MINUTES BICYCLE USERS SUBCOMMITTEE

City Hall - Council Conference Room Wednesday, June 19, 2013 - 5:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gene Hiegel, Chair Beth Trimble, Vice Chair John Carroll Karla Reinhardt Jane Rands Vince Buck

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Matt Leslie

STAFF PRESENT:

Jay Eastman, Senior Planner

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hiegel at 5:04 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no members of the public present.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Member Trimble, SECONDED by Member Carroll, and APPROVED 6-0 by all members present.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Bicycle Boulevard Grant Application

Senior Planner Eastman provided a staff report on this item, stating that City staff has submitted a grant application to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) for planning work related to the East Wilshire Avenue Bicycle Boulevard concept. Eastman clarified that the grant application is a by-product of a community meeting held last year where City staff had presented the idea of a bicycle boulevard on E. Wilshire Ave. Eastman discussed challenges with funding the project, and clarified that the application submitted is for planning and design work, not construction. Eastman discussed the six tasks of the

project's scope, as submitted. The subcommittee inquired and discussed the specifics of the project submitted, including connectivity to the FTC, the surveying of bicycle usage, the pros and cons of community input, funding, timeline and contingency plans if the grant is not awarded.

Member Rands inquired if the subcommittee would review the concept designs the consultant is to prepare. Planner Eastman clarified that the subcommittee would review the proposed concept before it is presented to the Community. Member Rands indicated that she wanted to review and comment on the initial four concepts, and stated that community includes people in the neighborhood as well as bicycle users. Member Rands stated that she would like the subcommittee to be part of the subconsultant selection. Eastman clarified that the RFP process is dictated by SCAG, and at present staff does not know how SCAG will define it. Member Buck asked if the BUSC can be involved in the consultant selection if SCAG's RFP process allows for it. Chair Hiegel asked the members to identify if they felt it was important for the BUSC to be involved in the selection of the consultant. Vice-Chair Trimble said no, as she has no expertise in consultant selection; Member Carroll said yes, he did not mind being part of the selection process, but would not object if the subcommittee was not included; Member Reinhardt said she is neutral; Chair Hiegel said no, as he also does not have expertise in selecting consultants; Member Buck said he is neutral; and Member Rands said yes, stating that she would like to be at the beginning of the process. Eastman clarified that the RFP selection process will be dictated by SCAG criteria, stated that involving the BUSC would be beneficial, but he cannot provide a commitment at this time. Member Rands wanted staff to confirm that the BUSC will review the consultant's initial concept designs before they are presented to the public. The Subcommittee discussed when they should meet with the consultant and when plans should be provided. There was general consensus that the consultant should get BUSC input early on in the process during "Task 1, Research".

2. BIKE FULLERTON, Public Outreach Program

Chair Hiegel asked members to report on their tasks they were assigned in May. Member Buck had contacted a retired school teacher (Alice) who had done a program years ago. The old bike program was organized by the teacher, with approval from the school's administration (Superintendent Duncan Johnson). Member Trimble called ten (10) different elementary schools; Hermosa, Rolling Hills, Laguna, Sunset, Orangethorpe, Commonwealth, Richman, Golden Hill, Valencia and Acacia. Acacia is the only school with a full bike rack. There was discussion on how many schools to be picked and what criteria is used. Member Trimble stated her intent is to educate kids and parents, and it is important to encourage safety and prevent accidents. The subcommittee agree to focus on three schools and see which ones make the most sense and which schools want to participate. Vice-chair Trimble will contact Richman, Acacia and Beachwood in early August to see if the BUSC could put together a program. Chair Hiegel noted that member Leslie (absent) was to provide information on the NHTSA programs. There was discussion on the outline of the program, including whether it would be one day a school year or weekly, time of year to do the program, topics to cover (how to fit a bicycle helmet, bicycle maintenance/safety checks, road awareness, basic rules of the road, etc.), age of students to focus on, professional and technical partners to bring in as participants, and next steps of implementation.

Vice-Chair Trimble's concept is to start small. She'd like to have a presentation to students at an assembly by an officer or instructor, demonstrating bicycle safety, and award students a certificate after taking a simple quiz. She identified examples of the Jr. Firefighter badge,

where students do an in-home inspection. She thought businesses could sponsor gifts or coupons with certificates.

Member Carroll suggested Member Leslie present the information on the NHTSA program, or similar programs, and the BUSC should approach principals to see if they would be interested in partnering. The merits of having instruction provided by a certified individual were discussed. Member Rands identified the California and National Bicycle Coalition.

It was agreed to continue the item to July to have Member Leslies forward the information he has compiled, and all members are to come back with existing programs that could be used.

3. Review Map of 2012 Fullerton Bicycle Accidents

Member Carroll presented a map prepared by a student at the California State University, Fullerton. Member Carroll discussed patterns he recognized. One example was bicycle riders along the southwest and south central part of Fullerton were mostly at fault; whereas drivers on Chapman Blvd were more "at fault". Chair Hiegel identified a cluster of accidents in the southwest part of town, which is of concern to him since it is a higher density residential area. There was discussion regarding more accidents on Orangethorpe and Chapman, both arterial roadways. There was a question as to whether accidents occurred on Orangethorpe or the adjacent frontage road, or whether the paralleling of the roads could have been a contributing factor. The cluster of bicycling along Placentia Avenue was assumed to relate to the higher ridership of students and lower income residents. Member Buck suggested that attention should be given to changing bicycling conditions on this street, and pointed out that there may be more accidents on Placentia Ave. since the map does not show accident responded to by Placentia (or CSUF police). The subcommittee agreed that the map showing both "fault" and "ethnicity" is too hard to read.

4. Costs for Class III Signage

Senior Planner Eastman had asked Maintenance Services for the cost of signs for Valencia Mesa, Puente and Malvern. The estimates were provided twenty (20) "share the road" sign locations and 27 Class-III signs. Purchase and installation is estimated at three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00).

Eastman stated that, subsequent to the original estimate request, he has gone out to the streets and identified where existing Class III signs currently exist. Eastman distributed a map he created showing existing signs, and potential locations for new signs based on an aerial (not a site assessment). Member Rands asked if the City's budget will ever have funding for bicycling improvements. Planner Eastman indicated that there was brief internal staff discussion to establish a small account that could be used for capital match funds and small items, such as signage; but realistically there are greater funding issues the City is confronting. There was discussion regarding costs and budgeting. Senior Planner Eastman asked members to go out and look at these three streets and see if more signs are needed than those shown on the map, or if too may signs are proposed, and then report back at the next meeting.

STAFF COMMUNICATION:

Member Buck would like to have sharrow markings placed on the agenda for discussion. Chair Hiegel stated the topics for the next meeting were to be (1) the status of the bike share

program, (2) sharrow markings and (3) the review of bike safety programs. Member Buck's reported that SCAG will be presenting a bike report to the County Trails Committee at 7:00 PM on Monday night.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

Jay Eastman, Senior Planner