

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PBAC)

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, October 9, 2024



Location: Board Room, Administration Building
Golden Gate Bridge Toll Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94129

Members Present: Parker Day, Candy Doran, Dan Federman, Kevin Gammon, Timothy Hunter, Barbara Jean Jones, Sasha Madfes, David Pilpel, Ray Scherck, Warren Wells

Members Absent: James Grady, Charles Metzler, Susan Nawbary

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

Guests Present: Odin Palen, Prospective Member

1. **Call to Order.** Warren Wells called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. A quorum of members was present.
2. **Roll Call and Introductions.** Committee members, staff, and visitors introduced themselves.
3. **Consent Calendar.**
 - a. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 14, 2024.** David Pilpel moved to approve the minutes with minor edits, and Sasha Madfes provided a second. The committee voted unanimously to approve.
4. **Committee Business.**
 - a. **Bike Storage on Buses Discussion.** (*This item was skipped because Bus Safety and Training staff were unable to attend the meeting.*)
 - b. **Bridge Sidewalk Maintenance Tool Storage & Bike/Ped Needs.** David Rivera shared a PowerPoint presentation on the maintenance equipment that is stored on the west sidewalk of the Golden Gate Bridge, starting at the north anchorage. Mr. Rivera identified equipment that is used for the suicide barrier construction and other tasks: scaffolding, a handwashing station, rescue equipment box with lifesaving gear, industrial machines, painters' equipment boxes and supply shacks, and where they are located along the span. Equipment (including contractors' temporary equipment) must be properly stowed away after workers leave at 3:30 p.m., when the west sidewalk opens to bicyclists. Warren Wells asked about the minimum width allowed for bicyclists, as the sidewalk width is 10 feet. Mr. Rivera answered that five feet must be maintained for bicyclists. Barriers surrounding equipment are allowed to protrude 8-12 inches because they are not made of flexible material. Mr. Wells suggested using belvederes to tuck away the equipment, which would not impede sightlines. Barbara Jones thanked Mr. Rivera for staff's commitment to safety. Mr. Rivera stressed that the group call or email him or the Sergeants' Office to report any issues, as always.

c. Recent Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues/Observations. The signage for the prohibited vehicular left-hand turn from Alexander Avenue southbound to East Road southbound was discussed. Delineators were suggested to reinforce the rule, which are used in many intersections throughout the region.

d. Outreach for Vacant PBAC Spot. Odin Palen stated that he is still interested in becoming a member, after submitting his application in April 2024. Josh Widmann informed Mr. Palen that he must attend two consecutive meetings for membership.

e. PBAC 2025 Schedule and Topics. The committee discussed and agreed upon the following meeting dates: February 12, April 9, June 11, August 13, and October 8. Mr. Wells then asked each PBAC member to suggest topics for 2025. Parker Day suggested asking Bus staff again to present Bike Storage on Buses, so that topic was designated for the February 12, 2025 meeting. Ray Scherck requested a presentation on counters on the bridge and also on Alexander Avenue; perhaps a guest speaker from MTC. Mr. Wells mentioned a presentation on the Larkspur Ferry Expansion Study. Kevin Gammon asked for more information on bicycle connectivity with ferries in Larkspur and San Francisco. Mr. Wells asked if a follow-up to the 2020 Alta Bicycle Safety Study might be possible. Candy Doran suggested revisiting the wayfinding signage on the Bridge and exploring the idea of painting a green bike lane. Mr. Wells stated that the main meeting topics could be finalized at the February 12 meeting.

f. Other Business.

i. Mr. Wells asked Mr. Rivera about the status of the Alexander Avenue letter that Warren Wells had summarized and sent to the Board after the last meeting. Mr. Rivera agreed to follow up on this.

ii. Mr. Wells mentioned the Election of Officers. Staff reminded him that, according to the PBAC Bylaws, this item of business takes place at the first meeting of the new year. Several members expressed the desire for Warren Wells and Sasha Madfes to continue in their current roles as Chair and Vice Chair. Josh Widmann agreed to research this subject before the next meeting.

5. **Public Comment.** None.

6. **Adjournment.** Warren Wells adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

The next meeting of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee will take place on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., at the Golden Gate Bridge Board Room, San Francisco, CA.