

BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2014 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 15, 2014
- E. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR
- F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES.
- G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION
 - 1. Committee Discussion and Action regarding the 2008 Bond Funds for Parks and Trails (Public Works Staff).
 - 2. A Resolution Directing Staff to Explore the Options for Constructing "Single Track and Stacked Loop" Trails in a 30 Minute Zone surrounding Santa Fe; Supporting Efforts for Santa Fe to be Designated as a Ride Center by the International Mountain Biking Association; and Calling on Santa Fe County and the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society to Support and Join the City of Santa Fe in such Efforts. (Councilor Patti Bushee) (Robert Siqueiros & Jim Luttjohann)
 - 3. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Status of Current Trail Projects (Eric Martinez/Leroy Pacheco).
 - 4. Review, Discussion and Action regarding the Current Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee Powers and Duties and Resolution 2010-33 (Bob Siqueiros).
 - 5. BTAC Subcommittee Updates:
 - On-Road
 - Mountain Bike
 - Bike Education and Outreach
 - La Tierra Master Plan
- H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS
- I. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS
- J. 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

January 19, 2014 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 Vice Chairman Frank Herdman on this date at approximately 5:30 p.m. in The Conference Room, Railyard market Station, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

B. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Frank Herdman
Gretchen Grogan
John Longworth
James Ronald Pacheco
Tomás Rivera
Shelley Robinson

Members Absent:

Joseph Abbatacola, [Excused] Patti Bushee, [Excused]

Staff Present:

Bob Siqueiros, Staff Liaison
Eric Martínez, Director of Roadways and Trails Engineering Division
Keith Wilson, Santa Fé MPO Senior Planner
Ike Pino, Public Works Director
Jason Kluck, Facilities Administrator, Public Works Division
Teresita Garcia, City Finance Department
Ben Gurulé, Parks Department Director
Leroy Pacheco, Public Works Division

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Ron Pacheco moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Grogan seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Grogan requested a change on page 14, third sentence that she had not made that statement about BTAC approval in 2010 because she was not on BTAC at that time. What she did say (in the fifth sentence) that "if we went back to the minutes, it would show whether BTAC had approved any of those allocations." She had asked Mr. Siqueiros to pull those minutes to see if that had happened.

Mr. Abbatacola moved to approve the minutes of January 15, 2014, as amended. Mr. Pacheco seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

E. CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Stephen Newhall they are working on clearing the rail trail under I-25. We should give thanks to whoever is responsible for that. It was looking really good so far.

Mr. Tim Rodgers said he was happy to be here and was now working with the Santa Fé Conservation Trust to organize volunteer efforts.

Vice-Chair Herdman welcomed his attendance at these meetings.

Mr. Rogers said Wednesdays were when he went mountain biking with friends so he was not staying long.

Vice-Chair Herdman thanked him for his work.

Mr. Rogers announced that March 7th was Dale Ball Day. March 7 was declared Dale Ball Day by the legislature last year. In 2014, we are going to celebrate it again with an event up at the corral at 1 p.m. Various folks would share words about how pivotal Dale Ball's efforts were. Dale and Sylvia Ball would be there. Then there would be a trail maintenance demonstration and a guided hike and guided mountain bike rides if conditions are good.

Vice-Chair Herdman thanks Mr. Rogers.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

Mr. Wilson said yesterday MPO did an email kickoff of the update of the transportation plan with a survey. They encouraged everyone to take the survey so it would help the MPO with information. They would be starting on the update in the coming months. June, 2015 is the planned completion date.

Regarding Mr. Newhall's comments he said the MPO got \$65,000 of federal funding enhancement funds for that project.

Mr. Abbatacola asked if that was the same survey as sent out six months ago.

- Mr. Wilson said no that was a pedestrian survey.
- Mr. Wilson said they were in the planning stages for Bike To Work Week. There would be activities and were in the process of fleshing it out.
 - Mr. Abbatacola asked if there would be a community ride.
 - Mr. Rogers added that there would be a community meeting next week.
- Mr. Wilson thought in the next month or so they should have things drafted and make sure that BTAC received the information.
 - Mr. Abbatacola thanked Mr. Wilson.

G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Committee Discussion and Action regarding the 2008 Bond Funds for Parks and Trails (Public Works Staff).

Vice-Chair Herdman said this was a carryover from the last meeting. He was asked if we should keep this on the agenda and he asked that it be on to make sure everyone had their say. If there was nothing further to be done he didn't want to keep staff here.

