



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
TRAFFIC & PARKING COMMISSION

Meeting of July 7, 2011

TO: Traffic & Parking Commission
FROM: Department of Transportation
SUBJECT: Smart Traffic Management

Bicycle Update

The Bicycle Ad Hoc Committee held an open meeting with members of the public/bicycle community on June 8, 2011. Meeting notes and one e-mail correspondence are included for review. (Attachment A)

The Ad Hoc Committee is scheduled to meet with Culver City staff on July 13. An additional meeting will be scheduled to discuss developing a bicycle lane pilot project.

Congestion Management Update

An oral report will be provided at the July 7, 2011 meeting. Attached are meeting notes from the April 21, 2011 Ad hoc Committee meeting. (Attachment B)



TRAFFIC & PARKING COMMISSION
Bicycle Ad Hoc Committee
June 8, 2011

ATTENDANCE:

Chair Jeff Levine
Commissioner Ira Friedman
Commissioner Alan Grushcow
Aaron Kunz, Deputy Director of Transportation
Martha Eros, Transportation Planner

Public Attendance: 7 (sign-in sheet)

NOTES:

The bicycle ad hoc committee welcomed the members of the bicycle community to its first public meeting. Members introduced themselves (sign-in sheet available upon request). Points of concern expressed by the audience include City transparency and information; on-road safety; connectivity; updated 1977 BH bicycle plan to address the current bicycle culture and increased cycling activity in the region; public education, including programs such as the "Safe Routes to School"; training of local authority (i.e., police) on bicycle laws/regulation, rules of the road, sidewalk cycling; cyclists "treated as second class citizens"; need for additional bicycle resources such as bike racks on private/commercial properties.

The audience exchanged ideas on bike lanes, sharrows, and potential streets to incorporate bike routes or sharrows, the possibility of traffic circles on Charleville or Gregory to instill awareness/responsiveness in drivers.

1. Bicycle racks.
 - a. Staff provided an update on measures to identify the City's current "urban design" bike racks in the business triangle by adding decals
 1. Action: review placement of decal that may hide a "cut" in the rack that facilitates theft.
 - b. Mapped 21 bike racks located in the business triangle; post on City website
 1. Action: identify and map location of existing bike racks at civic locations
 2. Action: identify need through the city and place in prominent locations that easy to find
 3. Example: bulb-outs on Beverly Drive; City Hall; Crescent Drive south of S. SMB (near Whole Foods, BH Market)

2. Bicycle Planning

- a. Model communities/street networks that are similar to Beverly Hills
 - i. Culver City (Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, 11-01-2010)
 - ii. Long Beach (Bicycle Master Plan, 12-11-2001)
 - iii. Bike lane on Abbott-Kinney; 4th Street in Los Angeles
- b. Bike racks on private/commercial properties into City standards for bike racks on public right of way
 - i. Include grocery stores, coffee shop areas where cyclist tend to shop
 1. Action: review City of Los Angeles program policies
 - ii. Request by public to add bike rack in City parking/garage structures
 1. Consider adding parking for electric or motorized “cycles” such as scooters or motorcycles
 - iii. Policy development will require multi-department effort by Public Works & Trans, Planning, Building & Safety, Code Enforcement, Risk Management
 1. Action: policy must follow MUTCD requirements, including right-of-way allowance and ADA clearance.

3. Bicycle Safety and Awareness

The Committee expressed concern that all cyclists may not follow traffic safety rules, such as bypassing stop signs, and may endanger themselves, pedestrians and motorists

- a. City sponsored “Bicycle Workshop” on May 12, 2011
- b. Current information, announcement on City website
- c. Members of the public stressed the importance of training police or other personnel that utilize bicycles to perform duties
 1. Far right as “*practical*”
 2. Police and Parking Enforcement rides bikes on sidewalks
- d. Members of the public stressed reaching out to merchants, businesses
 1. Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau
 - a. Develop incentives by merchants to attract cyclist and in turn create/invest in bicycle facilities
- e. Bicycle advocates
 1. Local groups
 2. American League of Bicyclists

4. Design a “pilot” bike lane project

- a. The group discussed possible streets that would connect or lead to a destination
 - i. Burton Way, Civic Center Drive, Santa Monica Blvd, n/s Rexford, n/s Crescent, Charleville
- b. Rexford Drive – no businesses, connect 3 schools along route
- c. Bike lanes versus sharrows
 - i. Consider traffic speed, traffic volume, car doors opening
 - ii. Clear signage, street paint

5. North Santa Monica Boulevard project
 - a. Review as a separate Capital Improvement Project
 - b. Begin Public Process and Conceptual Design in FY2011-2012
 - i. Approximately 12-18 months
 - c. Construction
 - i. Discuss any potential bicycle improvement/change in project scope with City Council Liaisons prior to major work on the project

6. Next step
 - a. Schedule meeting with Culver City staff
 - b. Begin planning effort for “pilot” project