

COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

September 4, 2009

10:00 AM

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gifford Swanson, Deems Katada, Barbara Nicoara, Cathy L. Buck, Catherine Farnham, Dave Hill, Jack Bachofer

STAFF PRESENT:

Mary Dinkuhn, Transportation Planning Manager; Veronica Lezama, Transportation Planner; Monica Gomez, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gifford Swanson called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **APPROVE** Amended Meeting Minutes dated March 6, 2009 – Gomez
2. **APPROVE** Meeting Minutes dated June 5, 2009 – Gomez

Item 1 was pulled from the Consent Agenda. Staff provided amended meeting minutes dated March 6, 2009 at the meeting for approval.

Upon a motion duly made by Cathy Buck, and seconded by Barbara Nicoara, the Committee approved the amended minutes dated March 6, 2009.

Upon a motion duly made by Cathy Buck and seconded by Barbara Nicoara, the Committee approved Item 2 from the Consent agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA:

3. **RECEIVE** Presentation on the 2010 San Benito County Regional Transportation Plan – Dinkuhn

Ms. Dinkuhn provided a Power-Point presentation the 2010 San Benito County Regional Transportation Plan and solicited comments from the Committee.

Ms. Dinkuhn noted that the State currently requires that the Council of Governments update the Regional Transportation Plan every five years. However, another update is scheduled in 2012 for

compliance with Senate Bill 375. The bill includes new requirements for long range transportation plans.

The Council of Governments is coordinating the required Environmental Impact Report with AMBAG, the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, and the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.

Ms. Dinkuhn invited BPAC members to attend an Environmental Impact Report Scoping meeting at the Board of Supervisors Chambers September 17, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

There was discussion about the preservation of local streets and roads within the City and County. BPAC members commented on there being an organized effort between the City and County on maintaining these roads.

Ms. Lezama stated that the Power-point presentation is available at the Council of Governments website at www.sanbenitocog.org. She will also forward BPAC members the information on the Environmental Impact Report Scoping meeting.

4. RECEIVE and COMMENT on the Draft Letter and Survey to Businesses Addressing Bicycle Parking – Lezama

Ms. Lezama stated that at the June 5, 2009 meeting, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee provided comments on the draft letter to businesses regarding bicycle parking. The Committee had redirected the staff to revise the letter and prepare a survey discussing the needs for bicycle parking at local businesses.

The Council of Governments revised the letter and prepared a survey for the Committee's review and comment. After surveys have been received, the Council of Governments will mail a second letter in November to businesses encouraging them to provide bicycle parking for customers as a means of encouraging bicycle travel to their business.

Once approved, the Council of Governments will mail the revised letter and survey to the list of businesses that currently do not provide bicycle parking. The Committee will receive a report from the Council of Governments at their December 4, 2009 meeting on the outcome of the letters and survey.

Committee's comments on mailing list and survey:

- Add the following to the Bicycle Parking Mailing list: Savemart, Foster's, Goodwill, Dollar Tree Store, Round Table, Curves (4th Street), Weight Watchers (San Felipe Road).
- Contact leasing agents at some of the shopping centers.
- Survey: Add area for contact information on Question #1. Add number 7. to the last question.
- Committee members suggested inserting a map of existing bike trails.
- In the future, provide a list of businesses that do have bike racks on our website.

5. RECEIVE Update on 2009 Bikeway and Pedestrian Master Plan – Lezama

Ms. Lezama stated that over the last 18 months, the Council of Governments has been working on updating the San Benito County Bikeway and Pedestrian Master Plan. The Council of Governments Board of Director will consider adopting the Plan at their December meeting.

Ms. Lezama stated that staff should receive the Final Draft Bike Plan within the next two weeks. Staff will forward the link to Final Draft Plan for Committee members to comment on minor changes if needed.

The Council of Governments Board of Directors will consider certifying the environmental document and adopting the Bikeway and Pedestrian Master Plan at their December 17, 2009 meeting. Once adopted, the Council of Governments will forward the Plan to the City of San Juan Bautista, the City of Hollister, and the County for adoption.

Ms. Lezama stated that the Council of Government's Technical Advisory Committee discussed improvements at railroad crossings, which are identified in the Bike Plan. The Technical Advisory Committee directed COG staff to form a Committee to discuss railroad crossing improvements to be addressed at a meeting with representatives from the Union Pacific Railroad.

Chairman Gifford Swanson informed staff that he would attend the railroad crossing meeting.

Ms. Lezama informed BPAC members that the Council of Governments received Regional Surface Transportation Program funds, which are allocated to the Cities and the County. The Technical Advisory Committee recommended that COG allocate \$60,000 for a crosswalk at the future location of the Courthouse at Fourth Street and Monterey Road.

There was discussion about the location of the crosswalk.

Staff stated that ultimately, the City will determine the location of the crosswalk.

Upon a motion duly made by Cathy Buck, and seconded by Barbara Nicoara, the Committee voted to adjourn the BPAC meeting.

ADJOURN TO MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2009 AT 10:00 a.m.