



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

February 1, 2023

These meeting minutes represent an “action minute” format. The Active Transportation Committee of the City of Costa Mesa, California met in a regular session at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1, 2023.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ralph Taboada called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. via a City-organized virtual Zoom webinar.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: Chair Ralph Taboada
Vice Chair Bridget Gleason
Member Andrew Barnes
Member Bryan Estrada
Member Richard Huffman II
Member Flo Martin
Member David Martinez
Member Jennifer Vavra
Member Jimmy Vivar
Member Trace Yulie

Alternate Committee Members: Alternate Member Robert Morse

City Council Liaison(s) Present: Council Member Arlis Reynolds
Council Member Jeffrey Harlan

Newport-Mesa Unified School District Liaison/Representative: Vacant

Chamber of Commerce Liaison: Brent Stoll (not present)

Staff Present: Jennifer Rosales, Transportation Services Manager
Brett Atencio Thomas, Active Transportation Coordinator

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

a. None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Special Meeting on January 11, 2023
 1. Member Huffman moved to approve the January minutes. Motion seconded by Member Vivar.
 2. Chair Taboada suggested minor edits to sections 7.a.4 and 7.a.5.
 3. Member Huffman amended the motion to include edits. Member Vivar seconded the amended motion.
 4. Motion passed (8 yes, 2 abstain).

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Active Transportation Projects – Oral Staff Update
 1. Transportation Services Manager Jennifer Rosales provided an update on the Fairview Road Active Transportation Improvements Design Services contract, which was approved by City Council on January 17. Ms. Rosales noted that construction contracts were approved by the City Council on January 17 for the West 19th Street Bicycle Improvement Project, Placentia Avenue improvements, a pedestrian signal at W 19th Street and Wallace Avenue, and HAWK signals on Wilson Street at Wilson Park and W 18th Street at Lions Park.
 2. Bicycle Wayfinding Signage – Consultant Presentation
 - Bicycle Wayfinding materials were emailed to committee members prior to the committee meeting.
 - Active Transportation Coordinator Brett Atencio Thomas provided a background summary of the project and introduced the project consultant team:
 - i. Ryan Johnson, Alta – Project Manager and Mack Drzayich, Alta – National Wayfinding Lead
 - Mr. Drzayich presented Bicycle Wayfinding Signage Project materials including:
 - i. Wayfinding best practices; Wayfinding signage hierarchy process; Costa Mesa Draft Destination List and Map; and Draft sign design.
 - Discussion ensued
 - i. Member Estrada inquired about the number of signs. Mr. Thomas responded that the project includes 100 sign locations and 50 sign proofs.
 - ii. Member Barnes inquired about next steps.
 - iii. Mr. Drzayich provided the following outline on next steps for the project:
 - a. Revisions based on ATC feedback.
 - b. Public outreach meeting.
 - c. Identification of sign locations.
 - d. Determination of destinations on signs.
 - e. Development of PS&E package.

- iv. Member Martinez was in favor of “theaters and museums” destination and signage on Santa Ana River Trail. Mr. Martinez noted potential changes to City logo in the future.
- v. Member Huffman commented on sign typology and uses, sign usability for pedestrians, and potential usages on West 19th Street and East 17th Street.
- vi. Member Barnes commented on the general costs of sign fabrication and installation.
- vii. Council Member Reynolds commented on 3-destination per-sign standard.
- viii. Council Member Reynolds and Chair Taboada inquired about the difference between pedestrian and bicycle wayfinding.
 - a. Mr. Drzayich discussed the difference between bicycle trail and pedestrian scale street signs along with the density of pedestrian networks compared to bicycle networks.
- ix. Chair Taboada discussed the Committee Member process and for committee members to provide suggestions to consultant.
 - a. Ms. Rosales requested committee members to send project comments to Mr. Thomas for staff to forward to consultant.
- x. Council Member Reynolds expressed favorability to consider renters and students in sign design.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Committee Letter on Newport Boulevard
 - 1. Chair Taboada provided an update on the Caltrans project public meeting and community feedback.
 - 2. Chair Taboada recommended the Active Transportation Projects Ad Hoc Committee send a letter to City Council regarding the project.
 - a. Mr. Taboada reviewed the components of the draft letter, which were emailed to Committee members prior to the meeting.
 - 3. Discussion ensued.
 - 4. Member Barnes expressed concern that not supporting any treatment other than a Class IV facility could delay implementation a bike project on the corridor for many years.
 - 5. Member Martin spoke in favor of a Class IV, at a minimum.
 - 6. Member Huffman spoke in favor of a Class IV design including parking protection and reduced speed limit.
 - 7. Council Member Reynolds confirmed that the Active Transportation Committee is an advisory body to City Council, and that the letter would need to be addressed to the City Council not to Caltrans.
 - 8. Member Vivar expressed concern that if Caltrans Class II bicycle project was implemented, Caltrans may not implement a more robust bicycle project in the future. Mr. Vivar suggested including Costa Mesa PD data along the corridor in the letter.

