

MINUTES
BICYCLE SAFETY COMMITTEE
Monday, March 7, 2011

Attendees

Committee members: Denis LaBonge, John Heffernan, Tony Petros, Stephen Sholkoff, Nancy Gardner (Excused absences: Barbara Danzi, Sean Matsler)

Staff: Dave Kiff, Jay Johnson, Brad Sommers, Dale Johnson, Tara Finnigan

Members of the Public: David Huntsman, Pete Van Nuys, Marshall Perkins, Dan Purcell, Amy Senk, Jeff Fylling, Mahaise Cini, Hunter Cook, Arman Taba, Laura Curran, Karen Tringali.

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 and introductions were made.
2. Report from the chair: The CdM Residents Assn. will have its annual meeting April 20 at Sherman Gardens. This will be an opportunity for outreach to the community, particularly regarding sharrows. At the April meeting there will be a call for volunteers. Orange Coast River Park is working on a trails plan. Frank Peters requested that the meeting date for April be changed, but there wasn't a quorum at that point to make a determination.
3. Old Business
 - A. Capital projects
 - i. Castaways: The area will be restriped and there will be "share the path" signs;
 - ii. Stephen Sholkoff clarified his request for one-way ingress and egress.
 - iii. Downhill advisory signage—staff showed a proposed sign. It was suggested that
 - iv. the language be "Control speed" instead of "Watch speed" and that in an area like
 - v. Vista Ridge there be a sign midway down as well. It was also suggested that the HOA entry areas on that road have "Watch For" signs.
 - vi. Sharrows and share the road signage—staff showed a proposed sign that would alert motorists to a sharrows area and what it means. Staff has done the measurements to determine where the sharrows would be placed on PCH through CdM. It was emphasized how important outreach and education are on this subject, including an assurance that this will not markedly increase bike traffic in that area. Also emphasized was the need to indicate alternative routes.
 - B. Education and outreach
 - i. Subcommittee on bike map trail marking—the map will be online for comment.

- ii. Letter to HOAs re maintenance staff parking in bike lanes–the letter has gone out to HOAs and maintenance companies putting them on notice that the parking will be enforced.
- iii. Subcommittee on outreach and awareness–the committee presented to proposals, one that is bottom-up with rides and education, the other top-down with council participation. Gardner will clarify certain elements with the city attorney prior to next meeting. Funding was brought up, and she said that if the committee finds potential grant opportunities she will write the grants for submittal.
- iv. Liaison reports–none on SART/CCC; Barbara Danzi sent around her report separately.
- v. Brochure update–responses have been received from committee members and OCBC. Final comments must be in by Friday, March 11.

C. Police report–The police conducted a bicycle safety day aimed at education and awareness for both cyclists and drivers and issues some citations, but most were warnings. The department is going through the last five years of accidents involving bicycles as a tool in education and understanding.

4. New Business

A. Trail issues–Steve Sholkoff presented a photo essay on the challenges of getting from the Santa Ana River trail to the San Joaquin trail. The main problem is inadequate signing, and Tony Petros said that this was an opportunity to improve connectivity between communities and would research potential grant opportunity which he would bring back to the committee.

Dan Purcell presented several minutes of GPS-linked video that featured several bikes lanes in the City. Dan showed examples of potential hazards – road flares left behind, broken glass, pedestrians standing in or immediately adjacent to the bike lane, etc. He offered to ride & video any bike lane in the city requested by the committee.

John Heffernan noted that several roadway hazards submitted through the Quest system have not been addressed. Dave Kiff indicated he would follow-up on those.

B. Lighting – Due to time constraints Dennis LaBonge offered to continue his presentation until the next meeting.

C. Future Agenda topics

- i. Report on Complete Streets Legislation
- ii. Bike racks
- iii. Changing state law re: penalties for accidents
- iv. Continued item – Lighting
- v. Key intersections / “Hot Spots”

vi. Outreach Plan & Implementation

5. Public Comment

Karen Tringali, CdM Residents Association, announced the CDMRA annual meeting will be held on April 20 at Sherman Gardens and invited the committee to provide speakers for a panel discussion. The committee will select representatives for the panel at its April meeting.

Pete Van Nuys was asked to offer his Bike Safety 101 class in April, ahead of Bike Safety Month. Frank Peters will be the point person.

Two residents (Mahaise Cini and Laura Curran) inquired about changing the color of roadway striping and stenciling (for bike lanes, sharrows, etc.) to make them more visible. The City follows federal and state traffic safety standards when signing and striping.

A concern was raised that motorists honking or shouting at cyclists is jarring and could lead to accidents.

In response to a question about how the recent fatality on San Joaquin Hills could have prevented, the City Manager said that the cyclist was in the bike lane, had the correct safety equipment, etc. It is early in the accident investigation, but it appears that the accident was the fault of the motorist.

Dennis LaBonge noted a solar-powered stop sign in Huntington Beach and suggested similar, lighted signage should be installed in concert with the sharrows.

6. Adjournment

Next meeting – April 4, 2011