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Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee
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June 20, 2018

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**BICYCLE AND TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
City Council Chambers 200 Lincoln Ave. Santa Fe
June 20, 2018 – 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
MEETING MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler, called the meeting of the Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee to order at 5:08 p.m. at the City Council Chambers in Santa Fe, New Mexico. A quorum was established with roll call.

2. ROLL CALL

Present:

Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler, Chair
Jennifer Wellington
Charlie O'Leary
Preston Martin
Stephen Newhall
Gretchen Grogan
Tomas Rivera

Absent/Excused:

Staff & Others Present:

Leroy Pacheco, Staff Liaison
Mark Tibbetts, MPO
Officer Raymond Casias, SF Police Department
Tim Rogers, Santa Fe Conservation Trust
Linda Vigil, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Pacheco noted at the bottom of the agenda the next meeting will be July 18, 2018. It is incorrect on the agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Martin moved to approve the agenda as amended with a second from Mr. O'Leary which passed by voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM May 16, 2018

Ms. Grogan will abstain as she was not present at last month's meeting.

MOTION: Mr. O'Leary moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second from Mr. Martin which passed by voice vote.

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION FROM THE FLOOR

Shelly Maureen Sloan discussed the area near the Farmer's Market on Paseo de Peralta. During the Farmer's Market there are crossing guards, however during the week there is no one and it gets dangerous. Perhaps a crosswalk with flashing lights would help.

Also, Ms. Sloan discussed the trail from the San Isidro from the Fire Department to Siler she rides it often and there is a mile where she has to use Agua Fria which is dangerous. She would like to know when that can be finished.

Dean Frye a member of the BTAC Off Road Subcommittee, Fat Tire Society, and the Core Crew. He spoke to the NW Quadrant remaining funds and wanted to express how confused and frustrated he is with the process. He attended meetings when they discovered the funds and a year lapsed. When the off road subcommittee met they were under the impression that the funds would go to the La Tierra Trail. Now it seems it is going elsewhere.

Mr. Frye also discussed that City Council has to approve the project and it's unclear why it has to be approved. Most of the City Council was not in office at the time of the original bond issuance.

6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

a. Public Safety Report

Officer Raymond Casias with SFPD was here this evening in place of Sgt. McCord. There was nothing to report, however there were questions and comments from the Committee.

Chair Vigil Coppler discussed the bicycle safety report as presented at Public Works and it was well received.

Mr. Pacheco mentioned the ATV use at La Tierra. Mr. Casias states there is an enforcement there at this time. They have stumbled on citations and they were dismissed due to a lot of private property. They now have a map distinguishing them now.

Mr. Pacheco stated there was a 60 acre in that area that was permitted for ATV's. Mr. Casias states there are trails for ATVs now.

Ms. Grogan discussed the article and expressed her confusion on the report because cyclists were shown to have caused most of the accidents mostly in the failure to yield. But the citations state the motorists were cited for failure to yield. Ms. Grogan states the way it was portrayed in the article that cyclists weren't being responsible, she thinks that is a misrepresentation from what was in the report.

Ms. Grogan also mentioned the bike facilities are being taken away. It is a City issue. She would like to see a similar report done by the County.

Ms. Wellington asked that the tool Sgt. McCord discussed at the last meeting for an update on the status. Officer Casias will relay the message.

Mr. Martin thanked the SFPD for their help with the Bike Week activities. The glow ride was a huge success.

b. Santa Fe MPO

Mr. Tibbets introduced himself and the role of the MPO. Mr. Tibbetts discussed the Resolution for the Walk Friendly application. There was a scorecard that is included in the packet. (See Exhibit A)

Mr. Tibbetts stated out of six categories they got “needs attention” which is the lowest level of scoring. The planning was fine but they need projects lined up to get that score up. Other areas that need attention were enforcement and engineering, evaluation and education.

He is working with Public Works and the new ADA Coordinator to get a list of projects going for the pedestrian master plan. The next application should get the designation. Now that they pointed out areas to focus on. They need the complete streets plan to be made as well.

Mr. Tibbets feels strongly that when looking for new members that they get stronger representation for pedestrians, in the subcommittees as well. They share a lot of the same issues with bicyclists.

Mr. Tibbetts states they have a new hire who worked on the Farmington Complete Streets Plan. One of the original resolutions mentions having a full time pedestrian coordinator and possibly a name change for the Committee. So that is something to consider.

Mr. O'Leary asked if he has shared with the Council that they were not given the designation. Mr. Tibbets states he gave an update to the application committee, once things settle a bit he will discuss further. There will be a new director of Public Works and she shares the same concerns for bicycle and pedestrians.

