



**Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC)
Community Chambers
23 Russell Boulevard
Thursday, January 14, 2016
5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

Commissioners: John Berg (Chair), Earl Bossard, Elisabeth Bourne, Daniel Fuchs, Mike Mitchell, Raoul Renaud, Jim Skeen, Doug Waterman, Jon Watterson

Staff Liaison: Brian Mickelson, Assistant City Engineer / Transportation Manager
Brian Abbanat, Transportation Planner

Council Liaison: Brett Lee, Robb Davis (alternate)

Absent: Bossard, Skeen, Councilmember Lee

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved unanimously at 5:33 p.m.

2. Proclamation of Appreciation for Commissioner Amy Lee

Approved unanimously.

3. Appointment of Commission Chair, Vice-Chair

*Commissioner Berg nominated for Chair (Renaud, Watterson)
Approved unanimously.*

*Commissioner Mitchell nominated for Vice-Chair (Watterson, Fuchs)
Approved unanimously.*

4. Commission and Staff Announcements

Brian Abbanat announced:

- An upcoming sustainability summit being organized by Cool Davis, date to be determined.*
- Nationally known city planner and transportation expert, Chuck Marohn, will be speaking on 1/22 at City Hall.*
- Correspondence letter in packet from citizen in neighborhood near the Mace Blvd project.*

Commissioner Fuchs announced he attended recent MRIC forum hosted by Davis Vanguard. Noted considerable opposition to housing. They discussed grade-separated crossing at Mace and Alhambra. He raised the issue of a “trouble spot” in the southwest corner of the project site.

Commissioner Mitchell announced he also attended MRIC forum. Davis Vanguard is hosting a discussion on Nishi on January 30th.

Commissioner Fuchs noted there will be a severe need for more bike parking downtown as a result of the Nishi and MRIC projects.

Commissioner Watterson inquired about Nishi and the timeframe for further discussion, stating the Draft EIR did not address the issues raised.

Commissioner Mitchell stated he was approached by a Councilmember regarding BTSSC thoughts on these projects.

5. Council Liaison Comments

Councilmember Davis spoke regarding his vision for a citation diversion program. Wants to use a creative approach, a fun event that is educational. Also spoke about Nishi project (Agenda Item #5). Explained why there is a lack of certainty regarding level of detail in the EIR at this point in time.

Commissioner Mitchell stated it would be helpful to have a written process regarding the project.

Commissioner Fuchs didn't want to get caught providing input too early or too late in the process.

6. Public Communications:

No comments.

7. Approval of Minutes: 12/10/15 Meeting

Approved unanimously (Fuchs, Waterman).

8. Bicycle / Pedestrian Program Update

Jennifer Donofrio, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, gave a presentation on the primary functions and current activities within the program. Bicycle Action Plan as the road map for improving bicycling in Davis. Focusing on three areas: Education, Outreach, and Special Projects.

Goal 1: Develop regular bike safety classes in Davis. Currently working on:

- Traffic Skills 101*
- League Certified Training (LCI) instructors*
- Bicycle Citation Diversion classes*

Goal 2: Collaborate with others to encourage people to bike, walk, and use transit.

Currently working on:

- *Chamber gala ride*
- *Fun rides*
- *May is Bike Month*
- *Articles to Davis Enterprise*

Goal 3: Special Projects. Currently working on:

- *League of American Bicyclists (LAB) recertification*
- *Regional bike share governance structure*
- *Transportation-friendly business program*
- *Bike parking enhancements at Central Parking*
- *Bicycle/pedestrian wayfinding*

Commissioners Mitchell and Watterson raised the importance of safely bicycling at night and advanced lighting technologies that people may not be aware of.

Jennifer Donofrio responded with a desire to establish a “Lights in a Pinch” program where downtown businesses could offer low-cost emergency bike lighting. Also mentioned a “Light the Night” event planned for November 6th to emphasize importance of bike lights while riding at night.

Alan Hirsch suggested City volunteers give “fix it” tickets to violators.

John Berg responded volunteers cannot stop cyclists.

9. Bicycle / Pedestrian Wayfinding Project

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator will provide an overview of the project. Project goals include:

- *Easier to get around*
- *Help emergency responders find people*
- *Develop coordinated signs and markers*
- *Share path names with Google for route guidance*

Phase 1: Davis Bike Loop. Install new bike loop markers before Bike Loopalooza on May 1st.

Phase 2: Name and sign the 53 miles of bike paths.

Schedule: Feb-March, develop naming criteria. April-May, name pathways

Phase 3: Directional signage.

Commissioner Watterson stated this project is extremely important for everyone, not just visitors. Distances to key destinations are critical. Should consider multiple loops.

Commissioner Renaud stated bike routes should be labeled on signs as in Marin County.

Commissioner Fuchs suggested adding pedestrians to the sign designs. Also, distances are important, people exaggerate distances in their mind.

Commissioner Bourne suggested naming paths in a way that is appealing to kids.

Alan Hirsch stated the project is exciting and long overdue. Make as simple as possible. Talk to Caltrans. Provide maps at junctions. Ask people where mistakes are made. Give the signs consistent directional meaning.

Mont Hubbard, Davis Bicycles!, commented it is disturbing that there may not be enough funding for Phase 3. Believes Phase 3 should come first.

Commissioner Mitchell stated the Bicycle Advisory Commission discussed the need for signs at intersections pointing to destinations.

Commissioner Watterson stated the bike loop markings should be Phase 3 not Phase 1.

Commissioner Mitchell stated the loop is primarily recreational, so not a priority.

Commissioner Berg emphasized the need for real solid, directional signage for the majority of users on paths & streets.

10. Long Range Calendar

Commissioner Mitchell requested to place downtown circulation back on the Long Range Calendar in the context of discussing what can be done to help bicyclists and drivers understand where bicyclists are supposed to be positioned on downtown roads. Referenced conversation with resident who no longer feels safe riding a bicycle downtown.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m. (Mitchell, Fuchs)