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City of Mountain View

Minutes

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Monday, May 13, 2024

6:30 PM

Plaza Conference Room and Video Conference, 500 Castro St., Mountain View, CA 94041

SPECIAL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Stone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Staff members present: Transportation Manager Ria Hutabarat Lo, Active Transportation Planner Brandon Whyte, Principal Civil Engineer Robert Gonzales, and Senior Civil Engineer Joy Houghton.

Nine members of the public were present including one in person and eight online.

Present

 5 - Committee Member Lada Adamic, Committee Member Valerie Fenwick, Committee Member James Kuszmaul, Vice Chair Terry Barton, and Chair John Stone

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public comment.

4. CONSENT

(00:03:45)

MOTION: (00:05:15) Approve the Consent Calendar.

Kuszmaul/Fenwick - 5/0/0 passed

Yes:

 5 - Committee Member Adamic, Committee Member Fenwick, Committee Member Kuszmaul, Vice Chair Barton, and Chair Stone

4.1 Meeting Minutes April 24, 2024

Approved via Consent Calendar.

4.2 Trail Counters Pilot Project

Approved via Consent Calendar.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Fiscal Year 2024-25 Capital Improvement Program

(00:06:00)

Houghton provided a presentation on the FY 2024-25 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Public comment: (00:45:27)

Silja Paymer expressed support for prioritizing Grant/Sleeper intersection relative to other intersections in that area.

Bruce England noted that City Council will discuss a revenue measure tomorrow that could help move along some of the desired projects.

Committee comment: (00:47:33)

Kuszmaul noted that other intersections under the Grant/Sleeper project are distributed across the City. He stated his support for the Council's feedback on prioritizing active transportation projects. He also noted the funding mechanism for the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) was interesting and could warrant further discussion. Finally, he supported shifting investment to carbon reducing sources as well as reducing paving.

Fenwick expressed that, under the current circumstances, paving served a more important purpose than undergrounding utilities on Terra Bella and failing to keep up with paving conditions will result in further cost and access concerns in the future.

Adamic noted that the Terra Bella neighborhood is a disadvantaged neighborhood that lacks bike lanes or access to trails. As such, she supported the prioritization of active transportation infrastructure over underground utilities in that neighborhood. She also expressed support for tying fees for factors causing the degradation of pavement, such as garbage trucks, cement mixers, delivery vehicles and so on. She also expressed that allowing roadways to degrade could allow them to be rebuilt with complete street elements.

Stone appreciated the hard work in implementing improvements in the current fiscal condition. He also noted the fourth power law [which indicates that roadway pavement damage is in proportion to the fourth power of vehicle axle load] and suggested advocating for a mechanism to tie fees to vehicle weight and pavement degradation. Finally, he noted that Copenhagen transformed into a walkable city because it could not afford the infrastructure associated with automobility.

Barton noted that vehicle weights are changing. His largest concern is that active transportation be prioritized in order to shift trips from carbon sources.

6.2 Transportation Development Act Article 3 Funding

(01:02:55)

Whyte provided a presentation on TDA3 funds.

No public comments.

Committee comment: (01:13:45)

Barton stated his support for the staff recommendation.

Fenwick appreciated staff bringing choices on this item and supported the Miramonte project but also recognized the merit of the Grant/Sleeper project.

Adamic noted that the Miramonte project will help encourage people to ride along Miramonte. She also noted the merit in improving conditions at Grant/Sleeper and Cuesta/Bonita.

MOTION: (01:19:20) Support the staff recommendation to direct TDA3 to the Miramonte Project.

Kuszmaul/Barton – 5/0/0 (passed)

6.3 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee- Recommended Member Appointment

(01:19:53)

Lo introduced the VTA BPAC Appointment agenda item.

Public comment: (01:24:33)

Emil Abraham noted that if the appointment is available to the public, he would be happy to volunteer. He indicated that he regularly attends BPAC and would be happy to attend the VTA BPAC meetings.

Committee comment: (01:26:12)

Barton indicated that he did not have bandwidth to cover the role.

Kuszmaul noted that it would be difficult to make VTA BPAC meetings. He stated he was uncomfortable sending a member of the public and appreciated the updates from Adamic. Kuszmaul suggested that in two years, we could advertise the role for a member of the public.

Fenwick noted that she is an outgoing member of BPAC and unable to pick up the commitment. She noted that she learns a lot from Adamic's summary, and would not be against putting a member of the public in the role but had not thought a lot about this option before coming to the meeting.

Stone noted that he has a newborn but would like to serve at a later time.

Adamic appreciated Abraham's interest and suggested that in the future, he could possibly serve on this committee. She noted that the VTA BPAC is interesting and includes updates from the County and VTA funding sources, as well as the opportunity to compare notes with other members. She also noted that more members of the public have commented lately.

MOTION: (01:32:16) Approve member Adamic to a two year term to serve as the City of Mountain View representative on the VTA BPAC.

Barton/Kuszmaul – 5/0/0 (passed)

Yes:

 5 - Committee Member Adamic, Committee Member Fenwick, Committee Member Kuszmaul, Vice Chair Barton, and Chair Stone

6.4 BPAC Fiscal Year 2023-24 Work Plan

(01:34:05)

Whyte provided an update on the Work Plan.

No public comment

No committee comment

6.5 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Agency (VTA) Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Update

(01:36:50)

Adamic provided an update on the VTA BPAC including AskVTA, 101/De la Cruz Improvements, Homestead Road Subcommittee, Valley Transportation Plan (including long term projects for Mountain View), Diridon Station Plan, and the Eastridge Light Rail extension.

No public comment.

Committee comments: (01:45:09)

Fenwick noted that the Mayfield Tunnel was canceled, however, the pedestrian lights switch quickly.

Stone stated he apreciated the detailed report.

Adamic also noted that the Shoreline Boulevard Complete Streets project and the Mountain View Transit Center were also discussed.

7. COMMITTEE/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES, REQUESTS, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1. Staff Comments

(01:47:08)

Whyte provided updates including Bike to Boba, MVHS Donuts Ride, concrete work on El Camino Real, a bike ride on El Camino Real, California Street Pilot Program survey, Bike to Wherever Days, and Bike Month proclamation. He also provided updates on AskMV reports including blocked sidewalks, blocked bike lanes and suggested improvements at Leong/Walker.

No public comment.

Committee comment: (01:58:01)

Kuszmaul appreciated the information on the Police Department response when there are patterns of concerning behavior.

Fenwick noted that she has noticed the greatest impact regarding illegal motor vehicle parking in the bike lane by calling the non-emergency number while the issue is active and then following up with an AskMV. She also stated her appreciation for the barriers on Castro Street.

7.2. Committee Comments

No committee comments.

8. SET DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING:

June 26, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

9. CALENDAR

10. ADJOURNMENT

Stone adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted for approval by Brandon Whyte.