

CITY OF MERCED
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
678 W 18TH STREET
MERCED, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY
February 24, 2015

Chairperson TYLER called the meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Commission to order at 3:00 p.m.

(B) ROLL CALL

Present: Robert Tyler (Chairperson)
Jules Comeyne
Justin Hicks
Tom Hothem (Vice Chairperson)
Lisa Kayser-Grant
Isai Palma
Patrick Bauer (Ex-Officio member)

Absent: (two vacancies)

Staff Present: Bill King, Principal Planner
Aidan Brown (Intern: Bike Month Coordinator)

(C) APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2014

ON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER COMEYNE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HICKS, DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE (TWO VACANCIES), TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 9, 2014, MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.

(D) ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. HOWELL expressed his interest and effort to have a bike path constructed along Bellevue Road. Principal Planner KING noted the City's interest and recent efforts to coordinate with the County about improving bikeways between the City and UC Merced. Mr. GARCIA talked about an upcoming bike safety event to be held on April

18, 2015, in the community of Planada. Mr. FREITAS inquired as to the decision-making process concerning the installation of bikeways, notably how it related to Bellevue Road.

(E) BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION REQUESTS AND INFORMATION

The Commission inquired as to the status of the Bear Creek Bike Path Project, the M Street Rest-stop shelters, and the Black Rascal Creek Path Project.

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT RELATED ITEMS (Engineering Department)

(F) No reports were scheduled for this item.

POLICY PROJECT RELATED ITEMS (Planning Department)

(G) BICYCLE REGISTRATION

Lieutenant MATTHEWS presented a report describing the City's Bicycle Registration program, noting that approximately 200 bicycles are registered in an effort to reduce criminal activity and to recover stolen bicycles. The Commission had questions, commented and offered ideas, including: a) what is the cost and use of bike registration fees?; b) the opportunity to inform public about bike-registration is at time of sale; c) seek partnerships with retailers to share bike-registration information with purchasers of bicycles; d) seek a partnership with UCM to share bike-registration information with new UC Merced students (part of their new student information packet); e) most bikes get stolen from home garages; and, f) consider use of microchips to help identify bike owners.

(H) BIKE MONTH UPDATE

(New language <u>underlined</u> , deleted language struckthrough .)
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Bike Month Coordinator Intern BROWN presented a report that described activities planned for Bike Month 2015, including the "All Merced All Road Ride," and the "Bike to Work Day." She also introduced a new event for 2015, the Director's Ride, which provides an opportunity for community members to ride and converse with local government staff and elected leaders while riding on local bikeways. The Commission had questions, commented, and offered ideas, including: a) an overview of the "Merced All Road Ride;" b) date of the director's ride; c) gathering logistical advice for the event from the United Way, given their effort to organize the "Pedal Merced" event; d) need

for new ideas to attract people to ride during all Bike Month events; e) large employers to provide advertising about the event and bike support facilities; f) wear “I ride” props to encourage cycling awareness; g) foster more bike riding in schools; h) offer lunch-time presentations to workers about cycling in Merced; and i) and, encourage celebrities to be a role model for bicycling.

(I) USE OF SHARROWS ON M STREET

Principal Planner KING presented a report providing an overview of bikeways and traffic on M Street, as well as the City’s adopted standards for the placement of sharrows on roadways. The Commission inquired as to the status of the Traffic Committee’s action to modify the traffic signs that state, “Bicycles Use Sidewalk.” With regard to sharrows, the Commission offered comments and ideas, including: a) bike signage images in Bike Plan; b) bike-boulevard locations, designs and timing of installation; c) bike/pedestrian/trash can conflicts on sidewalks just north of Bear Creek on M Street; d) proper signage can create a safe environment for bicycle use in travel lanes; e) the poor condition of the sharrows painted on Main Street, and the need for these to be redone as “raised and reflective” sharrows; f) need for motorist education as to the rights of bicyclists to ride in the road and in travel lanes where appropriate; g) in order to establish predictability of traffic flow, there needs to be clear signage and markings for bicycle travel on M Street between 16th Street and 18th Street and over Bear Creek; and h) support for education and training of Traffic Committee members about bicycle travel needs.

The Commission discussed the Traffic Committee’s decision in November 2014 concerning the Bicycle Advisory Commission’s recommendation to remove the “Bicycles Use Sidewalk” signage on M Street and Olive Avenue. They discussed their interest to attend future meetings to inquire about the status of the pending change to the directional signage.

OTHER

(J) ADJOURN TO THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015, AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ON MOTION FROM COMMISSIONER HOTHEM, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HICKS, DULY CARRIED, CHAIRPERSON TYLER ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 4:30 P.M. TO THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015,

AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 678 W. 18TH STREET,
MERCED, CALIFORNIA.

BY:



BILL KING
COMMISSION SECRETARY

APPROVED:



ROBERT TYLER, CHAIRPERSON
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION