

**San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Advisory Committee**  
**DRAFT Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.**

County Government Center, 1055 Monterey St. Room 161/162, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

*The Bicycle Advisory Committee promotes the expanded use of bicycle transportation by working together with County staff to develop the County Bikeways Plan, reviewing the Plan and presenting a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for its adoption; by reviewing the policies and programs related to bicycling in the Circulation Element of the County General Plan and Local Coastal Plan and making recommendations on the goals and their implementation to the Board of Supervisors; and by reviewing the policies and programs related to bicycling in the Bikeways Element of the Regional Transportation Plan and providing input to the Board of Supervisors on the goals and their implementation.*

1. **Call to Order/Thank You**

2. **Roll Call**

Bicycle Advisory Committee

Heidi Wicka (District 1), Robin Culver (District 1), Josh Olejczak (District 2), **VACANT (District 2)**, Dale Sutliff (Chairperson, District 3), Myron "Skip" Amerine (Vice Chairperson, District 3), **VACANT (District 4)**, Rob Horch (absent) (District 4), **Claudia Callwood (District 5) (ABSENT)**, Ed Goshorn (District 5)

3. **Introductions**

Staff/Guests

Andy Mutziger, Air Pollution Control District  
Shaun Cooper, County Parks and Recreation  
Mike Poleking, CHP  
Josh Roberts, County Public Works,  
Rachel Naccarati, County Public Works  
Steve Hanamaikai, SLOCOG  
Steve McMasters, County Planning & Building  
Lea Brooks, City of San Luis Obispo BAC  
John Roberts, City of San Luis Obispo ATP Committee

4. **Approval of May 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Minutes are approved. Motioned by Heidi Wicka. Seconded by Josh Olejczak. Misspelled name of CHP officer to be corrected and be consistent. Motion carries unanimously.

5. **Public Comment**

John Roberts, Chair of City of San Luis Obispo ATP Committee, wants to bring to attention the BAC proposal by County to add buildings on the Health Campus on Johnson Avenue. City ATP plan calls for Class I trail through the property to provide connection of residents to the south to the high school; wants to make sure the BAC is involved in the planning process to be part of safe routes to school.

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Lea Brooks reiterates the need to look at this proposed pathway; that it is best to be involved early; and that this provides tremendous connection would provide a great incentive to bike to school.

Dale Sutliff mentions that this may be referred to at the February meeting, but we need to determine where it is in the planning process and when it would be best for the Committee to comment. Skip Amerine indicates this is a good City/County project that should be worked on cooperatively. Josh notes this still may be too early to define the path at this point; it will go before BAC when there is a true proposal or application request to review.

Josh Roberts reads an email comment received from North County resident Ward Ginger regarding bikes riding tandem on backcountry roads with double yellow lines. Bikes riding two abreast should not occur on winding roads with double yellow lines. Input from group: this is a CHP enforcement issue; riding two abreast is wrong. CHP has not cited in the past. CVC 21202.

Josh Olejczak notes damaged to a Class II bike lane sign.

#### 6. **Presentation – Bob Jones Bikeway**

Shaun Cooper, of County Parks and Recreation, presents a review of the 30% plans for the Bob Jones Bikeway section from Octagon Barn to Ontario Road Park and Ride lot; looking to set path to determine the right of way acquisition requirements. Rachel Naccarati of County Public Works overseeing Wallace group in the plan preparation.

Shaun describes the route from south to north; noting Caltrans constraints. Cattle easement along the east side of Route 101. Route through land conservancy parcels. Skip Amerine asks if the trail will be benched into a freeway slope raise out of the floodplain or placed at the lowest point. Rachel Naccarati notes it would be the lowest point. Josh Olejczak asks if the cattle easement would be a senior right if the trail placed there; with CHP responding.

Discussion on other site constraints involving gas lines along the length of the project. Shaun Cooper notes land conservancy has 2/3rds the properties involved and that they are on board with this effort. Project status to date has been completing a topographic survey for most of the work area and developing a specific alignment. It would have an undercrossing structure for San Luis Bay Drive to eliminate conflict. Looking to get final horizontal alignment before making more vertical layout precise.

Skip Amenine inquires about maintenance and emergency response vehicle requirements to access the path. This will be looked at. Also, inquiries about curves conforming to Highway Design Manual (HDM) Chapter 1000 requirements. Rachel Naccarati notes these are conforming to the HDM. Josh Olejczak indicates 15 mph minimum design speed. Shaun Cooper notes must follow HDM standards for the ATP application.

North of San Luis Bay Drive will travel through the existing apple orchards. Shaun notes that the flooding condition will remain, and that we will not elevate the pathway due to impacts to the floodplain. The trail will be closed for times when inundated. Near Barron Canyon Road/Monte Road, first bridge crossing creek is being analyzed. If the funding comes in phases, the project may place a turnaround at this location. Phase in from south to north. Complete to near the Barron Canyon entrance since the right of way acquisition would be straight forward.

North of Barron Canyon entrance, currently looking at hydraulic impacts to the creek and Route 101 as the creek channel narrows. At Cloverridge, Shaun Cooper notes the need to change the layout from the EIR to place a Class I trail separate from the roadway, along the west side of Cloverridge Road. Go underneath the intersection of Cloverridge Road (a southbound Route 101 off-ramp) with a large box culvert to run trail into alignment along the creek and South Higuera Street. At South Higuera Street, Skip Amerine questions the need to widen the existing bridge and impact to trail layout and parallel bikeway bridge. That analysis is deferred. Dale Sutliff raises the concern about the alignment of the curve south of the existing bridge on South Higuera Street and the need for County and Caltrans to look at realignment in the future. Heidi Wicka asks about how cyclists can get off the trail onto the roadway; to take the road if the trail is flooded. Rachel Naccarati notes the ability to get onto Cloverridge Road. Along South Higuera Street, Buckley Road will come into a signalized intersection; likely end of 2020. Shaun Cooper notes this is the Avila Ranch project. They will be constructing retaining walls near the Octagon Barn which will be placed back of proposed Class I trail. Skip Amerine discusses operation of the traffic signal and how the Class I trail needs to come into the signal to operate as part of the intersection phase.

Shaun Cooper notes that SLOCOG has recently granted an additional \$350,000 in regional funding to advance the project design to 100%, to be competitive for the next round of ATP funding.

Robin Culver inquires about Route 101 crossing, is there much work there? Shaun Cooper notes this is roughly at existing grade of creek through here to go under bridge. Josh Olejczak asks about means to control flooding through the area between Route 101 and San Luis Bay Drive. That there is a mitigation site adjacent that could alleviate flooding. Or that there could be some connection into this mitigation site.

## 7. **Committee/Staff Reports**

### I. CHP Public Information Officer (Mike Poleking):

- Addresses cyclist riding two abreast and not to the far edge of the lane. Reviews photos of conditions with the committee.
- We are all users of the road and responsible for use/interaction along the roadway. Three-foot rule came into effect and so assignment of blame can be determined. Still working on how this is enforced. Drivers must proceed with safety on crossing double yellow lines to get around cyclists.
- There have been 14 bike related collisions this year; half bike responsibility and half

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driver at fault. No fatalities this year.

- Provides tips for cyclists and motorists to educate on use and “Sharing the Road”. Being predictable is key for cyclists.
- Dale Sutliff notes that Bike SLO County does a great job in school bicycle riding rules/education; best program for addressing. Josh Olejczek requests CHP oversight of group training for consistency. Skip Amerine notes the cyclist needs to police themselves, specifically clubs.
- Andy Mutziger questions the application of the three-foot rule. Officer Poleking reviews the Code indicating the driver must slow when encountering the cyclist and shall overtake only when safe; must conform to other elements of the CVC so cannot cross double yellow line for overtaking. The officer has discretion on citation but does figure into collision causation.