Mr. O'Leary asked about sidewalk safety. Mr. Tibbets states the sidewalks are in dire need of work and the crossings are also in need of work. There are markings but no striping for motorists. Mr. Tibbetts agrees with the citizen who commented on the crosswalk and agrees flashing lights or lifting the area by the tracks would help slow down traffic.

Mr. O'Leary asked if it was an engineering problem or who can they talk to in order to get solutions. Mr. Tibbets stated the traffic engineering department does and they will work together and bring it up.

Ms. Grogran discussed the application for the Going for the Gold had its own subcommittee to upgrade the status. They did not get Gold but there were sections that correspond to education and enforcement it was phrased differently. She thinks if BTAC and MPO can come together on the complete streets ordinance that would make a difference.

Mr. Tibbetts discussed the speed differential is also an issue for safety. They can work together on ideas for it. He is looking forward to working with BTAC and the subcommittees.

Ms. Wellington stated she has some acquaintances that bike a lot in the City. They were waiting to cross St. Michael's Drive. There were three cars, one car stopped and there was an accident and they felt responsible. It is a very dangerous intersection. The city and the NMDOT need to agree to decide who takes over. If there is a project for a tunnel pending, but until then they are putting a lot of people at risk.

Mr. Newhall thanked the MPO for the bike maps. He discussed the sidewalk in front of his condo there is a nice sidewalk there is an area that just ends and there isn't much walking room. Mr. Tibbetts states he just spoke about that issue. He discovered that the City requests the property owners are responsible. If there is an ADA complaint then its federally handled. They will look at that issue it will have to be more enforced in the ordinance or get public funds. The process right now is to contact Constituent Services.

Chair Vigil Coppler thanked Mr. Tibbets and she will bring up the score card to Council.

c. City Trails Coordinator Report

Mr. Rogers states the report is in the packet. (See Exhibit A) In May they were in a contract issue with the Parks Department. The current contract ends on June 30 and Parks has a new director. Mr. Rogers contacted the Deputy City Manager who worked with them to put together on an extension while the RFP comes out.

Mr. O'Leary asked if Richard Thompson will be retained. Mr. Rogers stated yes he is the division director for parks there is a separate one for recreation. He will remain in that position.

Mr. Rogers discussed the ATV issue they identified last year and they stopped appearing. There have been some reports of issues near junction 6.

Mr. Rogers attended a webinar where he learned about federal funds for transportation

which could be helpful when looking for funds.

Mr. Rogers commented on the data given by SFPD, when he worked in epidemiology there were many cases that were unreported. He thinks it is raw data, it needs to be qualified and analyzed.

Mr. Rogers reported trails were closed due to fire restrictions. They closed the city trails that lead to the county trails that lead to the forest. He informed the City that he was going to open one trail.

Mr. Rogers reported that May was Bike month. Bike week was a success, the Southside cruise, bike to school day had a convoy out to the community college. The history cruise was great. The field trips were also successful. In the report he showed them broken down by season. In the fall they will continue the field trips

Mr. Rogers reported that the Vamanos walks are still happening. He encouraged the BTAC members to look at the schedule and join a walk.

Mr. Rogers states he has been working with the off and on road subcommittees to discuss the shoulders that have been striped. Mr. Rogers was able to talk with the Mayor at the event in Tierra Contenta there will be more walks one with BTAC Chair in July.

Mr. Rogers reported tomorrow is Dump the Pump day there will be a celebration at the Southside transit station the bus is free all day. The county will hold an event at Frenchie's to Siler to open a new trail. Mr. Rogers is meeting with parks tomorrow to discuss the Bike ride to the Swan park for movie night. They would like to have partners to help.

Mr. Rivera asked about extra materials for trails. Mr. Rogers stated they could use culverts. He can ask his counterpart at the County and get in contact with the person. Mr. Rivera and Mr. Rogers can talk offline about working with Romero-Wirth with the bus pass program maybe there can be some other programs to use in conjunction with it.

Mr. O'Leary states he working on a new PSA for them, he would like to know how much funding the trust has brought in for the take a kid hiking event. Mr. Rogers doesn't know the exact amount it was in the range of \$10,000-\$20,000 for the year there are some passports and goodie bags. They get some foundation support.

Ms. Wellington discussed the SFPD report and states one point was that she felt should be brought up was the Police couldn't site people because the signs were not regulation sign. Mr. Rogers stated the MUTCD guidelines are online. There is a revision and there is a section for signs. Mr. Rogers discussed the failure to yield portion is mentioned in it.

Mr. Newhall states what does Mr. Rogers does valuable, the City needs to extend his contract. He would like to see what they could do to get it done.

7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION & ACTION

a. 2012 GO Bond Trails Projects Status Update

Mr. Pacheco states it has been about 10 years since they have been building the trails from the bond. There is a list of projects and a deficit shown. (See Exhibit A) There are four underfunded categories. Mr. Pacheco reviewed the complete and almost complete projects.

Mr. Pacheco discussed the connection from Ottowee to Maclovía Street he noted in order to get the bridge projects they paused at 30% and used those funds to build over the acequia. On Rufina to San Felipe which serves an urbanized area, they will be looking for other funds. The Tierra Contenta trail they went to a 80% design, the Canada Rincon trail is being wrapped up, it is an important connection. The Rail Trail balance project was approved at City Council 3 of 8 voted no.

Mr. Pacheco states he is not aware of additional upcoming bonding initiatives. There is an update to the bicycle master plan he doesn't know the status.

Mr. O'Leary asked if the big picture of the deficit will prove they need to cover it with a bond. Mr. Pacheco states they take their orders from the public and they take it as far as they can by City Council they are the vehicle to do that.

Mr. O'Leary asked if it can be put in the budget. Mr. Pacheco states typically they are funded through CIP bond funds.

Ms. Wellington asked who puts together the budget as a group. Public Works? Mr. Pacheco clarified the last bond budget was from Public Works every year a budget is estimated, he is not in a position to advocate for more money.

Ms. Wellington asked what if Public Works cannot advocate for more money. Mr. Pacheco explained he is not in Public Works he is simply an engineer it goes through the higher level communication.

Ms. Wellington asked how they get them funded. Does that get presented to Council?

Chair Vigil Coppler explained how she sees it when it comes to Council. There are many change orders, the master plan is so old things change they have as you go through them they cost more she has seen it. It is her understanding is CIP monies come from GO bonds and GRT and that changes as well, that's maybe why many projects don't have enough money. The completion of these may move the funding

somewhere else. That is how it works.

Mr. Rivera asked for clarification on the list. The projects have gone as far as they have gone with budgeted money now they ran out. Mr. Pacheco discussed the re-appropriation for an underpass at Tierra Contenta was passed out to other projects as an example.

Mr. Pacheco states many of these were low. When they got to final designs they realized they needed more just like in the next discussion item.

Mr. Rivera asked if Mr. Pacheco is not in a position to advocate for money but the BTAC can, how can they support staff in advocating for money? Mr. Pacheco states staying aware of the projects is helpful.

Ms. Grogan understands that Mr. Pacheco's position is to act as BTAC's liaison are they in the middle of a CIP budget in process right now.

Mr. Pacheco gave the list to Mr. Romero they are going to get a new Director there isn't anything eminent happening.

Ms. Grogan asked if someone will be going to the CIP Budget so they are aware there is a deficit. Mr. Pacheco states that Mr. Romero is in charge of it.

Ms. Grogan explained that are several new committee roles and she would like to see Mr. Pacheco guide these through, he should be the boards liaison.

Mr. Pacheco states there are TAP and other funds available. This is the current situation it is his job to inform them of what is going on and he is doing so.

Mr. O'Leary followed up on Ms. Grogan's concern, how did that list come up? Are there are other trails projects that aren't on the list. What are the underfunded projects?

Mr. Pacheco states this is the list of all current projects in his section with that fund number. Mr. Pacheco went over the list again. These are the only projects that were given funds by City Council.

Mr. O'Leary asked is there another list of other projects? Mr. Pacheco stated there are others.

Ms. Wellington is concerned about high design costs, isn't here in house capacity to do some?

Mr. Pacheco explained this is the cost of designing engineered projects for trails. They are bid on. The Canada Rincon project had public involvement and managing that aspect part of it costs money. The City requires it on the engineering projects. There

was a letter in last month's packet that shows how the public enjoyed the involvement.

Ms. Wellington asked about Mr. Romero who they have asked on many projects he has been unresponsive. He doesn't seem to care about the plans. She is concerned who will be shepherding them through and making sure they are done correctly.

Chair Vigil Coppler described what she sees in the Council she has learned that first comes the design and the budget, the RFP, then they come to Council until much later. She has learned the City plans it out and then they budget for the actual project.

b. Fund 46007 Northwest Quadrant-remaining funds

Mr. Pacheco stated there is a balance that is available and budgeting he has interfaced with the off road subcommittee. Only City Council will be determining what happens to these funds. He has always informed them of the possibilities of use. They did not discuss last month but passed it along.

Mr. Pacheco explained District 3 feels left out of the trail development. It is important for the committee to take this to Public Works. Finance almost allocated it elsewhere before they realized it was there.

Mr. Pacheco explained the Tierra Cotenta Trail terminates in the middle. It will serve two public schools. The off road subcommittee recommendations are valid as well.

