



**SAN LUIS OBISPO  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 15, 2001**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The San Luis Obispo Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on Thursday, November 15, 2001, in the Council Hearing Room at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, California.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Jean Anderson, Mary Lou Johnson, Wes Conner, Tim Valentine, Chris Overby,  
and  
Mark Grayson

**Absent:** Bruce Collier

**Staff:** Terry Sanville, Principal Transportation Planner

Also present were: Christine Mulholland, Liaison from the San Luis Obispo City Council, Deby Anderson, Cal Poly Commuter & Access Services Coordinator and Nick Pearson, Cal Poly Wheelmen President, Joel Beeterman, Civil Engineer, John Altman, Cyclist, and John Neil, Cal Poly Student

**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chris Overby read a letter from Oxo Slayer, Executive Director, San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition, concerning the corner of Broad, South and Santa Barbara Streets. In the letter, Mr. Slayer expressed concern for pedestrian and cyclist safety, as there are no crosswalks. He also cited the corner of Orcutt and Broad Streets as another area of concern. The walk signal to cross Broad Street is on at the same time the green turn arrow signals drivers turning onto Broad from Orcutt Street, creating a potential hazard for pedestrian and cyclists.

No further public comment.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*The Minutes of September 20, 2001, were approved as corrected.*

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**1. ESTABLISHING CLASS II BIKE LANES ALONG SLACK STREET WEST OF GRAND AVENUE.** (Continued from September Bicycle Committee Meeting)

Mr. Sanville discussed the history and findings of Public Works Surveys conducted in February 2000 and May 2001. He presented factors, outlined in the meeting agenda, for and against bicycle lanes on Slack Street; recommending the Committee find that the existing classification of bike path be maintained. He discussed action alternatives for the committee presented on page 17 of the agenda report.

Ms. Anderson inquired if there were special parking permits issued along Slack Street.

Mr. Sanville replied that there is a neighborhood-parking program maintained by the City, which issues parking permits for the area, but they do not apply for the north side of Slack Street.

Mr. Valentine questioned the original area of concern for the area.

Mr. Sanville replied that the initial concerns were not clearly articulated; that some residents in the area expressed concern for the mix of traffic and safety and requested that it be studied to determine if there was something needed to be done with regards to bicycle traffic and safety issues.

Mr. Connor commented that the issue has been before the committee for over a year and the issue was delayed from the last committee meeting to allow for public comment.

Ms. Anderson supports the Staff recommendation and noted that there have been no formal requests for bike lanes along Slack Street. Parked cars don't create a problem.

Motion presented by Committee Member Wes Connor to accept staff recommendation to preserve a Class III designation at this time.

Second by Tim Valentine.

Discussion of motion. The item has been carried over for a long time. Mr. Connor commented that he is a resident of the community being discussed, uses the route quite often and has never had a problem with traversing the area on a bicycle. Ms. Anderson spoke about spending a two-hour span of time cycling along Slack Street. Could see pavement needs attention and signage should be considered, but could see no problem with cycling down the street.

Mr. Overby commented that installing a bicycle lane could give a false sense of security to bicyclists and could create a problem during the times that parents pick up and deliver their children to Pacheco Elementary School.

Mr. Connor commented that there didn't seem to any children cycling, and if there were, a bicycle lane might be more of a concern.

Ms. Anderson discussed her conversation with the school crossing guard on the corner of Grand Avenue and Slack Street.

A member of the audience inquired about the differences between bicycle lane designations.

Mr. Sanville provided the following information concerning bicycle lane designations:

Class I: Designates a bicycle path fully separated from the street.

Class II: Designates a bicycle path, which is striped on the street, with traffic.

Class III: Designates a bicycle route, which may, or may not, have signage to identify that bicyclists use the road.

Discussion of bicycle lane designations.

Ms. Johnson expressed appreciation for the hard work done, and data provided by the City Staff, and commented that she felt comfortable with the motion presented. She called for a vote.

Motion carried.

## **2. PROMOTION AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:**

Ms. Anderson said that there had been one meeting since the subcommittee was formed. She has collected quite a bit of information with the focus being on educating children. The subcommittee is still collecting information and has spent time helping out with the Police Department's Bike Rodeo. She also conducted a presentation and mini-rodeo at Cayucos School, which was very well received. She discussed "Safe Routes to School" brochures and presented samples from the City of Ventura and Marin County.

Mr. Sanville suggested holding another subcommittee meeting to compile all the information collected and resolve a final product to present to the committee.

Ms. Johnson agreed.

No further discussion.

## **3. BIKE PLAN UPDATE SUBCOMMITTEE:**

Ms. Anderson commented that she has collected information and has recruited five volunteers to ride some of the bike routes. They will be riding in pairs and taking notes on specific intersections, with the emphasis on hazards, signage, and pedestrian and traffic interactions.

Mr. Sanville commented that a report should be presented to the Council by the spring.

Ms. Johnson noted that there are several areas in the bicycle plan and would like to see public input before the next meeting.

Discussion concerning the bicycle plan focus and guidelines for the State funding cycle.

No formal action taken at this time.

## **4. HIRING A BICYCLE COORDINATOR TO SUPPORT THE CITY'S BICYCLE PROGRAM:**

Mr. Sanville reported about basic staffing issues and identified several options for creating an access committee. Discussed the background and purpose of the bike coordinator position, which is to work on the bike plan and manage several projects with regard to bike lanes. The initial staff hired was under a two-year contract, which ran out October 1993. The City did not renew the contract. Promotional and educational elements were left out of the original position.

Discussion of options presented in the staff agenda, budget concerns, joint use committee, school's partnership, grand funding, and options for submission to the City Council.

Ms. Johnson suggested that the item be brought back to the next meeting as an agenda action item.

**UPDATES/NETWORKING:**

Mr. Sanville discussed a letter from Keith Storton from the police department. He will be leaving the traffic safety team program. Mr. Storton's letter also mentioned that there were 160 children who attended the recent bicycle rodeo.

Discussion concerning updates and networking on page 20 of the agenda, as well as, railroad bicycle safety trails and Bob Jones City to Sea trail.

Discussion about the railroad crossing at Foothill and California Blvd.

Ms. Johnson commented that identification cards are available from Mary Kopecki or Kathy Hamilton.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nora O'Donnell  
Recording Secretary