- Mr. Rivera said his understanding was that there was a resolution for an audit that had gone to Finance. Vice-Chair Herdman agreed and Mr. Siqueiros agreed.
- Ms. Grogan understood about that Committee that John (Longworth?) would be on was that they would come up with the scope of work for the audit.
 - Mr. Siqueiros agreed and said it goes to Council next.
 - Vice-Chair Herdman didn't have any specific action.
 - Mr. Rivera hadn't see the resolution but wanted to make sure BTAC was mentioned in it.
- Mr. Martinez said what he knew about the resolution was that the discussion about the scope of work committee was that it was amended to include POSAC for a member.
- Ms. Melessia Byers said they did add a POSAC member but it did not at this point include a member of BTAC.
 - Ms. Grogan said Mr. Longworth had agreed to join that committee.
 - Vice-Chair Herdman thought maybe there should be a revision that contemplated a member of BTAC

be on that.

Mr. Rivera moved that BTAC recommend to include a BTAC representative on that committee. Mr. Pacheco seconded the motion.

Vice-Chair Herdman suggested the language say that there was a member of BTAC that was actually willing to serve. He didn't want to ask that it be mandatory and then they couldn't fill the position. Mr. Rivera agreed.

Ms. Grogan thought they wanted someone from BTAC involved because they felt that some of the money involved was BTAC's and went to Parks.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Vice-Chair Herdman asked Mr. Siqueiros to see that this was passed on.

2. A Resolution Directing Staff to Explore the Options for Constructing "Single Track and Stacked Loop" Trails in a 30 Minute Zone surrounding Santa Fe; Supporting Efforts for Santa Fe to be Designated as a Ride Center by the International Mountain Biking Association; and Calling on Santa Fe County and the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society to Support and Join the City of Santa Fe in such Efforts. (Councilor Patti Bushee) (Robert Siqueiros & Jim Luttjohann)

Vice-Chair Herdman asked Mr. Siqueiros to provide some background on this.

Mr. Siqueiros said Councilor Bushee introduced this resolution. He had done some work on this detailed application. Someone had to come to us and request that we do the single track facilities for mountain bikes within 30 minutes of the city. After looking at the application he thought Santa Fé would do well. The Resolution goes to Finance on March 17th and then to City Council. A lot of the leg work had been done by the Fat Tire Society to ask the City to do this.

Mr. Newhall explained that single track was basically not a road width. A stacked loop was a series of trails that you could make small, medium or large or long rides out of. He was working on a proposal for the Forest Service now. The Fat Tire Society was working on this issue. This was stuff we could do ourselves and was the kind of work Mr. Rogers would be working on as well.

- Mr. Pacheco asked if La Tierra and Dale Ball didn't qualify now.
- Mr. Newhall agreed and close to 30 minutes for Lamy Trails as well.
- Mr. Abbatacola asked if that was 30 minutes to bike there or drive there.
- Mr. Newhall said it was to drive to. This came from a meeting 18 months ago. We have a chance to become a mountain bike Mecca and thought Santa Fé would get a designation.

- Vice-Chair Herdman asked how the project compared to La Tierra.
- Mr. Newhall thought they could do a 100 mile ride there at least 80 miles.
- Mr. Pacheco agreed there were a lot of trails out there now.
- Mr. Newhall said he was working with the Forest Service on that.
- Mr. Pacheco said he had ridden single track out there.
- Vice-Chair Herdman had always thought it was an untapped resource. He thought Ms. Byers could excuse herself from the meeting if she wanted to go.
 - Ms. Byers said she was here for something else as well.
- Mr. Luttjohann said the speaker before touched on a lot of the points he was going to speak to. It was important for tourism in that we have been challenged to drive a younger demographic to the City of Santa Fé. There were economic benefits and he highly supported this infrastructure. A study was done in 2009 that soft adventure travelers would stay 7 days.

There was a question if we already have some of this track. One of the requirements was that we have a dedicated trail not shared. This area works for that.

- Ms. Grogan said most single track trails were biking and hiking. Most of our trails were that.
- Mr. Luttjohann said he might have misread the fine print then.
- Ms. Grogan thought this should be a City/County joint resolution and that should be part of his effort. There were also trails in Arroyo Hondo.
- Mr. Luttjohann said in the conversations leading up to this resolution he did contact the County and received verbal support. The resolution did ask the City Clerk to send the resolution to the County.

