

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PBAC)

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, January 18, 2023



Members Present: David Alexander, Parker Day, Candy Doran, Dan Federman, Phoebe Ford, Kevin Gammon, James Grady, Jon Herman, Sasha Madfes, Charles Metzler, Susan Nawbary, David Pilpel, Ray Scherck, Warren Wells

District Staff Present: David Rivera, Deputy General Manager, Bridge Division; Josh Widmann, Associate Planner; Roberta Regan, Administrative Assistant, Planning Department

Guests Present: Michael Jones, Alta Consulting; Katherine Tsou, Senior Counsel, Hanson Bridgett, LLP

Sasha Madfes called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

1. Consent Calendar.

Approval of Minutes from the November 16 Meeting. Sasha Madfes noted that member David Pilpel was omitted from the Members Present section. With this correction, Dan Federman moved to approve the Minutes and Ray Scherck seconded. The November 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

2. PBAC Rules.

a. Review of Brown Act (Katherine Tsou). Attorney Katherine Tsou returned to clarify some basic rules of the Brown Act. She stated that communications by a majority of PBAC members outside a committee meeting, specifically online, to discuss or take deliberate action on any item of committee business are subject to the Brown Act. She also reminded the group that any emails and documents the committee creates are subject to the State of California Public Records Act. Members of the public must have access to any communications of a quorum of the committee members. She also explained that PBAC is a legislative body, as it was created by the District's Board of Directors by a formal action.

b. Review of Proposed PBAC Bylaws (Katherine Tsou). Ms. Tsou presented a proposed PBAC Bylaws document developed by staff. She explained that the PBAC Bylaws are presented as an informational item only; however, members are welcome to provide input to staff liaison Josh Widmann. She remarked that a revised final Bylaws document will be presented at the next meeting for a vote. She also noted that in Item 3 of the Bylaws the District suggests having *one* chair and *one* vice-chair for efficiency, and this is how the other advisory committees are structured. Warren Wells inquired why two documents were attached to the agenda for committee review: the draft bylaws and David Pilpel's Draft Rules of Order for Advisory Committees. Ms. Tsou stated that Mr. Pilpel's draft was provided to the committee at his request. It was not prepared by staff, has not been approved, and that it would not be appropriate for this body to adopt the document. At this time Ms. Tsou exited the meeting.

Mr. Pilpel stated that he feels there needs to be uniformity among the advisory committees and prepared his document prior to knowing that PBAC bylaws had been created. Ms. Madfes then suggested that the group reread both documents and compare them for a discussion at the next meeting. She stated that a conversation is preferable to sending comments to staff and asked for a motion as such. Candy Doren moved that the committee reread both documents and compare their content. Parker Day seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed.

3. Committee Business.

a. Summary of GGBHTD Pedestrian and Bicycle Policies (David Rivera). Mr. Rivera shared the Building and Operating Committee staff report from November 18, 2021, wherein the District's Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Policies were presented and then adopted by the Board of Directors on November 19, 2021. He explained all the improvements and adjustments that the District has made to the Bridge and adjacent walkways, many of which were recommended by Alta Design and Planning Staff in their 2020 study. Mr. Rivera also showed the group how to access the Bridge weather dashboard on the District website (goldengate.org), and where to file a bicycle incident form. The staff report Mr. Rivera presented can be found on the District website: <https://www.goldengate.org/assets/1/25/2021-1118-bocomm-no3-apractbicyclesafetyrulesregulations.pdf?7446>.

The agenda was altered at this time to present Item **3d**.

d. Prioritize Topic Groupings by next meeting. Sasha Madfes stated that she had reviewed the list of topics members submitted after the November meeting and had prioritized the list by issues mentioned most frequently. She determined the top five topics for future discussions to be: 1) Signage/Markings; 2) West Side; 3) Alexander Avenue; 4) Rerouting; 5) Pedestrians. Jon Herman asked why the west sidewalk is closed during the day Monday through Friday. Susan Nawbary asked if consideration could be given to expanding the hours of access to the west side. Mr. Rivera answered that the west sidewalk is needed for maintenance crews to work on the bridge and store their equipment. He also mentioned the recent storms caused damage to equipment resulting in an extended closure until repairs could be completed.

b. Summary of 2020 Alta Bicycle Safety Study on the Golden Gate Bridge (Michael Jones). Mr. Jones presented highlights of the study in a PowerPoint presentation. The study focused on the safety issues on Golden Gate Bridge sidewalks (east and west) between the north and south entry gates. He explained how and when data was collected, and what the final safety recommendations were: 1) Establish a 15-mph speed limit on the Bridge; 2) Continue to create signage and pavement marking to help delineate spacing between bicycles and pedestrians; 3) Continue radar speed signs 4) Allow Class 1 and 2 e-bikes on the bridge; 5) Continue to prohibit rolling-type pedestrian conveyances, such as roller/inline skates, skateboards and scooters.

c. Presentation of Standard Planning Task Flow Diagram (Michael Jones). Mr. Jones shared a flowchart diagram to illustrate the steps taken to map the data for the Alta Consulting Safety Study. He explained how such an analysis can help identify and execute critical areas of the planning process and stated that good data is critical. A brief question-and-answer period followed.

e. Confirm next meeting date. A meeting date was selected for February 15, 2023, to discuss the PBAC Bylaws.

f. Discussion of PBAC Meeting Schedule Calendar 2023. The committee agreed to meet on February 15 and April 19 but did not set the schedule for the remainder of the year. Phoebe Ford commented that the group needed to use their meeting time more efficiently and have fewer presentations. Ms. Madfes echoed that the group wanted more discussions and conversations and fewer presentations.

4. Ongoing Issues.

Report on Pedestrian and Bicycle Related Maintenance, Signage, Pavement Conditions (PBAC Members). This item will remain on the agenda.

5. Other. None.

6. Public Comment. None.

7. Adjournment. Sasha Madfes adjourned the January 18, 2023 meeting of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee at 7:48 p.m.

The next meeting of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee will take place on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.