

**Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission
Minutes
May 3, 2002**

Present

Susan Christie, Chair
Greg Bennett
Michael Clark
Rosie Toy
John Lee
Tony Howell, Council Representative
Andrew Ross
Evan Sether

Staff

Steve Rogers, Public Works
Lee Shoemaker, Public Works
Lt. Mike Russell, Police

Visitors

Stewart Branum

Absent - Susan Nelson

Summary of Discussion

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
Draft Downtown Parking Plan			X
Staff Report	X		

Content of Discussion

1. Call Meeting to Order/Introductions

Commission members, staff and visitors introduced themselves. Evan Sether, new Commissioner representing the Associated Students of Oregon State University, introduced himself.

2. Visitors' comments (regarding items not on the agenda)

There were no visitors comments.

3. Follow-up items from previous meeting

Steve Rogers presented a Revised Downtown Parking Plan. The Downtown Parking Plan has been reviewed by the Urban Services Committee at its last meeting. Steve presented those changes to the Parking Commission to get their comments and recommendations to Council.

Steve outlined four main changes in the Revised Plan.

1. New Guiding Principle - Urban Services added an 11th Guiding Principle at the request of BPAC. The guiding principle was added to reinforce the need to increase multi-modal splits. The new principle is “The City monitor downtown access modal splits and actively manage programs toward meeting the modal split goals.”

2. The word “bicycle” was added to four of the guiding principles. Adding this word would apply the 85th percentile parking-full standard to bicycle parking similar to the automobile parking standard. The 85th percentile would be a new standard for bicycle parking monitoring.

John Lee asked if there is no covered parking for cars then will there be no covered bicycle parking. Tony Howell said that the City Code references covered bicycle parking requirements as it relates to covered parking.

Tony Howell referred the Commission to the changes to transit service on Page 8 of the Plan and the walking distance from Downtown to the Intermodal Mall. Tony Howell said that the Plan acknowledged the 4-5 blocks and that increasing frequency would bring in more riders.

3. Steve referred the Commission to Page 11 of the Parking Plan which deals with the extension of Monroe Avenue bicycle lanes. The Parking Plan indicates that 30 vehicle parking spaces would be lost in creating two-way bike lanes and two-way traffic flow. Steve said staff would like to add the following sentence to the bottom of the fifth paragraph: “these could include identifying existing off-street parking available for lease to the City, or developing additional on-street or public off-street parking in the immediate area.”

Michael Clark asked if immediate area meant one or two blocks. Steve Rogers said that the Parking Plan isn’t specific and we will take this issue to the Parking Commission.

4. Steve said that the Urban Services Committee asked that the boundary between the Intermediate Zone and the Peripheral Zone be reviewed. Steve referred BPAC to the Operating Principles of the Parking Plan. Steve said the parking in the Peripheral Zone is intended for uses in that area and not for uses inside the Intermediate Zone, e.g. employee parking.

Steve pointed out that the second operating principle in the Peripheral Zone provides one method of parking control which is residential parking permit zones. Urban Services wanted BPAC and the Parking Commission to discuss the issue of how similar inside the Intermediate Zone is to the Periphery Zone. Steve said that when we manage the parking in the Core Zone employees may move to residential areas. The only parking management alternative in the Peripheral Zone is a residential parking district.

Tony Howell referred BPAC to Page 17, Peripheral Zone Operating Principles. He said that the Parking Commission added a second sentence to the 2nd bullet: “Residential Permits that allow limited employee parking permits may provide adequate residential parking while not eliminating available capacity for employee parking.”

Greg Bennett referred to the section on System-Wide Bicycle Improvement on Page 12 of the Parking Plan. Greg noted that in the Plan states that the Monroe Avenue bicycle improvements would provide improved access for inexperienced riders but not additional access for experienced riders. Commission members discussed whether the improvements would benefit just the inexperienced riders or all bicyclists. Susan Christie and Rosie Toy suggested that the language in this paragraph should be more positive. BPAC directed staff to re-write this section before

forwarding BPAC recommendations to Council.

Circle Boulevard Extension Update

Greg Bennett provided an update on the Circle Boulevard Extension. He reported that there was public comment on the issue of the agreement between the City, County, and seller of the property for the open space park. Greg also said there was public comment on whether the voters understood that there would be an extension of Circle Boulevard to the open space park. Tony Howell said that the Council was aware that the road extension was part of the condition of the bond. Tony said that staff presented several alternative road designs including a phased approach based on public comment.

Susan Christie added that residents were also concerned about the environment as it related to this project.

4. Staff Reports

- Pedestrians and the Segway

Lee Shoemaker reported that ODOT would be discussing issues regarding the use of the Segway on sidewalks in Oregon. The Segway is an electrical powered transportation device, similar to a scooter with speeds up to 20 miles per hour. Lee said he would be attending the local bicycle coordinators meeting where the Segway and pedestrian safety would be discussed. He asked BPAC if they had any comments that he would share with ODOT and other city and county bicycle coordinators.

BPAC discussed the issue of pedestrian safety, crowded space on the sidewalk and parking of the Segway. Greg Bennett suggested looking at how the City Code deals with skateboards and bicycles on sidewalks. Stewart Branum said the Postal Service and Police Department may consider the use of these vehicles and how would their use on the sidewalk be treated. Evan Sether said he was concerned how they would be used on the Oregon State University campus.

- Get There Another Way Week

Lee reported that Get There Another Way Week is May 13-17. During that week employees would be encouraged to get to and from work by means other than driving alone. City staff were coordinating this event with the Employee Transportation Coordinators at various employers throughout the City. He said each of the companies would have their own program but also participate in the citywide program. Employees participating would be eligible to win prizes donated by many downtown businesses.

- Earth Week

Lee noted that he participated in Earth Week events at OSU and Hewlett Packard. Lee said he provided alternative transportation information and assisted individuals in learning what transportation options were available to them.

- Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Lee said there were several state and federal funding opportunities coming up that BPAC could provide input and direction. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will open the

funding cycle for federal Enhancement projects. Eligible categories include bicycle and pedestrian, Main Street projects, and historical transportation facilities. ODOT will also provide bicycle and pedestrian safety project funding later in the year if funds become available.

- Corvallis Public Works Funding

Steve Rogers took the opportunity to provide BPAC with the status of public works funding and projected shortfalls. Steve described the status of the budget committee review and the timeline for Council action. He said that street fund projects were removed from the property tax budgets. He said priority would be given to existing services, projects with grant funds and then non-grant projects.

5. Information Sharing

Susan Christie reported that 24 bicycle helmets were donated by the Mid-Valley Bike Club to the Ukraine.

Tony Howell suggested an article in the Co-op newsletter educating their customers about safety at the 3rd and Chapman intersection. Steve said the Corvallis staff could help.

Susan Christie asked Lt. Russell to provide BPAC with bike theft information in Corvallis.

Stewart Branum reported a problem using the ramp on the new low-floor buses. He also said that there were some problems deboarding the bus in the hospital area.

Next meeting: June 7, 2002 at Burton's Restaurant, 7:00 a.m.

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