

Hawai'i County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Monday, October 10, 2005
Hilo DPW Conference Room & Kona Mayor's Office (Via Teleconferencing)
2:00 P.M.

Present

Members – DPW Conference Room

Kelly Burke
Richard Chamberlin (Left at approximately 2:50 pm)
James Friday
Ronald Reilly (Arrived at approximately 2:45 pm)
Herbert Soloway

Members – Kona Mayor's Office Conference Room

Mary Osborne

Ex-Officio - Kona Mayor's Office Conference Room

Pamela Mizuno, Deputy Director, P&R

Also Present

Bruce McClure, Director, Department of Public Works
Nathalie Santos, Department of Parks & Recreation

Guests

Suzanne Mayhew (Aikane Bicycle and Sport Shack)

Absent

Laura Dierenfield

CALL TO ORDER

- Member James Friday called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Suzanne Mayhew of Aikane Bicycle and Sport Shack in Kea'au attended the meeting at Ron Reilly's recommendation to hear more about bicycles on the Big Island. She may also be interested in helping the committee to provide an event and even apply to become a member.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 13, 2005

- The Minutes of the June 13, 2005 meeting were approved as submitted.

QUORUM

Richard Chamberlin stated that committee should look at the possibility of lowering the number of members required for a quorum. He feels that quorum should be based on number of slots filled versus number of slots available. *(However, the definition of a quorum is constituted by a majority of all members the committee is entitled.)*

STATE BICYCLE PLAN – BIKE PLAN HAWAII 2003

James Friday said a copy of the Bike Plan could be downloaded from the state's website. (<http://www.hawaii.gov/dot/highways/bikeped/index.htm>). Members were also given CD's when plan was initially distributed. James suggested members review plan and look at tables of priority projects so committee can produce a list for the County to consider as Capital Improvement Projects. The current list is large, so it needs to be re-prioritized into smaller lists of approximately five (5) projects, identified as a County or State project.

Mary Osborne will look at the West Hawaii projects and come up with a short list of priorities for that district.

Director McClure said a smaller list would help DPW when they consider the bikes only projects. DPW Engineers already consider bikes and pedestrians whenever road projects/improvements are planned.

James Friday shared that the cost estimates in the Bike Plan are high because as planned it is done with concrete poured which includes full on drainage. Director McClure will provide estimates using asphalt after the shoulder instead. This could reduce the cost and increase the number of projects.

Action – (3) Top Priorities from Priority 1 of Bike Plan

Members to review Bike Plan, list their top (3) priorities (from Priority 1 of the Bike Plan) identified by district and whether it is under the jurisdiction of the State or County. This list will be discussed at the December meeting. ONE Priority List will be prepared and presented to both the County (Bruce McClure – DPW) and State (Stanley Tamura – State-DOT-Highways).

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - BRUCE MCCLURE, DIRECTOR **UPDATE ON PROJECTS**

Sub-Committee Relating to Public Works Implementations of Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

Vice Chairman Ron Reilly distributed copies of the October 7th meeting summary.

Corrections to Meeting Summary:

- 1) Director McClure made correction under Number 7, the State's Fiscal Year is the same as the County (July 1st through June 30th). The Federal Government's Fiscal Year is (August 1st through September 30th).
- 2) Ron Reilly corrected Number 7 (d) Mr. Panem's name – San Oanem should be: Sal Panem.

JB Friday said that he is particularly concerned about Number 9 – suggests that we provide input on areas that need better pedestrian access and sidewalks in the more populated areas such as Hilo and Kona. Ron Reilly said he thinks the new Federal Highway Bill has a “Safe Routes to School Program” which may have special funds.

There was a discussion about berms on roadsides, which are usually only near schools to keep pedestrians safer. As bike riders, members of the committee do not like the berms. Director McClure said that berms are not put into new construction projects.

Next Sub-Committee Meeting

The next Sub-Committee meeting will be held on November 14, 2005 at 3 pm in the DPW Conference Room (teleconference to Kona if necessary). Purpose of meeting is to obtain information from DPW such as realistic costs (cost per mile to add bike lanes) and other options. Bike Plan cost estimates seems higher than what it would actually cost to construct. Information would help with establishing a Priority List.

