

CITY OF MERCED
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
678 W 18TH STREET
MERCED, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY
April 26, 2016

Chairperson TYLER called the meeting of the Bicycle Advisory Commission to order at 3:03 p.m.

(B) ROLL CALL

Present: Robert Tyler (Chairperson)
Justin Hicks
Lisa Kayser-Grant
Isai Palma
Jules Comeyne
Tom Hothem (Vice Chairperson)
Katy Oestman

Absent: (Two vacancies, two Ex-Officio)

Staff Present: Bill King, Principal Planner
John Sagin, Principal Architect
Joel Svendsen, Associate Engineer

(C) APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2016

ON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PALMA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HICKS, DULY CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE, TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 23, 2016, MINUTES, AS SUBMITTED (EXCEPT THAT A MISSPELLED NAME WAS CORRECTED).

(D) ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There was no oral communication.

(E) BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION REQUESTS, INFORMATION ITEMS AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ANNUAL BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL/DRAFT REPORT

Principal Planner KING presented the report, noting that due to other department priorities, the effort to prepare the annual report has been delayed, and that the schedule has been adjusted as presented in the written report. Sub-committee members noted the meeting held with Department Head KEN ELWIN, and inquired about the new timeline.

2. BIKE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY

Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT petitioned the Commissioners to form a temporary sub-committee with City Staff that would spearhead an effort to strategize Bicycle Advisory Commission (BAC) efforts to increase the viability of the bicycle as an important mode of transportation in the City of Merced, consistent with the stated jurisdiction of the BAC as expressed in Ordinance No. 2333. The Commission discussed the idea noting that it will be important to regularly involve and update the entire Commission, and that the sub-committee should offer a guiding strategy that would give direction to implement present and future action plans, such as the Active Transportation Plan/Safe Routes to School Plan. The Commission opted to create the sub-committee, whose members are Commissioners KAYSER-GRANT, HICKS, and HOTHEM.

On a separate item, Commissioner KAYSER-GRANT shared her observations and knowledge of cyclists receiving moving violation tickets in the downtown recently.

CAPITAL PROJECT RELATED ITEMS (Engineering Department)

(F) BEAR CREEK BIKEWAY PROJECT - ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS

Principal Architect SAGIN presented a report about Bear Creek Bikeway Project, and also noted other right-of-way improvement efforts around town, including plans to add a multi-use pathway within the Motel Drive right-of-way. The Commissioners noted that they had already commented on the Motel Drive project at their February 23, 2016, meeting, pointing out that they previously advised Staff that a multi-use pathway is not an appropriate facility along this road.

LARRY JONES asked for clarification of the Bear Creek Project.

Chairperson TYLER explained that the project had been divided into two segments: (1) the northern portion to be developed in the near-term; and, (2) the southern portion to be designed and improved at a later unspecified date. Principal Architect SAGIN described

the elements and location of the southern portion of the Bear Creek Bikeway Project, noting that no improvements are planned along Bear Creek between “dead-man’s curve” and the railroad, and requested the Commission to provide comments. Commissioners offered support for a multi-use path bridge across Bear Creek just north of 16th Street, but not for the bridge near 19th Street. Several Commissioners noted that the proposed bikeway along V Street could be developed as a “Bike Boulevard” or “Cycle-path” as opposed to a simple bike route. The Commission advised the location of a route to cross the railroad, which included a bikeway to be placed on 23rd Street, U Street, and 25th Street. With concurrence from the BAC, Chairperson TYLER deferred final BAC action on the project until Commissioners had an opportunity to visit the site.

(G) REVIEW OF DRAFT CITY OF MERCED STANDARD BIKEWAY-RELATED DESIGNS

Principal Architect SAGIN presented a report about the draft City of Merced Standard Bikeway-related Designs. The Commission advised Staff to devise new standard designs for the following bike-related features: (1) sharrows; and (2) bike parking. The Commission discussed a need to widen the spacing of barrier posts. The Commission continued the item to its June meeting to review the draft standards requested above.

POLICY/BIKE PROMOTION/DEVELOPMENT RELATED ITEMS (Planning Department)

(H) ANNUAL REVIEW OF 2013 BIKE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECT LIST

Principal Planner KING presented the report. Commissioners emphasized the importance of installing traffic signal-sensors and bikeway signs. Commissioner HICKS pointed out a need for bikeway improvements to be added to the north side of Yosemite Avenue between McKee Road and Parsons Avenue, and to the east side of Gardner, north of Yosemite Avenue.

(I) BIKE MONTH PROCLAMATION

The Commission accepted the report and attached proclamation. Chairperson TYLER volunteered to present the proclamation with the Mayor of the City of Merced at the May 2, 2016, City Council meeting.

(J) ANNUAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

Principal Planner KING presented a report providing an overview of the attendance report. The Commission accepted the report.

(K) ADJOURN TO THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2016, AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ON MOTION FROM COMMISSIONER PALMA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HICKS, DULY CARRIED, CHAIRPERSON TYLER ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 5:10 P.M. TO THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2016, 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