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RTAmobility.com

Bicycle-Pedestrian Working Group

Meeting Summary for Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2009, 1:00 p.m.
5th Floor Conference Room

Committee Members Present

Artemio Hoyos, Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Matt Zoll, Pima County
Nancy Ellis, Town of Oro Valley
Sue Clark, Pima Trails Association
Rick Robinson, Town of Sahuarita
Tom Thivener, City of Tucson, Chair
Bill Adamson, Santa Cruz Valley Bicycle Advocate Committee (SCVBAC)
Roy Schoonover, Tucson Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee (TPCBAC)
Mark Novak, University of Arizona (UA)
Scott Hurlburt, Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired (SAAVI)
Walker Smith, City of South Tucson
Shad Bustamante, Town of Marana
Linda Anderson-McKee, Urban Trails

Staff

Jim DeGroot
Gabriel Thum
Ann Chanecka
Teresa Ruiz
Ruth Reiman

Agencies/Public

Norm Land, TPCBAC
Larry Robinson, TPCBAC

Agenda

1. Welcome, Introduction

Welcome and introductions were conducted. Ms. Clark moved approval with corrections. Mr. Hoyos seconded; the motion was approved.

2. Call to the Audience

Mr. Larry Robinson addressed the Working Group encouraging the incorporation of bike lane markings including arrows showing the correct direction of travel on the road.

3. Announcements/Updates

Mr. Zoll announced that due to the construction on La Cholla the Rillito path will have a diversion. Riders and walkers will still be able to cross the old bridge; however, the path west of the bridge will be closed off. There will a detour through Curtis Park to Curtis Road. He will e-mail a map of the detour to the Working Group. The map is also available

on the County Web site. There will be direction signs for the detour, please send any recommendations for placement of the signs to Mr. Zoll.

Mr. DeGrood reported the RTA is concerned about consistent placement of signage at RTA-funded construction projects. Staff has noted that the signs are not always in place when a project is under construction. It is very important the public know the project is funded by the RTA. The RTA is centralizing the production and placement of project signs. The new signs are easier to read, maintain and are reusable. Also, the new sign will state the project title. An example is in place at Pantano and 22nd Street. Mr. Zoll suggested placing RTA signs just before the project begins.

Mr. Thum noted the RTA would like to the signs in place at least seven days to two weeks before and three months after the completion of the project. Mr. Thivener asked if a single sign will be placed for longer projects such as the roadway projects. Mr. DeGrood acknowledged that each project is different; at least one sign will be placed at each end and possibly at other high-use crossings. On bike lane or sidewalk projects, the signs may move as the project moves. The signs are 4 by 8 feet and 4 by 4 feet in size, depending on the type of project. The signs are standard construction black and orange in color, and are graffiti resistant. Also, the vendor for the signs will be required to remove graffiti immediately.

Mr. Land noted he would like to have a permanent stamp similar to the WPA stamps to "forever" indicate an RTA project.

4. FY 2011-2013 Recommendations

The Working Group discussed the project recommendations for FY 2011 – 2013. Mr. DeGrood reviewed the information requested from the RTA, including an overview of funding to the City of South Tucson, funding by category and mode. When the RTA was created, each jurisdiction was promised 1 percent of the funding would be spent within the jurisdiction. The City of South Tucson is the only jurisdiction that does not have a roadway improvement to help meet the funding percentage. Mr. Zoll asked how much of the commitment to South Tucson will be from the bike/ped category. Mr. DeGrood replied that he can not predict which category the funding will come from; however, there are few options for funding to South Tucson.

A handout was distributed showing the funding by category. The level of greenways funding is below bike lanes and sidewalks funding levels. Bike lanes have received considerable funding.

Mr. DeGrood reported that the City of Tucson will release \$1.2 million from Eld/Ped HAWK projects due to cost savings. Also, the City will release \$300,000 from bicycle lane package 1 for reprogramming in the Greenways, Pathways, Bikeways and Sidewalks category.

Mr. Schoonover moved recommended funding of:

- **All the HAWKS applied for in the category**
- **Camino del Sol request moved to Eld/Ped by Pima County**

- **South Tucson ADA project also moved to the Eld/Ped category**
Mr. Zoll seconded; the motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Hoyos.

Due to the inclusion of jurisdictional priorities, two previously funded projects are now unfunded. **Ms. Anderson-McKee moved recommending that with the addition of the \$300,000 from the City of Tucson, other projects can receive some funding.**

They are:

- **3rd Street Bike Blvd.**
- **Liberty Bike Blvd. planning and design**

Mr. Zoll seconded; the motion passed with one abstention from Mr. Hoyos.

Mr. Schoonover suggested that the next time projects are submitted, the Working Group review the allocations between categories. He acknowledged that there are a lot of bike lane projects that need to be done but there is less money available. He asked how much money can be shifted to the Elderly/Pedestrian category to free up funding for bike lanes. Mr. DeGroot replied that it is up to the jurisdictions to determine which category projects will be submitted. Ms. Anderson-McKee asked why would the Working Group want to shift money since bike lanes are receiving plenty of funding. Mr. Zoll replied that by getting more funding into the Greenways, Pathways, Bikeways and Sidewalk category there would be more funding for programming. Also, bike boulevards can build sidewalks as well as bike lanes.

During the next project submittal cycle the Working Group will receive a reminder on the funding mode split, encouragement to submit greenway projects and a list of projects that previously received planning/design funding and will need construction money. Also, jurisdictions will be asked to release the money from over-funded projects for reprogramming. The overall ranking process will be reviewed by the Working Group to ensure everyone is comfortable with the process. Mr. Zoll expressed his concern about submitting construction costs for projects before a project has been designed.

Mr. DeGroot reminded the members that the RTA working groups are going to a quarterly meeting schedule. Mr. Thum agreed the ranking process needs to be "ironed-out" and suggested the bike/ped group return to meeting once a month. Mr. Schoonover stated he would like the Working Group to be involved with the scoping of projects.

5. Next Meeting

Next meeting – Wednesday, January 27, 2010, at **1 p.m.** or as directed by the Working Group. Please note the change in meeting time.

6. Future Agenda Items

Project Recommendations Criteria

7. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned