

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BIKEWAY AND WALKABILITY COMMITTEE**

**03-03-2021**

**These meeting minutes represent an “action minute” format. The Bikeway and Walkability Committee of the City of Costa Mesa, California met remotely via Zoom Webinar at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2021.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Cynthia McDonald called the meeting to order, at 3:02 p.m. on a City-organized virtual Zoom webinar.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Committee Members Present:

- Chair Cynthia McDonald
- Vice-Chair Jim Erickson
- Member Bryan Estrada
- Member Bridget Gleason
- Member Richard Huffman II
- Member Flo Martin
- Member David Martinez
- Member Michael Nolf
- Member Ralph Taboada
- Member Emily Webb
- Member Trace Yulie

Alternate Committee Members Present:

- Member John Lux
- Member Jimmy Vivar

Chamber of Commerce Liaison: Brent Stoll

Newport-Mesa Unified School District Liaison: Dr. Kirk Bauermeister (not present)

City Council Liaisons:

- Jeff Harlan, Council Member,
- Arlis Reynolds, Council Member
- Loren Gameros, Council Member (alternate)

Staff Present:

- Brenda Green, City Clerk
- Raja Sethuraman, Public Services Director
- Jennifer Rosales, Transportation Services Manager
- Ramin Nikoui, Assistant Engineer

Brenda Green, City Clerk, informed Committee members that Brown Act training will be forthcoming. She advised Committee members that email is usually where most Brown Act violations occur and the best practice is to send information and requests through Jennifer Rosales, Transportation Services Manager.

### 3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

**Action:** Flo Martin nominated Cynthia McDonald as Chair of the Bikeway and Walkability Committee. Michael Nolf seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action:** Chair Cynthia McDonald opened the nominations for Vice Chair of the Committee. Richard Huffman nominated Jim Erickson as Vice Chair, and Bryan Estrada seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Action:** Member Bridget Gleason moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 6, 2021, and Member Bryan Estrada seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0-3, with Members Jim Erickson, Emily Webb and Flo Martin abstaining. Flo Martin commented on the tardiness of the minutes being distributed to the Members.

### 6. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Active Transportation Projects – Staff Update

Jennifer Rosales, Transportation Services Manager, presented an update on the City's Active Transportation Projects. Members asked questions about the projects and a robust discussion ensued about various projects. Members expressed concerns about the two Adams Avenue projects and requested that pedestrian enhancements include leading pedestrian intervals ("LPI") as part of the signal timing improvements. Council Member Reynolds inquired about the status of the traffic calming project on Meyer Place. Ms. Rosales and Public Services Director Raja Sethuraman answered many questions, including that LPI's will be reviewed at the time of installation. Ms. Rosales will email a copy of her report to Committee members.

#### B. Pedestrian Master Plan

Ms. Rosales provided an update on the work underway for preparing the Pedestrian Master Plan ("PMP"). She presented the public outreach flyer inviting the public to participate in walk audits on various dates and times. In addition, she showed the online survey and walk audit tool developed by the consultant. She also mentioned the consultant had prepared a video on how to use the walk audit tool in English and Spanish. Walk Audits begin late March and continue into April. Both in person and remote opportunities are available. Committee members and the public can conduct their own walk audits as well. Council Member Reynolds mentioned it is difficult to get people involved, so she would like the consultant to try to accommodate everyone who wants to participate and work around the space limitations. Ms. Rosales will send the public outreach flyer and video link to Committee members.

#### C. Bike Rack Program

Ms. Rosales updated Committee members on the effort to get bicycle racks installed in Fairview Park. Bicycle rack color options that would align with the aesthetic requirements 2

of the Fairview Park Advisory Committee have been identified. Public Services staff met with Cynthia D'Agosta, the Fairview Park Administrator and discussed potential locations for bike racks. Bicycle racks were installed at the City's new park, Perez Park and at the new City Shelter. City Staff continues to work on a framework for a commercial bike rack program, including pricing options and looking at best practices from nearby cities, including Long Beach. Ms. Rosales will contact Chamber of Commerce Liaison Brent Stoll for collaboration and program development. City staff continues to look for options for placing racks on City property. Ms. Rosales and staff will continue to draft policy guidelines, including advertising, partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, and insurance, for review at a future Committee meeting.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

FY 21-22 Proposed CIP projects

Transportation Services Manager Rosales gave a presentation of the current transportation CIP projects and proposed transportation projects for FY 21-22. Member Bryan Estrada noted that the proposed Mesa Drive project could be a Class I bike facility. A discussion of the proposed projects among Committee members and City staff included wayfinding signage, the need for multi-faceted bicycle improvements to Mesa Drive and other Eastside streets, connecting the Mesa Verde Drive project to the Adams Avenue projects, Wilson Street improvements, and others.

**Action:** A special meeting of the Bikeway and Walkability Committee will be scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> to review, identify, and prioritize recommendations to City Council for proposed projects including examining Class II and Class III projects in preparation for the FY 21-22 City CIP Budget.

