



Agenda

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BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, August 15, 2012 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 *July 18, 2012*

E. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES.

G. DISCUSSION.

- 1) Discussion and Action Regarding Hybrid Option(s) of the St. Francis Crossing (Acequia Trail to Rail Trail/Railyard Development.
- 2) Continued Presentation and Discussion Regarding Trail Funding Status - La Tierra Trails Master Plan. (Eric Martinez)
- 3) Discussion and Action regarding CIP #844B - Camino De Las Crucitas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project. (Le Ann Valdez)
- 4) Discussion Regarding the September 20, 2012 Joint Meeting with Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee and County Open Lands, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee - COLTPAC (Bob Siqueiros)
- 5) Discussion and Action Regarding the Location and Placement of Bike Racks (Bob Siqueiros).
- 6) BTAC Subcommittee Updates:
 - On-Road
 - Mountain Bike
 - Bike Education and Outreach
 - La Tierra Master Plan

H. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

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

I. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

J. ADJOURNMENT

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BICYCLE & TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
August 15, 2012

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MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FÉ
BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 15, 2012
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

At 5:30, two members of BTAC were present and 14 other people.

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 5:37 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:

Patti Bushee, Chair
Frank Herdman, Vice Chair
Gretchen Grogan
John Longworth
Lisa Miles
James Ronald Pacheco
Shelley Robinson

Members Absent:

Alicia Martínez
Tomás Rivera [excused]

Staff Present:

Bob Siqueiros
Eric Martínez
Le Ann Valdez
Leroy Pacheco
James Martínez

Chair Bushee arrived at 5:41 and assumed chairing the meeting.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Siqueiros said the City Council wanted BTAC to postpone the St. Francis Crossing item.
Chair Bushee thought they could consider it at the September meeting. Council wanted to hear about

all options including no-build. She suggested if possible to have visual models here and give one more pass at it and try to advertise it in some way.

Mr. Pacheco moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Herdman seconded the motion.

Ms. Grogan said they really needed to get the word out. Chair Bushee agreed.

Mr. Herdman couldn't remember how many workshops he had been to on it. So getting people to show up needed an extra big effort.

Mr. Longworth asked if information on the no-build option would be provided about what would happen to the money.

Chair Bushee said BTAC could discuss it if Mr. Pacheco wanted to withdraw the motion.

Mr. Longworth clarified that he was just asking what would happen with the \$5,000 set aside for it.

Chair Bushee said those questions were asked at the Public Works Committee meeting. There were consultants but didn't know how long the City would continue to pay them. September 20 was the next meeting.

Mr. Longworth asked if BTAC was having a joint meeting then.

Mr. Siqueiros said the joint meeting would be in October.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from July 18, 2012

Mr. Longworth requested a change on page 4, first paragraph, last sentence to delete "three" for scheduled group rides.

There were no other corrections requested.

Ms. Miles moved to approve the July 18, 2012 BTC minutes as amended. Ms. Grogan seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

E. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Ms. Kat Downing apologized for missing the last meeting but at a previous meeting Margaret made a plea for funding for a trails coordinator. She had volunteered for many years and as Santa Fé was becoming a Bicycle Friendly Community we really need a coordinator particularly for volunteer resources. She just wanted to repeat what Margaret had said. It was important.

Regarding the Zia tunnel there was supposed to be a big ribbon-cutting ceremony and she hope the public could have information about the St. Francis Crossing at Cerrillos at that event and use it as opportunity for feedback on the four options.

Ms. Bette Booth (POSAC Chair) said she and Ms. Mills and Mr. Siqueiros and Beth had been working hard "to herd the cats and find a day." They were now aiming for Oct 22, 23, 24 or 25 and perhaps BTAC could prioritize those dates.

POSAC had also talked about getting a volunteer coordinator and it was also on the COLTPAC agenda for the County too.

She was happy to see Crucitas was on the agenda. POSAC would support public processes.

Mr. Siqueiros said the joint meeting would be either at the Convention Center or Warehouse 21.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

Mr. Tim Felder, President of the Fat Tire Society and liaison to IMBA said they were working through issues. For group rides to La Tierra they were asking for a special event permit from NMDOT to avoid a circus crossing at NM-599. He talked with Leroy Pacheco to put in a dirt or wilderness trail and would be working with Terry for a similar special use permit.

Chair Bushee had conversations with City bike cops who were willing to help if needed.

Mr. Herdman asked if he was aware of where that trail would be.

Mr. Felder said there would be a permanent paved trail from Camino de las Montoyas working over to the west box culvert going under NM 599 and west of the Unity Church.

Mr. Eric Martínez said they would need to coordinate that with Reuben Chávez.

Mr. Felder said he had done that.

Mr. Martínez said he could help.

Mr. Felder said with Leroy Pacheco they would use the alignment of the permanent trail.

Mr. Herdman cautioned that people assumed traffic was clear but it was a long crossing. And someone might get killed there.

Mr. Longworth asked if there was any role for the MPO to coordinate this. Mr. Wilson agreed.

Mr. Longworth asked if there was a way to develop a relationship to get them invited. There were three

separate events with groups during IMBA - La Tierra, Dale Ball and on Saturday down Hyde Park Road.

Mr. Felder said he would be happy to talk with the police about it.

His second point was especially for riders to and from the Dale Ball and La Tierra trails - they would provide temporary signs. The rides would be led but with a map provided to attendees who wanted to ride trails on their own for people here for the first time. The city's schedule for permanent signs wouldn't be ready by October 1 or maybe they could be accelerated.

Mr. Siqueiros agreed to email Mr. Felder about it.

Ms. Grogan asked if they would accept help with installing signage.

Mr. Felder was hopeful DOT would sign off and they could do it in about a half day. They would provide signs on Hyde Park from ski area and marking intersections. Pointing people to Ft. Marcy.

Chair Bushee wanted a September joint meeting before IMBA. It sounded like staff needed to co-ordinate it. NM599 was with the county too.

Ms. Robinson asked how many were coming.

Mr. Felder said they had 350 registered so far.

Mr. Martínez said the City had 2 small message boards and could coordinate with Rick Devine. He would have to ask the state about Hyde Park Road.

Ms. Kerry Helke, IMBA representative, said she spoke to a person at DOT who said the state didn't loan them out but she got the names of two companies from whom they could rent some. He didn't have any issue with having a sign on Hyde Park Road but couldn't use their message boards.

Mr. Charlie O'Leary, Santa Fé Conservation Trust had a follow up on an email he previously sent out about the SW Trails Conference on Wednesday, October 10. A lot of local non-profits would be there and he wanted to invite BTAC members to speak, or sit on a panel, or help with volunteering, etc. He agreed to send it out again.

Ms. Downing said they were coordinating with the NM Bicycle Coalition and Bicycle Educators of New Mexico, Santa Fé agreed to host the New Mexico Bicycle Educators Summit for its fifth annual conference in late October and thanked BTAC for making Frenchy's Park available for that. It would be a three-day event (Friday - Sunday) and two weeks after the IMBA summit. She would provide more details later.

G. DISCUSSION:

1) Discussion and Action Regarding Hybrid Option(s) of the St. Francis Crossing (Acequia Trail to Rail Trail/Railyard Development.

This item was postponed.

2) Continued Presentation and Discussion Regarding Trail Funding Status - La Tierra Trails Master Plan. (Eric Martínez)

Mr. Martínez introduced Ms. LeAnn Valdez who would discuss the Las Crucitas project and also Mr. James Martínez present who was recently hired as a project administrator. He added that Ms. Claudia Horn was also present for questions on La Tierra Trails.

In the package there were several things including the implementation time line. This was a summary of projects they plan to implement in advance or concurrently with IMBA. On the right hand side in red were estimated costs (funds needed to complete). The total was \$700,000. He listed them for the Committee. Those were projects currently in process. Also in the packet was the MP projects list. This was the benchmark on what they were building or would build. It attempted to show what projects had been completed or were ongoing or programmed. Some in the list have strike throughs to convey they were completed, in process or programmed. All the rest have yet to be programmed. \$1.3 million was the total estimate for that list.

Last time he shared how much was left from the 2008 parks bond. In the project completed and programmed, \$215,000 remained to build any other project in the MP.

Chair Bushee noticed the multi-use regional trail dog park to NM599 connector trail and asked if that was the same as Las Crucitas.

Mr. Martínez explained it would be an extension to provide a connector from the dog park to NM599.

Chair Bushee asked if the dog park at La Tierra had been built.

