

MINUTES  
BICYCLE USERS SUBCOMMITTEE  
City Hall -----Council Chamber Conference Room  
Wednesday, August 20, 2008-----5:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:                   Gene Hiegel, Chairman  
  Edmundo Duvignau, Vice-Chairman  
  Davis Barber  
  James Barnum (arrived at 5:45 p.m.)  
  James Donovan  
  Kent Morris

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:                   Banning Ostrow

STAFF PRESENT:                                    Thuy Nguyen, Civil Engineer

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chairman Hiegel.

**CONSENT**

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 16, 2008 MEETING**

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 16, 2008 were approved as written.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**BICYCLE ELEMENT IN THE GENERAL PLAN**

Mr. Nguyen reminded the Members of the upcoming Educational Community Bicycle Collaboration Roundtable on the Fullerton Bicycle Master Plan on August 29, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

After general discussion, no action was taken by the Committee.

**PUENTE STREET PROJECT**

Mr. Nguyen invited the Members to a Brea Community Services Commission meeting, next Tuesday, August 26, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Brea Conference Center, where the Puente Street Project would be discussed. He provided the Members with pictures of the area and described the proposed project.

During discussion concern was expressed by residents over impacts to the surrounding community (traffic, safety, noise, loss of privacy, etc.), the City recommended against the project in 2002 - what has changed since then, the safety of the trail, danger from errant golf balls, the need for an Environmental Study, harm to the existing wildlife, and possible environmental damage.

Specific concerns expressed were:

- A bicycle bridge will bring people through the neighborhood and create unsafe conditions for children and other residents.

- A bicycle and pedestrian path will expose homeowners to greater risk of trespassing and burglary.
- Bridge and bike path construction will take away access to the rear lots of homeowners.
- Introducing pedestrian and bicycle traffic along the edge of a golf course is unsafe. People may get hit by errant golf balls.
- The bluff on the north side of Brea Creek is too steep, and the bike path would require construction of a long ramp that will lead to unsafe speeds and possible conflict.
- The ramp will create an attractive nuisance for use by people with skateboards.
- There is no environmental assessment prepared at this time. What impacts has the City identified?
- The creek is used by wildlife and building a bridge would destroy habitat or interfere with their activities.

Support was expressed by the Committee for this project for the following reasons:

- Removing the gate and putting in a bike trail would keep people from jumping over the resident's fences.
- This was not a destination for bicycle users, only a pass-through to allow access from Brea to Fullerton and vice versa.
- The intent of the trail was to decrease traffic by allowing a safer route for bicyclists to travel, rather than down Harbor Blvd. or Brea Blvd.
- There was no more crime on a bike trail than in other areas of the City.
- The goal was to make the project work for everyone.

Additionally, Member Donovan made two specific recommendations. One was to design the bridge so that it was as long as possible, to allow a clear span across the creek and absorb some of the difference in grade from one side of the creek to the other. Another was to provide trap fencing to prevent or discourage access to the golf courses and keep bicycle users and pedestrians on the bridge and the connecting public right of way.

After general discussion, no action was taken by the Committee.

### SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Member Davis provided a map to the Committee Members, and read the response he had received from the principal at Golden Hill Elementary School, which stated he would like to see bike lanes painted along Fern Drive and Woods Avenue, and increased signage along Barris Drive. He believed other schools would have similar issues. It was suggested that the Police Department be contacted to see if they had concerns specific to a particular school.

After general discussion, no action was taken by the Committee.

### BIKE RACKS IN THE CITY

Chair Hiegel stated he had spoken with Rob Zur Schmiede, Director of Redevelopment, to see if the City could purchase bike racks for use by local businesses, and Mr. Nguyen added that Mr. Zur Schmiede had requested the Committees input on good locations for the bike racks.

After general discussion, no action was taken by the Committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one from the public wished to speak.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Hiegel adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held Wednesday, September 17, 2008.