



## Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM, Monday, February 25, 2019  
Rohnert Park City Hall, Conference Room 2A  
130 Avram Avenue, Rohnert Park, California 94928

**Members Present:** Creighton Bell X Tim Hensel X Shirley Johnson X  
Gary Kenworthy \_\_ Katie Musick X

**Non-Voting Participants:** Vanessa Garrett, Deputy City Engineer, City of Rohnert Park; Eydie Tacata, Management Analyst, City of Rohnert Park; Eris Weaver, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition; Tim Smith, resident

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Katie Musick called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

### 2. Introductions

Chair Musick commenced self-introductions.

### 3. Public Comments

Tim Smith (4467 Hollingsworth Circle) spoke about the need for a bicycle/pedestrian bridge over the creek between Holly and Fauna Avenues. Mr. Smith said that when he was on the City Council, the Holly-Fauna Bridge was in the Rohnert Park General Plan circulation element and the City's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). While one citizen expressed opposition to the bridge at a City Council meeting at the time – and the proposed bridge project has since disappeared from the CIP – the need for a bridge has not gone away. He showed a photo of the creek full of water from the recent storm. Mr. Smith gave several reasons to install a bridge, such as environmental protection of the creek by mitigating the items placed there to cross it (e.g. planks, mattresses); creating additional emergency egress in the neighborhood; and providing accessible routes for a wider range of users. Mr. Smith said that there is considerable support for a bridge among his neighbors. He asked the Committee to study the issue and need for the project. He advocates putting the project back on the City's CIP.

Eris Weaver, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, introduced herself as the new Executive Director. Ms. Weaver said that she was getting out to all parts of Sonoma County to listen in on the various bicycle and pedestrian committees and to make sure they knew of SCBC's ongoing support and advocacy. In an effort to create an ongoing stream of knowledge of what's going on throughout the County, she was looking for a volunteer "correspondent" from each of the bicycle/pedestrian advisory committees, and she hoped that the Rohnert Park Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee would consider providing one. Ms. Weaver left her contact information for follow-up.

### 4. Consideration of Approval of Minutes of December 17, 2018

Vice Chair Creighton Bell moved to approve meeting minutes of December 17, 2018; the motion was seconded by Committee Member Shirley Johnson and approved by a vote count of 4 ayes (Bell, Hensel, Johnson, Musick), 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 1 absence (Kenworthy).

## 5. **Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Updates**

Vanessa Garrett, Deputy City Engineer, provide updates on several bicycle and pedestrian facility projects going to construction later this spring and summer:

- **Laguna Bridge Approach ADA Upgrade**

The bid opening for this project will be held on March 6, 2019. The project will improve the east and west approaches of the Laguna Bike/Ped Bridge to have ADA-compliant slopes and to prevent the recurring and problematic “lip” that forms at the junction of the asphalt path and bridge.

- **Pathway Repaving**

This project will replace existing failing asphalt paths at several locations with concrete path, which is the updated City construction standard. The locations include the Coleman Creek Path from Golis Park to Hillview Way and the path on west side of Camino Colegio from Magnolia Drive to the City well site.

Committee Member Johnson asked whether the asphalt path on Camino Colegio north of SOMO Village was considered for rehabilitation. Ms. Garrett said that the path segment belongs to the owners of SOMO Village, making it their responsibility for repair or replacement.

- **Sidewalk Rehabilitation and New Installations**

Failing sidewalk will be replaced at several locations, including: south side of Southwest Boulevard between Camino Colegio and Country Club Drive; north side of Camino Colegio between Manchester Avenue and Mitchell Drive; northeast corner of Commerce Boulevard and Arlen Drive; driveway of Northern Fire Station on Country Club Drive; and north side of Rohnert Park Expressway west of Lynne Conde Way. The project will also include a sidewalk gap closure on Labath Avenue.

- **ADA Ramp Upgrades**

ADA ramps will be upgraded at locations along Redwood Drive and Commerce Boulevard, including width and slope correction and installation of truncated dome tactile surfaces.

Committee Member Johnson noted that while she appreciates the need for the tactile surfaces for visually-impaired users, the truncated domes pose difficulties for others, including wheelchair users such as herself, other assisted-mobility users (e.g. walkers), and even users with strollers. Vice Chair Bell agreed and asked if there were other alternatives for tactile surfaces. Ms. Garrett said that the truncated domes were the current Caltrans standard meeting ADA requirements.

## 6. **Southwest/ Commerce Roundabout**

Ms. Tacata explained that in anticipation of a Southwest/Commerce Roundabout item at the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, she provided minutes of past meetings when the Committee discussed various bike and pedestrian issues as well as facility deficiencies at the project location.

Vice Chair Bell asked about the extent of the roundabout project. Ms. Garrett said that besides the roundabout itself, the project concept at this time includes repaving and reconfiguring of Southwest Boulevard to No Name Street and Commerce Boulevard to Alison Avenue, and possibly a new sidewalk along the north side of Southwest Boulevard.

Chair Musick asked what exactly was needed from Committee members at the March discussion about the roundabout. Ms. Tacata said she wanted the Committee members to review the minutes

and determine if the issues the Committee brought up were still relevant, and also if they had other concerns that would inform an upcoming Request for Proposals for design of the roundabout.

**7. 2019 Meeting Calendar**

The Committee and staff reviewed the calendar and agreed to the following 2019 meeting dates: March 25, April 22, May 20, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28, November 18 and December 16.

**8. Staff and Committee Member Updates on Previous Matters**

Ms. Tacata reported that the pedestrian-activated Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB) signs at the Snyder Lane @ Capri Way /Rosana Way crosswalk were installed a couple of months ago. She said that this was a result of the Committee's study and their recommendation for safety improvements at this crosswalk.

Chair Musick asked about the striping of the bike lane west of the Rohnert Park Expressway and Petaluma Hill Road intersection which was brought up by Vin Hoagland, Sonoma County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee representative at a prior meeting. Ms. Tacata said she reviewed the construction plans for the widening which showed that the striping was installed as designed – unfortunately, not to include a bike lane to the left of the right vehicular lane.

**9. New Matters for Future Consideration**

Vice Chair Bell suggested revisiting the officer election schedule, noting that the City Council does not approve appointments until their January meeting, yet the Committee's election of officers is in December, when it may not be certain that some members will return. Ms. Tacata said that their Committee Guidelines could be amended if they wish; the item would need to be put on a future meeting agenda to be considered and acted on.

Committee Member Hensel said that along the Copeland Creek Path at a bridge location approximately north of Richard Crane Elementary School, recycling and garbage receptacles were recently installed but have not been emptied. Committee members shared that the City Public Works could be called directly in this case. Chair Musick added that the City's customer service phone app is very helpful, and she has found that graffiti and other issues are dealt with very quickly when she uses the app to report them.

Chair Musick summarized a set of future agenda items, which included the request from Vice Chair Bell to review officer elections and terms of office; a prior request from Committee Member Johnson to review pedestrian facilities on the west side of town, especially Labath Avenue; a prior request from Committee Member Hensel to look at the Golf Course Drive crosswalk at Hacienda Way; and the citizen request to discuss the Holly-Fauna Bridge. She added that the Committee should have field trips to look at the sites as necessary.

**10. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:30 PM.



Eydie Tacata, Recording Secretary  
Rohnert Park Bicycle and  
Pedestrian Advisory Committee



Katie Musick, Chair  
Rohnert Park Bicycle and  
Pedestrian Advisory Committee