the packet).

Ms. Byers explained that when this went to the Finance Committee there would be an amendment sheet from Public Works and one from BTAC.

Chair Bushee agreed to take it off the consent agenda at the Finance Committee meeting on March 4.

Mr. Sigueiros said it would go to Council on March 13.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Byers said Councilor Calvert's resolution had already been adopted by Council.

Chair Bushee said BTAC didn't have to take action.

Mr. Rivera moved to take no action on Calvert's resolution. Mr. Pacheco seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

H. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Discussion Regarding MAP 21 Federal Transportation Authorization Bill (Keith Wilson)

Mr. Wilson provided a hand out on MAP 21 and said it described the transportation alternative program. Moving Ahead for Progress was a two-year program that would expire at the end of 2014. MAP 21's major changes were to try to create a streamlined, performance based multi-modal program. It included new categories. The MPO was guided by this legislation. The program consolidated many other programs like safe routes, scenic byways, trails, etc.

He thanked Kat Downing for the cover sheet she emailed to him today. Half of the money was population based and half was statewide. Transportation alternative projects were also eligible for other funds. Supposedly Congress was working on a continuing resolution after 2014. He referred to the URL link on transportation alternatives.

It was a competitive process and DOT was developing the criteria for it. Currently DOT would distribute the funds to MPOs and RPOs which were divided into each District. The amount was \$11 million.

The third box form bottom showed \$620,000 for Santa Fé MPO. Projects had to be submitted by September 30 so the state asked for shovel-ready projects so they could obligate the funds. On the last page was a list of those shovel-ready projects. \$800,000 was for the Rail Trail County portion. The Santa Fé Rail Trail project would fix the mud slides on the trail with a retaining wall.

In response to Mr. Longworth Mr. Wilson described the location of the Rail Trail there. He said next year they would use the TAP process as soon as DOT had finished the criteria but there would only be about \$30,000k to use. The Bike Coalition was writing letters to ask them to allocate the whole amount of TAP funding.

- Mr. Herdman asked if the \$619,000 was the money subject to the competitive process.
- Mr. Wilson said it would have been but they ignored it and chose to use enhancement funds. The projected would be prioritized by how well they met the criteria.
 - Mr. Herdman asked if there was any opportunity to influence what the criteria would be.
- Mr. Wilson saw a list and asked the DOT to not make it burdensome since the money amount was so small and the MPO had to administer the process.
 - Mr. Herdman asked if the MPO would make the selection.
- Mr. Wilson agreed but they could not be DOT or MPO projects. The city or county could apply for them.
 - Ms. Grogan understood a small proportion of the \$300,000 would go to the rural area.
- Mr. Wilson agreed either Tesuque or Santa Fé County. The urbanized area was based on the latest census and then the boundaries were smoothed.
 - Mr. Rivera asked if any of it could be used for operations or if it was all capital projects.
- Mr. Wilson read the list. Most was capital or infrastructure work. He didn't think it could be used for a volunteer coordinator.

He said the MPO wanted to maximize the funding options so they could identify as many projects as possible to take advantage of whatever funding was available. It could be for safety. By the end of March the shovel ready projects should be in the TIP. The County was on a fast track to get their project done as soon as possible.

Mr. Sigueiros asked for a list of the safe routes projects so he could include it in BCF application.

2. BTAC Subcommittee Updates

a. On-Road

This item was not considered.

b. Mountain Bike

This item was not considered.

c. Bike Education and Outreach

This item was not considered.

d. La Tierra Master Plan

This item was not considered.

I. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1. BTAC Request for Information Log

Mr. Siqueiros said he would have Eric Jenkins' presentation on the March 20 agenda.

J. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Bushee announced that the \$2 million budgeted for bus replacement was not needed for buses.

Mr. Siqueiros said it would be used for building repairs instead. The reallocation should be on the next agenda -

There was a brief discussion on Arroyo Chamiso repaving and the Las Montoyas urban trail.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Patti Bushee, Chair

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz, Stenographer