Vice-Chair Herdman said they needed trails that could be used during the summer and fire season. These higher elevation trails would be closed due to fire risk.

Ms. Grogan said the Caja Trail was also owned by the Forrest Service. There were trails that were privately owned.

Vice-Chair Herdman said they just needed to convince the Forest Service to not just close everything. It was a very compelling issue. He thanked Mr. Luttjohann for any effort he could make at the County.

Mr. Wilson said the County did submit an application for a trail along the old El Camino Real. They had scaled it back some. The County was engaged in something related. He asked Mr. Siqueiros to make sure

that Lisa Roach gets a copy of the resolution when approved.

Vice-Chair Herdman asked if the Caja Road Trail was the La Tierra Road toward Buckman.

Mr. Wilson said the trail he was speaking of was going to integrate into those.

Mr. Leroy Pacheco said a presentation was made on this at the County Commission meeting.

Mr. Pacheco made a motion that BTAC support the concept of single track and stacked loop trails and build on existing resources and support the resolution as drafted. Ms. Grogan seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Status of Current Trail Projects (Eric Martinez/Leroy Pacheco)

Leroy Pacheco shared a power point presentation to briefly update BTAC on various stages of projects he was working on. The Acequia Trail he had been working on since 2009 and it was almost done. It was 1,300 feet and starting next week they would be putting up chain link fence. He thought it would turn out nicely.

Ms. Robinson asked if chain link was the only option.

Leroy Pacheco said the owners wanted that.

He said BTAC members might have seen the invitation next Thursday from 5 - 8 for the open underpass and invited them all to attend. He introduced some folks from Radian Engineering who were working on this project. They were Carlos Padilla and Carmen Silva. We had a meeting with neighborhood to discuss the bridges. These would be pedestrian bridges. We have an approved scope. The meeting went very well. The only new element not in the scope was that people wanted to see lightening. Lightening was in the bike master plan. He briefly explained what that was. They would cross Oñate and Katherine streets.

Ms. Grogan reasoned that these bridges would link the Acequia Trail to the neighborhoods.

Moving into design was a connection of Harrison to Rodriguez Brothers Park. It was a design challenge because of the drainage issue.

Carmen Silva said in their discussion the City staff told us the structure there was undersized and frequently got flooded. They were not sure what would be done regarding the project but had been identified that as a future need.

Ms. Grogan asked if funding for this was coming out of bond funds.

Leroy Pacheco said it was coming from 2012 bond funds for the Acequia Trail and the River Trail.

They were trying to solve connectivity between the two using Cristobal Colon and Agua Fria. BTAC was the first public forum they were presenting these concepts to. He welcomed their feedback.

One concept was putting in bike loop detectors and the other concept was a roundabout. The point was considering changes to the enormous intersection what kind of geometric changes and improvements could be done. They didn't have a solution yet. He oriented the BTAC on the map and explained that they were just looking at the possibilities.

Vice-Chair Herdman asked what the reasoning was for the roundabout.

Carmen Silva explained that it would help formalize movement.

Leroy Pacheco said the point was to depict the roundabout. They could have also depicted other choices. It was a very large intersection and more controlled by vehicular movement.

Vice-Chair Herdman asked about the connector to the River Trail.

Leroy Pacheco said originally they were looking at taking a trail through the park. But this would be more cost effective.

Vice-Chair Herdman understood this was all preliminary. He thought roundabouts were intimidating to most cyclists and he might have a concern about a roundabout.

Ms. Robinson asked, since the Acequia Trail had been finished, if that intersection been improved on Baca.

Leroy Pacheco said they gave the option of getting over Baca with a pedestrian raised cross walk. The bicyclists could do that and we also gave them an on-road option. He believed that sometimes challenging configurations made people be more aware and not on auto pilot. They were getting mainly positive feedback.

Mr. Pacheco said he rode this area. It was an intersection of three roads. He thought a roundabout would be overkill. One road was not much traveled and it would just complicate that intersection. It made more sense where he drove daily If there was money to do these things he wondered if there was money to do some other projects. Vice-Chair Herdman made a good point. A roundabout was intimidating.

Leroy Pacheco said they were still working on developing the scope on this so he thought he would mention this. Feel free to give us guidance.

Leroy Pacheco went on to the missing link of the Rail Trail between Alta Vista and Pen Road. They had a well-attended public meeting last week. It was completely funded through design and he believed also the construction. He mentioned a walk signal. Mr. Rivera asked what that was.