II. County Public Works (Josh Roberts):

- Notes the need to clean up Johnson Ranch entrance with the City of San Luis Obispo; defer to item on agenda.
- Responds to Price Canyon Road shoulder condition; will be looking at pavement cracking.
- Discusses closure of River Road to all traffic at the bridges. Caltrans has done inspection of bridges and are not structurally adequate. Working on repairs once we have final assessment from Caltrans. Heidi Wicka notes that Caltrans has already closed bike access along Route 101 due to Route 101 rehabilitation project in San Miguel. Closing River Road will force cyclists that much further east out of their path of travel. Public Works working to reopen it at earliest opportunity.

III. BAC Chairperson Report (Dale Sutliff):

- Notes there has been only two referrals filed from Planning Department; one being on Rocky Canyon Road (Quarry operations). Dale submitted comments and clarified haul route; path is on Halcon Road unless Halcon Road is washed out/closed. Steve McMasters clarifies. The second referral was the Caltrans Old Creek bridge on Route 1. Northbound is being replaced. BAC had commented on southbound and now commenting on northbound bridge. Both the Old Creek and Toro Creek bridge (northbound only) should be replaced in the next two years; important since it is unknown when the Morro Bay-Cayucos connector would be constructed.

IV. Air Pollution Control District (Andy Mutziger):

- Project on Santa Margarita Ranch will increase truck traffic out onto the ranch (Route 58/Pozo Road).
- Chandler Ranch and Olsen Ranch in the City of Paso Robles under review for development. The time is now for comment submittal for future residential development.

- APCD program for commute reduction; proposed 50 cents a day payment for alternative

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commute but looking to increase to \$5 per day. Look at bringing back APCD in future to use as a model for incentive program for employers. Mindbody is already embarking on a \$5 per day payment for alternative commute. Skip Amerine notes employers need to provide the facilities/showers to promote increase use of biking as an alternative. Josh Olejczek asks about approaching RV parks/campsites about creating alternative transportation systems.

V. County Parks and Recreation (Shaun Cooper):

- Public Works moving forward with alternative route along west side of railroad for Templeton-Atascadero Connector; have funding for construction from ATP. SLOCOG provided \$250,000 of additional project development funding to repackage new alignment. Would be looking to extend the project schedule via the California Transportation Commission. Rescope was necessary due to on-going railroad crossing which kept increasing in cost due to shoofly construction. Railroad would not allow a public at-grade crossing at this location. Community Service District has a private crossing.
- Morro Bay-Cayucos Connector; working on Land Conservancy acquisition issues and will be looking for potential ATP grant in next cycle.

VI. SLOCOG (Steve Hanamaikai)

- Adopting the Regional Transportation Plan; received comments from BAC. Looking how to designate funds for regional projects. Will be having discussion on near-term programming at October SLOCOG meeting for final adoption at the December SLOCOG meeting.
- Reviews funding for Atascadero-Templeton trail (\$250,000) and Bob Jones (\$350,000) for continued project development to full construction contract documents.
- Notes SLOCOG has funding for wayfinding sign development and bike counts through regional ATP funding pot.
- Has program for safe routes to school; \$450,000 available and would have competition for projects. These projects vary in size.
- Regional Safety funding program available for studies to determine safety needs and solutions.
- SLOCOG bike counts; working through data from May. Looking second week in September for additional counts; have five deployed counters. Added new one on south side of Route 101 from Pismo Beach to Five Cities Drive path. Skip Amerine notes high numbers on Bob Jones. Andy Mutziger notes APCD does the bike counts on bike to work days; has intern which gathers the counts with Bike SLO County.
- Regional ATP plan being developed; look at gap analysis. Perhaps use for prioritizing funding.
- Working on sign inventory for the Pacific Coast Bike Route; see what is missing and determine what segments of the route to sign. Possibly develop a sign account to draw from for establishment/maintenance. Skip Amerine notes US Bike Route 95 signage falls; will be subject to future fund availability. SLOCOG does not own the right of way so would work through others.

- Dale Sutliff raises issue about use of e-bikes; may need SLOCOG to start tracking usage differently than bicycling. We may need to look at trail use/rules over time. May extend demographic groups for cycling.

