



**CITY OF NOVATO  
PUBLIC WORKS**

**Bicycle / Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 10, 2021 - 5:30 PM**

**Teleconference Only**

**Chair**

**Mark Vanderscoff**

**Vice Chair**

**Joakim Osthus**

**Members**

**Mark Birnbaum, Jack Gedney, Burt Greenspan, Luke Heslip, Nestor Schnasse**

**Staff Liaison**

**Petr Skala**

**A. CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL**

**Meeting was called to order at 5:33pm**

Committee: Mark Vanderscoff, Joakim Osthus, Mark Birnbaum, Jack Gedney, Burt Greenspan, Nestor Schnasse

Staff: Chris Blunk, Petr Skala

Absent: Luke Heslip

**B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA**

M / S Greenspan / Birnbaum: All in Favor 6-0-1 Mark Vanderscoff, Joakim Osthus, Mark Birnbaum, Jack Gedney, Burt Greenspan, Nestor Schnasse

Absent: Luke Heslip

**C. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES - September 8, 2021.**

M / S Schnasse / Gedney: All in Favor, 6-0-1, Mark Vanderscoff, Joakim Osthus, Mark Birnbaum, Jack Gedney, Burt Greenspan, Nestor Schnasse

Absent: Luke Heslip

**D. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Patrick Seidler spoke, he represents WTB Tam, suggesting there be a standing item on the agenda related to SMART projects and updates.

## E. GENERAL BUSINESS

### E.1. **Addendum 1 – Receive Updates** (*Petr Skala – City of Novato*).

The addendum is complete, and we have passed the 30-day comment period. We have received a total of 5 comments. A Comments & Responses Log will be attached to the staff report and provided to the City Council prior to considering an adoption of the Addendum 1 at the January or February 2022 City Council meeting.

### E.2. **Review and Vote on Approving the Draft Annual Report - Discussion / Action.**

Petr sent out a draft of the annual report, thanked the committee members who worked on it. He asked if there were any comments / edits or if the report can be presented to the City Council as is. November 16<sup>th</sup> is the potential date it will go to council. Motion was made to approve.

M / S Birnbaum / Greenspan: All in Favor, 6-0-1, Mark Vanderscoff, Joakim Osthus, Mark Birnbaum, Jack Gedney, Burt Greenspan, Nestor Schnasse

Absent: Luke Heslip

### E.3. **Consider Voting to support merging of B/PAC and SIOC - Receive Updates**

(*Christopher J. Blunk - Public Works Director*) - Discussion / Action

Chris discussed the potential of merging both BPAC and SIOC committees. Currently, there is a lot of overlap between the two, especially with the updates and capital projects topics. He also feels it is not as transparent and can be confusing to the public who may not know specifically what topics are covered and which meeting to participate or attend. In addition, it is also inefficient for staff, as time and resources are duplicated. He is looking for feedback from all of committee members about this possible change. Mark asked about Class I paths and how they would fit in. Chris said we could change the name of the committee so that it would encompass all the routes and acknowledges other paths as well. He thought Complete Streets and Pathways would be an appropriate name and could accommodate 7 members. Question was asked about the meeting frequency: longer or more frequent? This would be determined after the merger. A new resolution will need to be adopted by the City Council to make changes to rescind previous resolutions. A proposed changes will be shared with the committee once determined.

Motion was made in support and for staff to draft a proposal.

M / S Gedney / Vanderscoff: All in Favor, 6-0-1, Mark Vanderscoff, Joakim Osthus, Mark Birnbaum, Jack Gedney, Burt Greenspan, Nestor Schnasse

Absent: Luke Heslip

### E.4. **2022 Meeting Schedule / Elect Chair and Vice Chair - Receive Updates** (*Petr Skala*).

Petr asked if the committee members would be open to an idea holding off the elections until early spring, when the merge is confirmed and determined. It may be better to wait to elect chair and vice chair, so they don't have to go through the process again once the merge is complete. The committee agreed to wait.

### E.5. **City Traffic Engineer - Receive Updates** (*Kenny Jeong - W-Trans*).

Kenny Jeong, traffic engineer, provided updates on the status of his cases. He currently has about 30 open cases; requests range from traffic calming to parking issues. About 8 of those requests resulted in work orders, and 8 are pending review, due to school seasonal issues etc. Year to date, there have been over 100 cases received and about 70 have been completed. Outstanding speed related concerns are in review, speed surveys conducted and not all requests warrant any action. Joakim asked when a speed survey is not needed? Kenny commented on the assembly bill, AB 43, which was recently enacted and gave city's

greater control over speed limits set on streets with bicycle and ped activity. Not a lot of guidance has been provided but it may be coming in the near future from Caltrans.

**E.6. CIP projects - Receive Updates** (*Christopher J. Blunk - Public Works Director / Petr Skala*).  
Chris provided a brief overview of current and upcoming CIP projects:

- San Marin pavement resurfacing project – completed
- 2022 Annual Pavement Rehabilitation. Staff is currently putting together a list for next year's streets, type of treatment recommended, traffic engineer evaluation / feedback.
- Community Garden infrastructure plan is in place with anticipation of spring construction / completion. Pedestrian connectivity to the Hill recreation area and MTSC considering the foot traffic as the garden will be extension of that site.
- SMART-bike path alignments thru Novato, were discussed via a presentation to show where the segments would be in Novato. There are some constraints with the wetlands, drainage, and existing habitats. SMART is trying to determine locations with the intent of minimizing the track crossings and by utilizing what already exists (*State Access Rd. will be tricky due to congestion and the narrow SMART right of way. Overhead views were shown so the committee and attendees could see and visualize the location*).

Pat Eklund commented and liked the idea of following the bay trail. She said it is in ABAG's jurisdiction and they have primary authority. She said there is a link between Las Gallina's sanitary pond and the Hamilton levee that has never been completed. She is in support and would like to see it done. She also mentioned there are grants available

Mathew Hartzell with WTB Tam commented he is in-support of the wetlands path, bay trail alignment-he feels bike facilities are important. He also mentioned Olive Ave. and Golden Gate place and asked about the feasibility of putting a path on east side of the tracks. Chris said SMART is trying to construct the path in their right of way as much as possible as they have more control over the construction.

Chris responded to questions from the committee related to the SMART project. Mark asked about lighting on the paths-Chris said he could check with SMART on this. Joakim thought it would make more sense to have crossing on east side so it could serve the skate park too.

## F. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

### F.1. Consider Future Topics

Petr mentioned put on agenda SMART/ multi use path upgrade

Safety concerns Sinaloa near

Serious Accidents-location without too much detail could be standing item

### F.2. Next Meeting Date (*January 12, 2022*)

Next meeting date of January 12, was confirmed

## G. ADJOURNMENT (7:00 PM – TIME APPROXIMATE)

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm

M/S Osthus / Greenspan: All in Favor, 6-0-1, Mark Vanderscoff, Joakim Osthus, Mark Birnbaum, Jack Gedney, Burt Greenspan, Nestor Schnasse

Absent: Luke Heslip



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