

# MINUTES

## Oceanside Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Monday, October 23, 2023 at 9:00 AM

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting opened at approximately 9:05am.
2. **Attendee Roll Call** – Howard L., Jim C., Joel W., John D., Ricky C., Michelle M., Pete P., Ralph N., Steve S., Tom F., Tom L., Kevin R. **Guest:** Arlene T.
3. **Introductions**
4. **September Meeting Minutes Approval** - Approved with correction of League-Certified compensation for Traffic Skills Cycling classes from \$600 to \$300.
5. **Items for Discussion**
  - a. **Loma Alta Creek Bridge Design and Connections**

Howard provided an update on this project. This project was first envisioned about 10 years ago and has had a long development history. Eight years ago the project had a cost estimate of \$8 million; however, the ensuing years' construction inflation had caused the estimate to rise to \$12 million. The City has repeatedly sought Caltrans Active Transportation Grants. On the recent third try, the project scored 87 points out of 100 and in normal years, would have been funded. But due to a large number of projects that year, it did not make the cut. SANDAG had a separate pot of remaining funds from the total grant of about \$60 million to fund projects that just missed the cut, but the money went to south county instead of Oceanside. The City decided to go ahead and complete the engineering and final design so as to be "shovel ready" by the end of the year, which will increase its potential score when the city applies for the grant for the fourth time this next spring. Howard confirmed that geo-tech studies have been done to ensure the bridge piers are properly designed.
  - b. **Transit Center Redevelopment – Denver's Union Station Re-Development**

The Chairman provided a PowerPoint presentation on Denver's Union Station Redevelopment. This project incorporated the historical train station buildings dating back to 1914 to create a new mixed-use development and station, with intercity and commuter rail, light rail, and bus transit facilities, hotel, and shops and eateries. Outdoor covered "train shed" and indoor passenger waiting areas were provided. The Chairman noted that the design and signage left no doubt that one is approaching a major transit and transportation hub when one approaches the front entrances. The interior spaces are light and airy and give the sense of being in a classic passenger rail station. The Committee discussed how this compares with the current OTC and planned redevelopment. Arlene T.

noted that there were three themes in Tom's presentation: Sense of arrival, Wayfinding, and Inside experience. Steve noted that, currently, there seems to be no agency presence or visible security at the OTC now, which may contribute to some of the transient problems on the property. He suggested vendor carts might be a way to create a presence. Pete recommended that a subcommittee be created to explore ways to address the current problems and potential solutions. Ricky noted that the presence of other uses on the property (apartments, hotel, shops) will bring more people onto the site and improve the atmosphere. He also pointed out the CCTV systems on the property. Tom strongly suggested that NCTD take the approach that was used when the SPRINTER first opened and start the first few months with a heavy visible security presence to "set the tone and expectation" for the public at the facility.

**c. Bike the Coast Preparations Status**

Approximately 1,700 people have signed up for the event. Volunteers from the Committee will help on the 7/15 mile events.

**d. Status of the San Luis Rey River Trail Geotechnical Borings Project**

Howard stated the ACOE is now not planning to start work until late November or early December. Accordingly, there will be no conflict with Bike the Coast.

**e. Active Grants Status**

**i. Laurel Elementary** – The trial test of a simulated roundabout near Laurel Elementary (part of the proposed mobility improvements) addressed community concerns and the project will move forward.

**ii. Coastal Rail Trail – Morse St to Eaton St.** – The second TAC meeting is scheduled for October 25, to review alignment alternatives. NCTD has agreed to provide an easement for the trail on the rail ROW. There is still an issue with how to address the south end, with Audubon Society now not in support of extending the trail through their preserve area.

**f. Grant Applications**

**i. Inland Rail Trail** – The City is going through various paperwork issues to get the project up and running. A new Caltrans directive now prohibits consultants who help on a grant application from being considered for actual project work, be it planning, design or construction. Thus, Chen Ryan, who helped with the grant applications several times, might now be barred from proposing on the alignment study this grant just funded. JC suggested that Chen Ryan be retained by the interim agency and then could be considered for project work.

**ii. Green California – Crowne Heights** – No movement

- g. Coastal Rail Trail – Oceanside Blvd to Morse St. including Bridge over Loma Alta Creek**
  - i. Design Status** – Covered under Item 5a.
  - ii. Caltrans Cycle 7 Grant announcement**
- h. Sharrows – Coast Hwy and Pacific St – Update on thermoplastic paint** – City is still pursuing this but is finding it difficult to get contractors to bid on the work.
- i. Bike Education Programs**
  - i. E-Bike 3 hr class** – On-going. OUSD has not yet chosen to require some kind of training in order for kids to be allowed to ride e-bikes to school (which is required in Carlsbad and Encinitas).
  - ii. Adult Smart Cycling** - Classes are continuing. From now on, there will be a \$25 charge per participant to help ensure those who sign up show up.
  - iii. Bike Rodeos: Pablo Tac, Mission, Laurel**
- j. gO’side Shuttle:** September ridership numbers are down from last year, when no fare was charged then. Howard said the same thing happened on the NEV service in San Diego, where a new fare was instituted this year. Ricky asked if the raw data from the ridership counts can be provided for analysis.
- k. Project/Program/Initiatives Tracking /Sheet:** We have included a “Project/Program/Initiatives Tracking Sheet” attached to this Agenda. We will include this each month and update it as new information becomes available, to ensure we don’t lose track of the many items the Committee has discussed.
- l. Other Matters**
  - Election of Officers in November – Tom noted that this will be on the November Committee Agenda and urged members to consider throwing in their hat for the Committee Officer positions.
  - Graphics for the updated City Bicycle Map are done. The City needs to find a print shop that can handle this size sheet.
  - Kevin raised an issue with the Sharrows on College at Barnard going south.
- m. Public Communications**
- n. Adjournment** - Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.