

Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee
Approved Minutes of the Wednesday, January 9, 2008 Regular Meeting
Himmel Park Library, 1035 N. Treat Avenue
Tucson, AZ

Prepared and Submitted by
Secretary Richard Corbett,
City Ward 5 Representative

1. Call to Order, Introductions and Approval of December Meeting Minutes

A quorum being present, Chair Diana Tolton called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Members and guests present then introduced themselves (see attendance list at end of this document).

Chair Tolton asked that the draft December BAC minutes be revised to include:

Chair Tolton then stated that the public perception of the governments would be damaged if the various jurisdictions divert from the original map and the list of projects that went through a process of prioritization specifically for the election. There was a process of ranking the projects that involved several criteria including limited funds, balance in region, population served, continuity of bicycle facilities and greatest use and impact. The BAC spent hours and a whole Saturday ranking over 104 projects and feel very strongly that any funds diverted from the original list jeopardizes the completion of those projects on the list.

Member Donna Aversa then moved to adopt the December 12, 2007 minutes with the suggested revisions, Downtown Sub-committee Chair David Bachman-Williams seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

2. Call to Public

Former BAC Member Bill Katzel stated that he is developing a strategy for the Jan 31st PAG Regional Council regarding the proposed additional non-voter-approved, non-ballot RTA bike projects (which are a grave concern to the cycling community). He asks that as many cyclists as possible attend this meeting.

He went on to mention that Hershey's is marketing a new candy that looks like crack cocaine, called 'Ice Breaker Pack'. He urged members to contact Hershey's and get these off the sales racks.

Citizen Eric Gonnason stated that he has bicycled to work for 14 years and reiterates that it is quite safe (he cited Secretary Corbett's 170,000 miles of cycling safely). He believes the BAC should advocate more for cycling, as an article in Bicycling Magazine stated that the more cyclists there are, the lower the crash rates.

3. Law Enforcement Report

Pima County Sheriff's Deputy Ryan Roher noted that there were four reported incidents involving bicycles, including three collisions, in un-incorporated Pima

County for December. He went on to say that there were two complaints about the shootout ride.

Member Dave Boston asked if younger cyclists were getting educated? Deputy Roher said only if they were cited. Secretary Corbett asked why parents are not cited, as the statutes specifically make parents responsible for their child bicycle riders (ARS 28- 811).

Member Jean Gorman stated that cyclists need 360 awareness, and mentioned the recent horseback rider death

Tucson Police Lt Mike Pryor reported that while it might seem improbable, there were exactly the same number of bicycle crashes in 2007 as there had been in 2006 – 332. This translates into a reduced rate as the City’s population grew in this period.

He went on to report that the Share the Road pamphlets were widely distributed by officers, and that the targeted enforcement program (bike officers and motorcycle officers) is continuing, and that training for targeted enforcement is continuing to be expanded.

Vice-Chair Brian Beck asked if data is available on cyclists versus motorists’ citations? Lt Pryor responded that only very recent data is available.

Enforcement Sub-committee Chair Eric Post stated that he will be getting these reports in the future and will share them with the BAC as a whole.

Secretary Corbett stated that he and a fellow rider were passed WAY too closely on the 22nd Street overpass, and were able to positively ID the driver as well as getting the license plate number. He called the non-emergency number (791-4444) and was advised to go to the website (<http://198.182.64.40/Reporting/>), which was not working. So, he gave up.

Pima County Bike Program Manager Matt Zoll stated that his westbound son was right hooked at Broadway and Campbell, but was able to mitigate the event thru use of an emergency turn. He was slightly injured, and the driver fled the scene.

U of A Police Corporal Chris Scheopner stated he had nothing to report this month.

4. City’s Urban Landscape Framework

Chair Tolton introduced Irene Ogata of the Tucson Planning Department. Ogata presented the work done to date, including a PowerPoint presentation and a handout.

See the following URL for the description of the overall project:

http://www.tucsonaz.gov/planning/prog_proj/projects/urbanlandscape/index.html

See the following URL for the description of the project report:

<http://www.tucsonaz.gov/planning/newslinks/ulf%20web%20draft%20121807.pdf>

Ogata noted that the project report had been presented to the Mayor and Council Environment, Planning and Resource Management Subcommittee in November 2007 (see <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/focus/ig/index.php> for Subcommittee membership and agendas).

The next steps, according to Ogata, are a “Living Infrastructure Plan”, which will include these four major elements:

1. Landscape & Water
2. Landscape & Human Health
3. Landscape & Built Environment
4. Landscape & Ecology

Contact Ogata at Irene.Ogata@tucsonaz.gov or 791-4505 for more information.

Chair Tolton commented that washes have been improved a lot. Ogata went on to say that the Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan is well done. In terms of diversity, we are quantity rich, but diversity poor. Ogata then asked if the BAC would like to endorse the Urban Landscape Framework?

Enforcement Sub-committee Chair Eric Post stated that there are trees on Speedway (east of Country Club) that are a hazard to cyclists in the bike lane.

Vice-Chair Brian Beck stated that we seem to making things easier for cars – how do we improve shading for pedestrians, especially at corners? Bus shelters are being revised to allow water harvesting, as per Tom Fisher.

Buffel grass was mentioned as an unrecognized, but serious threat to the Sonoran Desert.

Secretary Corbett moved that the BAC support the Urban Landscape Framework, and Downtown Sub-committee Chair David Bachman-Williams seconded the motion. The motion was passed with two opposing it, based on lack of bike friendly trees.

A motion to amend the motion just passed to include bike friendly trees, and send a letter of support was made by Member Donna Aversa, and seconded by Downtown Sub-committee Chair David Bachman-Williams. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Adoption of Updated Bylaws

Pima County Bike Program Manager Matt Zoll stated that he had submitted the latest version of the revised bylaws to the Pima county Attorney’s Office and that they had concerns about the wording for a quorum. There was discussion about the best way to further simplify the wording.

It was decided to use:

QUORUM. A majority of the members appointed to the committee, but not less than nine (9) members, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. If additional members are appointed pursuant to Art. 2 (c)(3), those persons shall also count towards a quorum, but only so long as such individuals serve.

A motion to adopt the wording as presented (above) was made by Enforcement Sub-committee Chair Eric Post, and seconded by Downtown Sub-committee Chair David Bachman-Williams. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee Appointment

Parliamentarian Steve Bresler explained the need for a BAC representative on CTAC. His term has expired, and he cannot be reappointed – this is critically important, yet does not have to be a BAC member. No one volunteered, however, Member Jean Gorman asked that information be E-mailed to her.

7. Consent Agenda

Member Wayne Cullop asked that the shootout letter be taken off the consent agenda.

Member Donna Aversa moved to approve the remaining item on the consent agenda, and Parliamentarian Steve Bresler seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion then took place regarding the shootout letter.

Member Wayne Cullop said he felt the letter was a reprimand, and he suggest that a meeting to resolve the situation be held, to include a ‘round robin’ discussion.

Pima County Bike Program Manager Matt Zoll stated that he had ridden the shootout ride at least 300 times over the years, and that he feels there have been a number of positive steps taken to address concerns, including a group of older cyclists who leave 10 minutes before the rest of the riders.

Enforcement Sub-committee Chair Eric Post liked the meeting idea, but still worries about potential enforcement actions.

Pima County Bike Program Manager Matt Zoll said he could help arrange a meeting, and he could also enlist the ride’s leaders to make modifications to reduce the rides impacts.

Facilities Sub-committee Chair Bill Adamson urged a letter to both the cyclists and the law enforcement officials.

It was agreed that Enforcement Sub-committee Chair Eric Post, Pima County Bike Program Manager Matt Zoll, and Member Wayne Cullop would arrange a meeting. Vice-Chair Brian Beck asked to be included.

Enforcement Sub-committee Chair Eric Post and Member Wayne Cullop both stated that their objective is to ‘defuse’ the situation.

Chair Tolton, noting the time, dropped agenda item 8. It will be first on the agenda next time.

8. Recap of Davis Bike Conference

Item postponed due to lack of time.

9. Subcommittee Reports

Downtown: Downtown Sub-committee Chair David Bachman-Williams reported that both the modern streetcar and the downtown links are moving ahead. The reconstruction of the 4th Avenue Underpass is also progressing. He raised the possibility of the Downtown Sub-committee reorganizing in such a way as to meld with the Facilities Sub-committee.

Facilities: Facilities Sub-committee Chair Bill Adamson noted that a very important item is coming up – the reconstitution of the PAG Bike-Ped Working group. He believes it is critical that BAC have a representative, yet he also wants Former BAC Member Roy Schoonover to be on the group, as Roy’s skills and experience are incredibly valuable. So, he suggests that since Roy is not a BAC member, he should be appointed a BAC ex-officio member and be the BAC representative. Bill has been recommended to be the Santa Cruz Valley Bicycle Advocate Committee representative.

Discussion ensued as to how Roy might be able to be the BAC representative. The By-Laws say the Chair may appoint up to four Ex-Officio members (above and beyond the ordinance positions for the City and County Bicycle Staff representatives). Member Donna Aversa suggested that Roy be appointed as a Ex-Officio member. This will have to be on next month’s agenda.

10. Announcements

Enforcement Sub-committee Chair Eric Post stated that his Sub-committee will change its meeting to 5:00 pm, prior to the Executive Sub-committee (which meets the last Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm, at the Ward 6 Council Office).

11. Action Item Review

No report on this item.

12. Staff Reports

PAG Staff Member Gabe Thum announced the availability of PAG Traffic Volumes Maps, and calendars.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

~~~ ATTENDANCE ~~~

**Members**

Bill Adamson, Pima County  
Donna Aversa, Oro Valley  
David Bachman-Williams, Pima County  
Brian Beck, Ward 2 (Vice-Chair)  
Dave Boston, Ward 6  
Steve Bresler, Ward 1 (Parliamentarian)  
Richard Corbett, Ward 5 (Secretary)  
Tony Crosby, Pima County  
Wayne Cullop, Ward 4  
Jean Gorman, Mayor's Representative  
Norm Land, Pima County  
Martha Lemen, Pima County  
Eric Post, Pima County  
Diana Tolton, Pima County (Chair)

**Staff**

Steve Cheslak, Marana  
Irene Ogata, Tucson Planning  
Lt. Mike Pryor, Tucson Police Dept.  
Dep. Ryan Roher, Sheriff's Office  
Chris Scheopner, U of A Police Dept.  
Tom Thivener, TDOT  
Gabe Thum, PAG  
Matt Zoll, PCDOT

**Members of the Public**

Eric Gonnason, Citizen  
Bill Katzel, Citizen  
Eric Ryberg, Citizen