Ms. Horn said it had not. It would be only a half mile away from this one so it was not needed. No dog park was needed at La Tierra.

Chair Bushee asked what the nature trail on the northeast corner was.

Ms. Horn said the nature preserve was on the location of the old archery site. They purposely held off on any other thing out there. It was restored for a nature preserve. There was a dilapidated building with electricity there.

Chair Bushee asked if there were any other projects on the list that were contemplated now not to be built.

Ms. Horn said all the ones with red dots on the right were not planned to be built. Moving from the MP approval to implementation, they were given direction on which ones had a higher priority and those better accessed safely. They went through public meetings to Public Works and then to BTAC.

Chair Bushee asked if any of them had priority.

Mr. Martínez said the MP estimates always have exceeded the bond funds allocated so we always knew there were more projects than money available.

Chair Bushee understood that but, for instance, the Pipeline event parking had a black dot on projects not currently programmed. She asked if they could jettison some of these or if they were all going forward.

Mr. Martínez said he would give recommendations to the Committee and if more funds were available they would move them forward at that time. Many projects were driven by input and some by the IMBA conference.

Chair Bushee asked if the parking lot at \$250,000 was in the plan.

Ms. Horn said they were looking at current events out there like the Torture and working with the planners. They were trying to keep cars out of La Tierra so that it was purely a recreation zone. The Torture needed space for about a hundred cars to park and they didn't have that parking capacity so they looked for a design on site and would need direction if that was a higher priority than some others.

Chair Bushee was concerned that parking equaled parties.

Ms. Horn said this would be parking internal to the trails where people would only get access for special events and otherwise be locked. Trail Jam and Torture were the events.

Ms. Robinson said these events were a good time to see how much parking was needed. It was not a good road. It was thought of in creation of the MP and then we could have an event. The trails over there were so popular and the parks so we could see some rise to a higher priority.

Mr. Martínez asked the Committee to keep in mind that the MP was a big picture approach to needs or possible needs. Not every project on the plan would make it to construction as there were fiscal constraints or might be technically not feasible or unpopular. Each had to be evaluated on the merits of the plan. IMBA was a big driver in projects now.

Mr. Pacheco said as the new bond becomes available he wanted to make sure they didn't drain all of them here. If a parking lot was needed then it had to be looked at. All the bond money could be spent at La Tierra and that would neglect the rest.

Mr. Herdman said obviously \$250,000 would not cover that \$1.3 million list. Mr. Martínez agreed.

Mr. Herdman felt parking was a potential threat to the facility. Cars got parked helter skelter and sort of created new roads that damaged the area. His first priority was the connector trail he thought would provide a great experience. It would be really unfortunate not to have the connectivity. He had envisioned signs to direct people to the trails. He worried about people getting killed at Las Montoyas. He envisioned a softer trail.

Chair Bushee asked if it had to be a paved parking lot.

Ms. Horn said none of them were paved.

Chair Bushee asked where the regional trail was.

Ms. Horn identified it on the map. It was #3 from the east side of Las Montoyas from the new Frijoles trail head near the water tank up the hill to the skull tower. It was an off-road trail. This was north of 599 and the other segment was south of 599.

Chair Bushee said they needed some kind of trail from the river with signage or a shoulder out that way.

Mr. Leroy Pacheco said south of 599 to Milagro would be an urban trail so it was a beginning of making that connection. It would be off-road in city land and non-motorized.

Chair Bushee said that the intersection at Buckman was terrible visually for cars and bikes. Las Montoyas needed to be paved but there was no money for shoulders.

Mr. Martinez said the Traffic Division found the views to be adequate.

Mr. Leroy Pacheco said once they get the trail from 599 south to Milagro, it was city land south of Frank Ortiz dog park and they had laid out an alignment. The mode was by foot or mountain bike. They would continue to seek for the sweet spot. Milagro was the first city street south of 599 west of Montoyas. There were a lot of connectivity options out there.

Mr. Herdman supported the facility and thought it was great. There were a lot of people out there.

Mr. Martínez said his report was just to let BTAC know where we were and what monies were left.

3) Discussion and Action regarding CIP #844B - Camino De Las Crucitas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project. (Le Ann Valdez)

Chair Bushee said pedestrians were very interested in Crucitas but bicycles were too. Mr. Martínez was looking at impact fee funds for it.