Mr. Wilson said the walk signal was a pedestrian hybrid beacon or a partial traffic signal.

- Mr. Pacheco said it was similar to what was at Tomasita's.
- Mr. Wilson disagreed. This one had a regulatory red.

Leroy Pacheco said this project was about a third of a mile and gets us to St. Francis Drive.

Ms. Grogan asked how pedestrians and cyclists would get across St. Francis.

Leroy Pacheco said they were working on that with engineers now. At the end of the calendar year the design might be done.

Ms. Grogan asked how this was linking up with the little section from Pen Road to St. Francis.

Leroy Pacheco said it was off-road with the intention that it would be continuous and integrated.

Ms. Grogan asked if they wouldn't have to rip up any infrastructure from a few years ago.

Leroy Pacheco said maybe 50 feet of sidewalk where they needed to add on.

Ms. Robinson asked if this would be all one project.

Leroy Pacheco agreed.

Ms. Grogan appreciated that the City was finishing this section but there were more important crossings like at 2nd Street and St. Michaels.

Leroy Pacheco didn't know that he would concur or disagree with her on that. The City and DOT were working on those issues.

- Ms. Grogan said it was hard to cross St. Michaels Drive. She thought those were phase A projects.
- Mr. Wilson said regarding St. Michaels that they put in a highway safety improvement program application to get funding on that. DOT chose to look at funding a study. A draft would be available in March for our review. Whatever comes from that, the DOT thinks they would be able to fund.
 - Ms. Grogan asked about Second Street.
 - Mr. Wilson said there were issues with curb ramps and complications, looking at lights, etc.
- Ms. Grogan asked if all those intersections were part of Phase A. We have heard from the public that folks think those were dangerous intersections.
 - Mr. Pacheco added that Zia was too.
 - Mr. Wilson said Zia at St Francis had a study and we were waiting for results of that.

Mr. Martinez thought the underlying message was that things were happening.

Vice-Chair Herdman said it was good to see that the master plan was being implemented.

Ms. Robinson said she really cared about the process. What Leroy was presenting was the last part of the trails.

4. Review, Discussion and Action regarding the Current Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee Powers and Duties and Resolution 2010-33 (Bob Siqueiros)

Vice-Chair Herdman asked, in light of the time if they would like to look this over. It was very important.

- Ms. Grogan asked why it was on the agenda.
- Mr. Siqueiros said Councilor Bushee wanted to look at the resolution that established BTAC.
- Ms. Grogan asked if pedestrians were part of BTAC powers.
- Mr. Siqueiros said that was what he got from the old minutes.

Mr. Rivera noted one of the whereas statements in the resolution referred to the Santa Fé Walks document. His only concern was that the next city council meeting was the last one before the election. Time considerations for this to go through.

Mr. Rivera moved to table this matter to the March meeting.

Mr. Pacheco noted the resolution said a councilor had to be chair.

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

5. BTAC Subcommittee Updates:

a. On-Road

This update was not considered.

b. Mountain Bike

This update was not considered.

c. Bike Education and Outreach

This update was not considered.

d. La Tierra Master Plan

This update was not considered.

H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

- Mr. Siqueiros announced the next meeting was on March 19th.
- Mr. Abbatacola excused himself from the meeting.

I. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

- Mr. Rivera spoke about his interview and chain breakers. They put together a voter guide. He got a very sweet call from a lady who walks trails a lot and had almost been knocked over by bikes. She was interested in buying bells and putting them on bikes. She asked him to ask people not to be rude and knock over little old ladies.
 - Ms. Robinson said she would not be at the meeting next month.
- Ms. Grogan said on the list of BTAC members it showed her term as starting in 2000 but it started in 2010. Maybe it should also have her gmail address instead of the old one.
- Mr. Siqueiros said they would have to reinstate everyone after the election since the election included a new mayor.
- Mr. Pacheco most of the people at the open house found that people were in favor of an on-road crossing but the idea of going under the highway was not popular. They did not like the idea of an underpass. The Councilor there made a case for it and 2 or 3 people liked it but it was not popular with the majority.
- Ms. Grogan slightly disagreed. What he said about the public was correct. But she got the impression from Brian Drypolcher that they were considering all options including underpass and bridge. They going to do an analysis to determine which option was the best one.
 - Mr. Siqueiros agreed to get an update at the next meeting.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p. m.

Approved by:

Patti Bushee, Chair

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.