9. Vice Chair Gleason commented about the operation and maintenance of Newport Boulevard and spoke in favor of any design implemented that does not preclude future upgrades to Class IV bicycle facility.
 10. Chair Taboada commented on a potential future site walk and/or workshop with Caltrans.
 11. Member Estrada expressed support for the letter and concern regarding parking removal. Member Estrada noted that on-street parking provides a buffer between cars and pedestrians and can encourage slower speeds.
 12. Council Member Harlan noted that there is no consensus on the desired design of a bicycle facility, but there is general consensus to improve pedestrian mobility and access on corridor.
- b. Formation of Education and Safety Training Ad Hoc Subcommittee
 1. Member Barnes made a motion to form an Education and Safety Training Ad Hoc Subcommittee with a purpose to coordinate with City and School District Staff to develop safety events through October 2023.
 2. Chair Taboada seconded the motion.
 3. Motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Membership of Education and Safety Training Ad Hoc Subcommittee
 1. Member Barnes made a motion to appoint Vice Chair Gleason, Member Barnes, Member Vivar, and Member Yulie, to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee.
 2. Member Martinez seconded the motion.
 3. Motion passed unanimously.

7. AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Active Transportation Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee
 1. Chair Taboada noted an upcoming meeting with staff to discuss FY 23-24 recommendations.
- b. Economic Growth Ad Hoc Subcommittee
 1. Member Barnes discussed a recent meeting with CMABS regarding business incentives related to bicycling.
 2. Member Barnes discussed a future business survey the Ad Hoc Committee plans to distribute to the full Committee for review.
- c. Open Streets Ad Hoc Subcommittee
 1. Chair Taboada mentioned future public outreach.
- d. Pedestrian Master Plan Ad Hoc Subcommittee
 1. Chair Taboada requested update on timeline of the Pedestrian Master Plan to be scheduled for Planning Commission. Ms. Rosales provided an update on the schedule.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- a. Member Barnes requested that safety data be included in the Active Transportation Ad Hoc Subcommittee letter to Caltrans.
- b. Member Martin expressed favorability of recent reduction in speed limits as part of the updated Engineering & Traffic Speed Surveys (E&TS), and asked

- Committee members to review the Office of Traffic and Safety (OTS) website.
- c. Member Martinez commented on committee membership as it relates to in-person meetings beginning in March, and announced the start of Black History Month and recent events in the community.
 - d. Member Vivar commented on his desire to remain on the Committee, and thanked Member Martinez for his service. Member Vivar commented on the importance of considering renters and students in Bicycle Wayfinding Signage project.
 - e. Member Yulie expressed favorability for mixed media meetings.
 - f. Chair Taboada commented on attendance at OC Public Works ATP workshop. Mr. Taboada commented in favor of having a booth at the upcoming Earth Day festivities, congratulated staff on lowering posted speed limits, and commented on the impact of speed on safety.

9. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS (3 MINUTES EACH)

Council Member Reynolds commented on a recent meeting of the Board of America Walks and their discussions on the momentum in Costa Mesa toward active transportation. The Council Member discussed mobility justice and thanked Member Martinez for his comments.

10. STAFF COMMENTS

- a. Transportation Services Manager Jennifer Rosales announced the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant award to the City of Costa Mesa. Ms. Rosales commented on Letters of Interest submitted to OCTA for future call for projects for complete streets projects. Ms. Rosales announced that the City Clerk's Office would be advertising committee applications.
- b. Active Transportation Coordinator Brett Atencio Thomas thanked Member Martinez for his service and thanked Committee members for their community service.

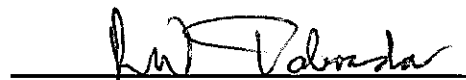
11. NEXT MEETING – March 1, 2023

- a. Beginning March 1, ATC meetings will be held in person at City Hall.
- b. Discussion ensued on regarding meeting start time.
 1. Member Estrada inquired about the possibility of a hybrid meeting.
 2. Council Member Reynolds indicated that in-person meetings are required by state law.
 3. Member Yulie commented in favor of meeting in person and continued participation of all members.
 4. Member Barnes suggested polling committee members on meeting start times.
- c. Chair Taboada polled committee members on potential start times of 4:00 pm, 5:00 pm, and 6:00 pm. The majority of committee members supported a 5:00 pm meeting time for in person committee meetings and 5:00 pm meeting time passed unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph Taboada", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Ralph Taboada, Chair