VII. County Planning and Building (Steve McMasters):

- The Santa Margarita Ranch AG Cluster tract map was approved back in 2006(?). Required trail/path between 100 lot tracts along Route 58 north of Pozo Road and the town of Santa Margarita; will see what is being proposed. Would HOA maintain? What standard will they be using? Dale Sutliff notes Caltrans working to replace bridge on Route 58 at Trout Creek and add shoulders with future paving contract. Trail would be from crest of hill into J Street. Not something that may be submitted to BAC (since it is internal to tract boundary).

VIII. Caltrans

- No Report

8. **BAC Business & Discussion**

A. USBR 95 Route – Final Designation

Dale Sutliff provides overview of discussion. City of San Luis Obispo has acted on a route through the city that allows the County to then act. Skip Amerine notes that national bike routes provide a way for more recognition of the City of San Luis Obispo by going through town instead of skirting town via Los Osos Valley Road. BAC had already preliminary decided to match the city route; would have route along Foothill Road into the city of San Luis Obispo. Alternative is to provide route down Route 1 to San Luis Obispo. Looking for letter of support from BAC chair to have Board of Supervisors proceed with resolution for route adoption/submittal to Caltrans.

**Action: Direct Chair to send letter of support of Option B for selected route to Board of Supervisors. Skip Amerine moves. Robin Culver seconds. Motion carries unanimously.**

B. Ontario Road at Johnson Ranch Entrance

Dale Sutliff covers overview of conditions existing at the entrance. City of San Luis Obispo has built new on-site parking (which looks like corral). But need to look at providing for users and safety in the entrance area. Need City/County partnering to be safe and well maintained. Staff recommendation is to seek formal encroachment permit to get developed driveway. Josh Roberts notes need to formalize driveway action. Dale Sutliff also notes need for bike parking at this location. Skip Amerine notes the City has bike parking requirements that should be checked and applied to this open space facility.

Vehicle conflicts exist on pull out and U-turns on the road to cyclist. Need to have organization of street parking and egress/ingress into new lot.

**Action: Support Staff Recommendation to seek driveway encroachment permit from City of San Luis Obispo. Josh Olejczek moves. Robin Culver seconds. Motion carries unanimously.**

C. Use of Bollards on Trails; Policy Development and Use of Alternatives

Dale provides overview of staff report content noting AASHTO standards, Caltrans and design considerations. Staff recommendation is to use AASHTO three-stage approach to evaluate the necessity of bollards. Skip Amerine notes detail of striping around bollard and minimum width of trail necessary to accommodate the striping shown in detail (say 12 feet paved width at that point instead of typical 10 feet). Clearance required at these points. Notes that most bollards are obstacles, not necessary, and an obstacle for maintenance vehicles. With collapsible bollard, if they are left in down position with maintenance vehicle travel, then this is an obstacle for cyclists. Provides example of American River trail in Sacramento, where maintenance vehicles need to pull the bollards and set aside off the trail so as not to be obstacles.

Dale Sutliff requests for Bob Jones and Templeton-Atascadero set the standard on how to use or not to use bollards. If you must have a bollard, make sure there is 12 feet or more width to allow path of travel around the bollard. Also, look to locate the bollard further into the trail from the access point, then right at the entrance.

Dale Sutliff asks group about whether this applies to existing trails or just new construction; cites other agency concerns on use of bollards. There is no uniform standard, which needs to happen, but using AASHTO guidance provides framework. Bottom line is, when warranted, to make bollards visible, clear to cyclists, and safe.

Should we use current AASHTO or state "most current"? Will the BAC review plan for future trail plans for application? Most likely.

**Action: Support modified Staff Recommendation to utilize the "most current" AASHTO approach for evaluation of need for bollards. Skip Amerine moves. Robin Culver seconds. Motions carries unanimously.**

9. **Project Updates**

Dale asks for any highlights to note on project updates. Notes 22nd Street in Oceano with portion of bike lanes added with near term paving project; provides access to school.

10. **Future Agenda Items**

- A. Buckley Road Corridor Planning and Associated Route 227 Improvements (Multi-modal element for review and possible joint committee review with the city)
- B. 2020 BAC Calendar and Start Time
- C. Election of Chair/Vice-Chair

11. **Adjourn - Next Meeting - November 12, 2019** (Meeting Time - 3:11p.m.)