Director McClure will provide the current resurfacing schedule utilizing maintenance funds. CIP projects for next fiscal year will be looked at separately by December's deadline. Members should also have their three top projects in the back of their minds.

Mary Osborne is unable to attend, but will submit her recommendations in writing.

Vice Chairman Ron Reilly recommended that suggested criteria be considered when prioritizing projects: 1) USE - Does project increase bicycle and pedestrian traffic (funds should be spent for areas that would be heavily used) and 2) SAFETY.

Vice Chairman Reilly wanted to confirm with DPW Director McClure the dollar amount available for CIP projects through their budget. Bruce responded that he cannot guarantee any funds, however, having a small priority list will help him decide which projects are important when funds become available.

Bicycle Pedestrian Traffic Count/Study

Vice Chairman Reilly asked Kelly Burke to check if there are students at UH-Hilo interested in conducting a bicycle/pedestrian traffic count/study (possibly students in engineering studies, statistics classes, etc.) to physically count bikes and pedestrians. Ron also recommended checking with Mike Tanabe at the college. Public Works will design the study, provide information on locations and possible dates/times so that information collected would be helpful to their needs. Although Bruce said they are not that knowledgeable on bikes and pedestrians they will take that responsibility to come up to speed. Ron Reilly

suggested following the highway motor vehicle planning studies and the screen lines they used.

OLD BUSINESS

WAIKOLOA HEIGHTS

Herbert Soloway announced that the Waikoloa Heights Project has been sold to a new developer. The new developer hired a new designer to start all over and redesign the project.

FUNDING OPTIONS – COUNTY AND STATE BIKE & PEDESTRIAN PROJECTS – Federal Transportation Bill

Chairperson Dierenfield absent, item not discussed.

QUEEN KA'AHUMANU HIGHWAY

INTERSECTIONS

Mary Osborne reported that the State completed restriping three of the Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway Intersections including the Airport, NELHA, and Honokahau Harbor intersections. Improvements have already made a difference for both bicyclists and vehicles. She would like to thank the State and wondering why the others on the mauka side of the highway weren't yet done.

Action

Mary Osborne will send the following letters and copy Mayor Kim:

- 1) To Stan Tamura of DOT, Highways Division thanking them for the work completed and asking status of the other intersections on the mauka side of Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway or reasons unable to restripe those.
- 2) Thank you letter to David Hein, District Engineer for the Department of Transportation, Airports Division for his recommendation on improvements made to the Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway.

SIGNS

"NO DRIVING ON SHOULDERS"

The state has installed highly visible large signs approximately 4 miles apart stating "No Passing On Shoulders". Mary will also thank Stan for installing these signs.

Signs No Longer Needed

- 1) "DONKEY CROSSING" – Mary said donkeys are no longer out there and would like to request those signs be removed and replaced with "Share the Road" Bicycling Signs.
- 2) "PAVED SHOULDER ENDS" – Mary said shoulder is now paved, it doesn't end.

NEW BUSINESS

BICYCLE EVENT

Vice Chairman Ron Reilly shared that guest Suzanne Mayhew may be able to coordinate an event and asked P&R Deputy Director Pam Mizuno how much is available in the budget. Pam did not have the budget with her in Kona, so unsure of amount available, but said these funds could be used to purchase supplies and materials needed, etc. The County could not turn funds over. Publicity could be done through a news release. The event will be discussed in more detail at future meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

MEETING TIME – START TIME CHANGED BACK to 3:00 PM

All members present at the October 10th meeting voted to move the start time back to 3:00 pm and end no later than 4:30 pm.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2006

The schedule for 2006 (second Monday of every other month beginning in February at 3pm) will be confirmed with both DPW-Hilo and the Kona Mayor's Office. If the Kona Mayor's Office is not available, Nathalie will check the Kona Council Office or if necessary Mary Osborne's office.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 12, 2005 at 3:00 pm in the DPW Conference Room at the Aupuni Center/Teleconference at the Kona Mayor's Office.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nathalie Santos, Secretary