## 8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Public Outreach: None
- b. Government Regulatory/Grants: None
- c. Safe Routes and Accessibility: None
- d. Economic Growth: None
- e. Presentation: Chair Cynthia McDonald reported that she will request Ms. Rosales to send the draft presentation to Committee members for review and comment.
- f. Walk Audits: Member Flo Martin of the Walk Audit Committee narrated a presentation of photos she took along portions of Fairview Road showing bike lane and pedestrian conditions.
- g. Open Streets: Member Bryan Estrada suggested that this subcommittee reconvene and resume planning an open streets event for the Fall.

## 9. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Cynthia McDonald reported that the City will hold a meeting about landscaping improvements in Fairview Road and to watch for a notice.
- B. Ralph Taboada commented on Santa Ana's excellent new Class II bike lanes on Bristol St. (north of Sunflower). He would like to see the Committee create a subcommittee for the purpose of studying and recommending Class II and III improvements and notes that the Fairview Road project was one in particular that is needed. He also spoke about the creation of a wayfinding signage subcommittee and that he feels we shouldn't be spending half the funding on design when there are already good designs out there. In addition, he spoke about the letter from CMABS that was sent to committee

members and that the Arlington Drive needs another crosswalk because there is a lot of distance between the ones that are there.

- C. Trace Yulie indicated support for improvements to Wilson Street for residents both in terms of cycling and pedestrian use.
- D. Bryan Estrada commented that he had sent an NCHRP report for committee distribution. It contains information about pedestrian and bicycle signal timing, and other roadway improvements. He feels that the pedestrian/bicycle delay should be key factor in designing intersections. He would like to see more protected bike lanes which encourage bicycling and can increase the number of residents using bicycles on our streets. He would like to see the City and the Committee to put in an effort to expand those projects.
- E. David Martinez suggested that the City allow mobile bike licensing by park rangers, so people aren't discouraged by park rangers trying to enforce licensing. He also spoke about disappearing bike lanes. He reported on attending the Lonely Hearts Ride in Santa Ana and how he felt safe cycling in a group. He would like to bring that event to Costa Mesa. He commented that upon his return to Costa Mesa he cycled near South Coast Plaza and encountered the lack of a bike lanes and sidewalks on Bristol Street. He also enquired about School District Liaison Bauermeister joining our meetings since he us wants to talk to him about bicycle racks at city schools.
- F. Bridget Gleason spoke of attending the ride in Santa Ana and upon returning home also rode on Bristol Street and experienced the lack of bike lanes and sidewalk. She had to cut through parking lots in order to feel safe. She also inquired where to send requests for improvements to bike and pedestrian facilities.
- G. Richard Huffman remarked about the great comments by the Committee Members. He also said it is time to do some group rides again as he really enjoyed the monthly ride with Council Member Reynolds. He wants City Staff to join those rides in order to get the on-the-ground experience with us.
- H. Jim Erickson asked how speed limits are established on city streets. He reported that on 19<sup>th</sup> Street the speed limit is 25 mph on the east side and 35 mph on the west side. He reported on the Cyclocross event held on Thanksgiving weekend 2019 and how attendees loved it and people traveled from out of town to attend. The promoter wants to bring it back.
- I. Flo Martin reported on how a driver ran a red light and came close to hitting her while she was in the crosswalk at Peterson and Harbor. She would like to see all the signals on Harbor set with pedestrian leading intervals.
- J. Michael Nolf stated he supports Member Bryan Estrada's comments about Class I facilities. He often takes his child separately. He thanked new members and remarked how pleased he was that the City had provided new striping on Hamilton Street in front of Rea school, including new buffers for improved safety.
- K. Emily Webb spoke about cycling and walking on the Eastside where she lives. She would like to receive the list of subcommittees, so she can decide which one(s) to join.

## 10. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

City Council Liaison Jeffrey Harlan thanked everyone participating. With respect to the CIP process, he suggested that the committee evaluate and prioritize projects with specific criteria for recommendation of proposed CIP projects such as connectivity, economic development, or beautification.

City Council Liaison Arlis Reynolds welcomed the new committee members. She spoke about the current Housing Element update and the need to make a connection between

housing and connectivity. She also noted that she listens to those who walk and bike regularly. She thanked City Council Member Harlan for giving reasons for prioritizing projects and noted that grant opportunities often look for co-creation and co-design with the community.

## 11. STAFF COMMENTS


Transportation Services Manager Jennifer Rosales thanked Member Nolf for noticing the Hamilton Street improvements. She responded to Vice Chair Erickson's question about how speed limits are established by explaining the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed methodology. After improvements are constructed on West 19<sup>th</sup> Street, there will be a speed survey conducted on West 19<sup>th</sup> Street which may result in a reduction in the speed limit. The speed survey is needed, so police can enforce speed limits. She stated that Staff is evaluating the intersection at Arlington and Junipero for options. There is a citywide parking study being conducted with meetings scheduled for March 15 and 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m. On March 16, the consultant contract award for the engineering design services for the Adams Avenue at Pinecreek intersection improvement project and Adams Avenue project will be presented to the City Council. Members are encouraged to show their support. She also reiterated the need for Committee Members to participate in the upcoming walk audits for preparation of our Pedestrian Master Plan. Committee Member participation in walk audits and feedback into the plan are important part of the process.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Items for next agenda include: Proposed FY 21-22 CIP Projects including Class II and III projects for recommendation to the City Council.

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Submitted by:

  
Cynthia McDonald, Chair