Chair Vigil Coppler states the spending of the total for the projects and for not a large area of connection. Why so expensive why didn't they do it before? She spoke out about it and represented what BTAC wanted. There were two Councilors that voiced concerns that District 3 doesn't get much money. They made the point that there are schools nearby, when these funds come up that discussion may be repeated. Her belief was to put it on to point out the discussions.

Mr. O'Leary states as the chair of the off road they got a chance to discuss it. He feels they posed the question on the northwest quadrant not the whole City. He feels the recommendation from Mr. Pacheco is the path of least resistance they have a responsibility for La Tierra Trails. Their recommendation was to spend \$100,000 on the dog park connector, it wouldn't need much. 90% has already been done by volunteers. The balance at La Tierra and what is necessary needed for a regional resource. It is utilized by all of the City. There needs to be water, a restroom and shade.

Mr. O'Leary states they met with the departments and didn't get a lot of pushback, they can make it a good resource. They all knew it wasn't going to be easy to get through Council. They wanted to keep it in the area that it was meant to be allocated to. They are relying on Mr. Pacheco and they need him on board.

Ms. Grogan echoes it is a regional recreational resource. There are BMX track, hikers,

equestrian etc. to think of it as a district specific trail isn't accurate. The city invested a lot of money on the trail. There are going to be costs to get it done, there are events out there that brings tourists. Those would be good amenities to add to it.

Mr. Rivera states he doesn't dispute that they are all deserving of funding. This is about equity his organization is a civil rights organization. Some of his members cannot use the La Tierra trail because they cannot get here. There is a long history that they allocate the funds elsewhere. The argument can be made on all sides, he would like to move it forward to something like the Tierra Contenta project. He encourages them to view this as a political issue and equity issue it is a hard choice. He supports the recommendation from Mr. Pacheco

Ms. Wellington states the La Tierra trail work that has been done encourages people to use it. A matter of health and safety is to have water and restrooms

Mr. Newhall rides on all of the trails. He only drives there when he has to take tools. But he agrees it needs those amenities.

Chair Vigil Coppler states this conversation was helpful, they will need to understand it. They took action at the last meeting by passing it through.

Mr. Pacheco without discussion it is on to the next committee.

Ms. Grogan since asked since it was passed without discussion. Can they vote again?

Mr. Rivera would like to move forward with the recommendation from Mr. Pacheco.

Mr. Pacheco mentioned the second half of the master plan not include the restrooms and water. Ms. Grogan states the plans made mention of shade and a picnic area.

Chair Vigil Coppler would like to move on for the sake of time. The comments made will not change that it was passed through to the next committee.

Mr. O'Leary asked if the documents show that it passed without discussion, it needs to be noted BTAC did discuss it this evening. Mr. Pacheco states he will mentioned it.

8. BTAC SUBCOMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS:

- **On Road Subcommittee**

Mr. Newhall reported the on road subcommittee hasn't formally met, however they have had emails concerning the Zia Road stripping. There is a 0-3½ foot shoulder it was to be redone and then the restriped. They need to do it right and not lose more bike facilities. It should be a 5 foot shoulder all the way through.

Mr. Pacheco tried to get a meeting scheduled but was unsuccessful. He will try again.

- **Off Road Subcommittee**

This item was not discussed for the sake of time.

- **Education**

Ms. Wellington states they have also not met but there has been email traffic. They want to propose the share the road signage be changed to bikes may use full lane. They aren't being represented well and they need to correct that and change that.

There are were several times mentioned in previous meetings where they were reassured the bike lanes would be restriped. She called and brought it to their attention.

Mr. Pacheco suggests they meet with Mr. Martinez to discuss. Chair Vigil Coppler states the contractor should have been notified. Mr. Pacheco notified the other departments as well as risk management and that prompted the second restriping.

- **Bicycle Business**

This item was not discussed for the sake of time.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Pacheco would like to have a Muchas Gracias award for Ms. Grogan and Ms. Robinson at a City Council meeting but would like to know availability.

Mr. Pacheco also mentioned the ribbon cutting ceremony for the two bridges will be soon. Normally they are held right before a BTAC meeting, the next meeting is July 18.

10. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. O'Leary would like an update from Mr. David Quintana who told BTAC that there was room for a bike lane on Hospital Drive.

Mr. O'Leary asked for an update to the bridges on bike paths. Mr. Herdman was always concerned with the bridge by Gonzales Elementary which is very dangerous. Mr. Pacheco will talk to Parks.

Ms. Grogan would like the Committee to review the plans for the Canada Rincon project. Also, she has noticed all the bikes in town are full of debris.

Mr. Martin would like to see the complete streets ordinance include the trails to direct

them to get them on.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

This item was not discussed for the sake of time.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the BTAC Committee the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

SIGNATURES

Councilor JoAnne Vigil Coppler, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JoAnne Vigil Coppler', written over a horizontal line.

Linda Vigil, Stenographer