

CITY OF MERCED
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
678 W 18TH STREET
MERCED, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY
October 25, 2011

Vice-Chairperson GUZZETTA called the meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Commission to order at 3:02 p.m.

(B) ROLL CALL

Staff introduced new Commissioner Julianne SIMS-CULOT to the rest of the Commission and members of the audience. Commissioner SIMS-CULOT spoke briefly about her background.

Present: David Guzzetta (Vice-Chairperson)
Lisa Kayser-Grant
Julianne Sims-Culot
Kara Middlebrooks
Jules Comeyne
Robert Tyler
David Noble
Patrick Bauer (Ex-Officio)
Robert Smith (Ex-Officio)

Absent: None

Staff Present: Bill King, Principal Planner
Julie Sterling, Planner
Kim Nutt, Recording Secretary/Planning Technician II

(C) APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2011

ON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KAYSER-GRANT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COMEYNE, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE JUNE 28, 2011, MINUTES, AS SUBMITTED AND WITH A CORRECTION TO ITEM E., TO ADD "AND STAFFING LIMITATIONS" TO THE REASON FOR CANCELLATION.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS KAYSER-GRANT, SIMS-CULOT,
MIDDLEBROOKS, COMEYNE, TYLER, NOBLE, AND VICE-
CHAIRPERSON GUZZETTA

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

(D) ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no oral communications from members of the audience.

(E) 2012 BIKE PLAN UPDATE: PRESENTATION FROM MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (MCAG)

Principal Planner KING introduced Janelle YORK, Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG), who gave a presentation to the Commission and answered questions about the bike plan, Cal-Trans and City funding for BTA grants, the update process, and the BAC's and MCAG's role.

Commissioner SMITH asked staff to look at language to provide a connection to the General Plan by using the Bike Plan as an implementation component and strategy for the General Plan. There was more discussion with Mr. KING and the Commissioners regarding this connection.

Mr. KING stated that citizen meetings for the Bike Plan update would likely be held at the BAC meetings, not at a separate meeting. He said that staff would work with MCAG in getting public involvement started.

(F) PRESENTATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY REVITALIZATION PLAN

Planner STERLING introduced the Martin Luther King Jr. Way Revitalization Strategy to the Commission, explaining its purpose, area covered, and existing conditions with a PowerPoint presentation. She then reviewed the proposed bikeways for the Strategy.

Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT stated that a bike lane on Martin Luther King (MLK) Jr. Way would be inappropriate and that she is interested in the idea to place an alternative bikeway on N Street. Commissioner MIDDLEBROOKS stated that she is pleased that attention is being paid to the area, and Commissioner TYLER asked about signalizing the intersection at W. 11th Street and MLK Jr. Way. Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT stated that the Childs Avenue bike lane is a good idea.

(G) PRESENTATION OF BIKE-RELATED ASPECTS OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP)

Principal Planner KING presented the Climate Action Plan, describing what it is and how it relates to bicycle transportation. Mr. KING answered questions from the Commission regarding emission goals and increasing the miles traveled by bicycle, not just the reduction of vehicle miles. Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT stated the need to increase the percentage to 5% for bike commuters by the year 2020 and to consider bicycle-only streets.

The Commission discussed how to measure any increase in bicycle ridership and what methods are available. Commissioner BAUER suggested contacting the City of Davis to see how they measure ridership.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MIDDLEBROOKS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TYLER, DULY CARRIED, TO RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS TO 1) ADD A STRATEGY TO DOUBLE THE PERCENTAGE OF ALL-PURPOSE VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED BY BICYCLE BY THE YEAR 2020; AND, 2) EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF INSTALLING OR CONVERTING STREETS THAT GIVE HIGHER PRIORITY TO BICYCLES (I.E., BIKE ONLY OR BIKE BOULEVARD THAT GIVES HIGH EMPHASIS TO BICYCLE TRAVEL) IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO TRAVEL BY BICYCLE.

BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS KAYSER-GRANT, SIMS-CULOT,
MIDDLEBROOKS, COMEYNE, TYLER, NOBLE, AND VICE-
CHAIRPERSON GUZZETTA

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

(H) 2012 NATIONAL BIKE MONTH (MAY 2012)

1. DISCUSS/POSSIBLE ACTION: NOMINATE BIKE MONTH BAC COMMUNITY LIAISON

Commissioner NOBLE informed the Commission and staff that the UC Cycling Alliance has been disbanded, as the students that made up the club have graduated

through with no succession planning, and therefore there is no organized bike club on campus.

Commissioner SIMS-CULOT volunteered to be the community liaison between the BAC, Merced Bicycle Coalition, Commute Connection, and other organizations for Bike-to-Work Week.

(I) CANCELLATION OF THE DECEMBER 27, 2011 MEETING (TO BE HELD DECEMBER 13, 2011)

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER TYLER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MIDDLEBROOKS, DULY CARRIED, TO CANCEL THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 27, 2011, DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS KAYSER-GRANT, SIMS-CULOT,
MIDDLEBROOKS, COMEYNE, TYLER, NOBLE, AND VICE-
CHAIRPERSON GUZZETTA

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

(J) ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. ACTION: ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-
CHAIRPERSON

Commissioner MIDDLEBROOKS nominated Commissioner GUZZETTA for Chairperson.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER MIDDLEBROOKS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER NOBLE, AND DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE, TO NOMINATE VICE-CHAIRPERSON GUZZETTA FOR CHAIRPERSON FOR THE 2011-2012 PERIOD.

Commissioner TYLER volunteered to serve as Vice-Chairperson.

ON MOTION OF COMMISSIONER KAYSER-GRANT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MIDDLEBROOKS, AND DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE, TO ELECT COMMISSIONER TYLER FOR VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR THE 2011-2012 PERIOD.

(K) INFORMATION ITEMS

1. UPDATE – ENGINEERING PROJECTS/DESIGN STANDARDS

Planning Technician NUTT updated the Commission regarding the development of the bike rack Engineering Design Standards that the Commission approved at a prior meeting.

Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT inquired about the City's formed-based code project, specifically how it may include language on bike parking. Ms. NUTT stated that she would pass the suggestion along to the project planner.

2. UPDATE – RESULTS OF THE CITY'S FALL 2011 LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS' BIKE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY APPLICATION

Planning Technician NUTT updated the Commission regarding the results of the Fall 2011 round of the Bicycle Friendly Community award, noting that the City of Merced did not increase its status from last year's Honorable Mention, but will again be receiving the valuable feedback from the League of American Bicyclists that would offer suggestions to help the City further progress.

3. ADD-ON INFORMATION-SHARING ITEMS

- a) Commissioner NOBLE asked about updating the bikeway map to show new bikeways. Ms. NUTT stated that a new map will be worked on with the Bike Plan update process. The Commissioners suggested accepting an interim map so that the public would have an accurate map before the Bike Plan is updated next year.
- b) Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT had announcements regarding the Merced Bicycle Coalition's upcoming activities.

(I) ADJOURN TO THE ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011, AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

VICE-CHAIRPERSON GUZZETTA ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 5:05 P.M. TO THE ADJOURNED REGULAR BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011, AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 678 W. 18TH STREET, MERCED, CALIFORNIA.

BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Nutt", written in a cursive style.

KIMBERLY NUTT
COMMISSION SECRETARY

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Guzzetta", written in a cursive style.

DAVID GUZZETTA, CHAIRPERSON
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION