



Planning Division

PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Ashley Golden, Senior Planner

DATE: August 6, 2009

SUBJECT: Public Meeting to Receive Input on the Upcoming Citywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan(PZ No. 09-700-1).

- 1) **Recommendation:** That the Planning Commission conduct a public meeting and accept comments on the pending Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan.
- 2) **Project Description and Applicant:** A public meeting to accept public comments for the update of the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan. The staff will present details of the Master Plan effort and maps for public viewing and comment. The public will have an opportunity to learn about new bicycle and pedestrian facilities that could be developed within the City, and provide input on the master plan process. Filed by City of Oxnard, Planning Division, 214 South C Street, Oxnard, CA 93030.
- 3) **Background Information:** Circulation Element Objective No. 9 of the 2020 General Plan (page VI-24) states "Provide a Citywide system of safe, efficient and attractive bicycle routes for commuter, school and recreational use." To fulfill this objective, on September 24, 2002, the City Council of the City of Oxnard adopted the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan. An update to this document is desired in order to enhance the City's efforts of improving bicycling and pedestrian opportunities in a safe, efficient, and orderly manner. Enhancing the bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the City is an important goal in realizing the City's General Plan vision.
- 4) **General Discussion:** The Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan will facilitate bicycle and pedestrian uses in the City of Oxnard by establishing clear policies to enhance safety, provide guidance for investments in bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and provide a concise inventory of existing and needed networks.

The resulting Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan document will satisfy requirements set forth in California Streets and Highways Code Section 891.2 to enable the City of Oxnard to compete for Bicycle Transportation Account funds.

The Master Plan will define an approach for the development of a safe, convenient, and effective system that promotes bicycling and walking as viable transportation options through the inclusion of the following elements:

1. Inventory and evaluation of existing cycling and walking conditions;
2. Assessment of potential bicycle and walking connections to residential areas, commercial and employment centers, community facilities, schools, parks, regional trails, and channels, rivers, and drainage ways;
3. Suggestion of improvements to existing and proposed routes to enhance bicycle and pedestrian safety, such as intersection improvements and railroad crossings;
4. Evaluation of existing and potential bicycle parking facilities and safety and promotion;
5. Estimation of capital costs to implement the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan over time;
6. Estimation of the increased number of bicycle and pedestrian commuters resulting from the implementation of the plan.

Neighboring jurisdictions that feature bicycle plans include Camarillo, Port Hueneme, San Buenaventura (Ventura), and the County of Ventura. The Ventura Countywide Bicycle Master Plan outlines a plan for regional bicycling connections, some of which are located in Oxnard. The Channel Islands Harbor Public Areas Plan provides standards by which the public areas of the Harbor will be developed. Additionally, the Santa Clara River Trial Enhancement and Management Plan, developed for the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, provides policies and programs to promote public access and recreation along the reaches of the Santa Clara River within Ventura County.

5) Public Meeting Outline: The consultants, Alta Planning + Design, will present a series of maps that identify:

- The location of existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- The location of existing trip attractions & future developments within the City
- The location of potential new bicycle and pedestrian facilities that:
 - close gaps in the existing bicycle and pedestrian networks
 - connect activity centers and future developments
 - link facilities within Oxnard with facilities in adjacent jurisdictions

A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Prepared by: <u>AG</u> AG
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