Mr. Martínez agreed. This was the first time they had mentioned impact fees funding. Staff looked at improvements on the north side of Crucitas for many years. It was going uphill and the sidewalk was on the sunny side of the road. Those were the primary elements. There was a large retaining wall to cut into. They included an option to provide additional traffic calming near the dog park north of the northern entry to dog park.

Mr. Ron Pacheco said staff talked about the other side of Crucitas not being accessible to the sun. But

it was risky with no ice and with ice was even more risky. It needed to be safer coming down that hill. When icy it was a serious risk. Not having sun was not a good reason for not doing it but a reason for doing it.

Mr. Martinez said they would be happy to do it on both sides but had budget constraints.

Chair Bushee asked if there was even room for that.

Mr. Martínez said he would have to refer to the guidelines to determine that.

Chair Bushee reminded him that was our connection to La Tierra.

Mr. Martínez said even with a bike lane you would have ice to contend with and it would increase costs. He noted that in the packet was the AASHTO design for this circumstance. Something of this nature was precedential as an option.

Ms. Robinson thought the uphill side was a real dilemma. It would take a lot in building up that wall so price was a real issue. She wondered if the road could be moved away from the hill.

Chair Bushee said there were drainage issues. She said it was to find an answer for how you can get people to the dog park safely. They were also missing a link from the River Trail to Las Montoyas.

Mr. Martínez said the connection was discussed in the MP. In the packet was a drawing "optional location." You could see two crosswalks in that area both of which have adequate site distance. That was to address Mr. Herdman's concern that the bike lane ends. The sidewalk and land would go to Graham.

He envisioned a lane and a sidewalk as the design from dog park to 599. He added that it would have to go on the TIP.

Mr. Martínez spoke briefly on impact fees funding. He described the qualifications. He would go to the advisory committee and ask for their approval.

Chair Bushee wanted to know what it would cost for a bike lane on Crucitas. It would improve the area.

Mr. Martínez said he could follow through on that. He recommended taking it in steps. The extra speed hump was because they got lots of feedback about speed. These other improvements would add about \$15,000 to the project cost. Impact fee use would require approval by the Governing Body.

Ms. Miles said where the bike lane ended should have a sharrow right there for the cyclist to feel confident in taking the lane. That was a sticky area.

Mr. Herdman asked what the status was on priorities for the new bond money.

Mr. Martínez explained they wanted to first complete the 2008 bond funds and then looking at an early

implementation plan. They were in discussions for a draft implementing plan for committee review.

Chair Bushee said that money was very general and the City needed to be careful on it.

Mr. Pacheco thanked Mr. Martinez for his hard work – just wanted to recognize you and city staff - thanks.

Ms. Grogan seconded that. She noted there was about \$2 million in impact fees now and asked if that was supposed to be used to increase capacity of roads.

Mr. Martinez said there were different categories including roads, fire and police.

Ms. Grogan speculated there were not many dollars coming in now because of the economy.

Mr. Martinez said it was in the tens of thousands per quarter now.

Ms. Grogan hoped they could take a quarter out of that fund just for Crucitas.

Mr. Siqueiros said money was added with almost every building permit and a certain percentage goes into the road fund.

Ms. Grogan wondered if this would be a priority for the committee administering those funds. In the MPO-MP there was a widening of Crucitas from Michelle to Buckman in Phase A. So it could be considered out of 2012 bond funds. It was estimated at \$56,000.

Mr. Wilson said the MP used standard costs and didn't take into account the need for retaining walls. The MP was at a conceptual level. The budget was just to add 5' of pavement. Santa Fé, as a small MPO, didn't have control over the use of any of the funds. They had to negotiate with DOT and didn't have control over any of their funds. They were trying to make sure all new facilities comply with Complete Streets standards. Lots of it would go through competitive bids.

Ms. Grogan felt that if this was not an appropriate project for the Impact Fees funds maybe it could come from the next CIP.

Chair Bushee said they were ready to go and BTAC had been holding him up.

Mr. Martinez said they could use some remaining funds to get to the 599 portion.

Mr. Ron Pacheco moved to request impact fees for this project. The 215 would be considered for La Tierra action as a separate action.

Ms. Robinson said people wanted this connection to La Tierra under 599 so badly.

Ms. Robinson didn't know that \$300,000 would take the trail from the dog park to Milagro.

Mr. Martínez also had reservations but it would fund a study for Dog Park to Milagro.

Mr. Longworth asked for the time line.

Mr. Martínez said the only rush was that we have to spend down the bond funds or be assessed a penalty. He suggested that he could come back.

Mr. Longworth asked how long it takes to allocate those funds to a project. Staff was busy during the summer. He asked if they could consider it in October.

Chair Bushee said the impact fee money had been sitting there longer than the 2008 money.

Mr. Longworth thought the BTAC had a chance to commit it tonight.

Mr. Herdman said it seemed like a small amount of road work tonight if BTAC thought it would be a prudent course of action.

Mr. Martínez said the City always liked a contingency in a bid so they would have sufficient money available. The \$700,000 on the list had some cushion and for sure they would like an additional cushion.

Chair Bushee asked if he would be willing to come back with a presentation on it.

Mr. Martínez said he could sometime after IMBA when they were comfortable with the numbers - then to dedicate remaining funds to another project.

Ms. Robinson asked if the connection through the underpass might not be finished by IMBA if it would be at least underway. If this money could help finish it that would be wonderful.

Mr. Martínez said Leroy said we would pray and hope the stars were in alignment to get it done. There were permitting and processes that slow it down. They were trying to get it through in time for IMBA. So with a cautious optimism they were trying but it was hard to say they were going to meet that deadline.

Mr. Pacheco moved to request impact fee money to fund the sidewalk, trail and retaining wall on La Crucitas and move forward with it - asking the Advisory Committee to use it with option 3 and a raised sidewalk for \$15,000. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion.

Mr. Martínez clarified that option #3 was the multi-modal option.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Booth said POSAC was here to support BTAC in this discussion. Let things unfold because there were always hidden costs. It was contingency and there was a lot of build-out to go.

Also there had been a feeling that in Santa Fé you say you would spend it on this but it ends up with

whatever the councilors decide. This wasn't just patched together. A lot of people worked hard on the plan. We would have to hold that boundary and say these were what the citizens spent a year putting together. So keep the vision.

Mr. Pacheco excused himself from the meeting at this time.

4) Discussion Regarding the September 20, 2012 Joint Meeting with Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee and County Open Lands, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee - COLTPAC (Bob Siqueiros)

The BTAC Committee recommended Wednesday, October 24 or Tuesday 23rd.

5) Discussion and Action Regarding the Location and Placement of Bike Racks (Bob Siqueiros).

Chair Bushee reported that Mr. Siqueiros found at least \$5,000 for this project.

Mr. Siqueiros said it might be \$7,000. We were purchasing light bulbs at Rail yard for parks so we could purchase bike racks.

Mr. Siqueiros captured three photos of bike racks downtown. His recommendation was that the Committee allow him to look into in-street or off-street racks. They would typically on the side of the street that had parking. The type we would use was in the MPO MP - the U or W shape.

The portals downtown were on public ROW. There was also a design for using a parking space for bike racks in the street. He would identify the best locations downtown. If BTAC approves it, he could start putting them in. It would cost less than \$600 to install each one. So maybe there could be 10 bike racks downtown.

Mr. Herdman moved to authorize Mr. Siqueiros to proceed with the bike rack project. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion.

Chair Bushee suggested he could get with Debra Garcia y Griego because Arts had the money.

Ms. Grogan thought they should include Cerrillos Road too.

Chair Bushee commented that they were doing better with bike racks on the south side because they were now required in new developments.

Ms. Robinson thought it might happen before IMBA. And maybe they could celebrate at least one of them.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

H. BTAC Subcommittee Updates:

1) On-Road

This was not considered.

2) Mountain Bike

This was not considered.

3) Bike Education and Outreach

This was not considered.

4) La Tierra Master Plan

This was not considered.

I. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1) BTAC Request for Information Log (Bob Siqueiros)

Mr. Siqueiros said the impact fees do collect a lot of money. When Drury Hotel gets their permit it would probably be half million in impact fees.

J. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Robinson reported that the new head of MVD was a cyclist. He had seen what had been added and felt it was really good for education.


K. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Approved by:

Patti Bushee, Chair

Submitted by:



Carl Boaz, Stenographer