1. CALL TO ORDER   6:00 PM
2. AGENDA CHANGES   6:01 PM
3. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES   6:05 PM
4. PUBLIC COMMENT   6:08 PM
5. SRTS UPDATE   6:10 PM
6. STAFF UPDATES   6:20 PM
   a. CTO Introduction
   b. Bike Boulevard Evaluation: Counts, Bollards, Tweaks
   c. Adobe Bridge
   d. Newell Bridge EIR
   e. Charleston-Arastradero Corridor
   f. Caltrans Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons
7. DISCUSSION ITEMS   6:40 PM
   a. Subcommittee Report: BPTP Project Priorities
      View the Google Doc Here
   b. SVBC BPAC Survey Results
8. STANDING ITEMS   7:45 PM
   a. VTA BPAC Update
   b. Grant Funding Update
9. ANNOUNCEMENTS   7:55 PM
10. ADJOURNMENT   8:00 PM
Tuesday, August 6, 2019
6:00 P.M.

MATADERO ROOM, MITCHELL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA

Members Present: Ken Joye (Vice Chair), Bill Courington, Cedric de la Beaujardiere, Kathy Durham, Paul Goldstein, Art Liberman, Robert Neff, Rob Robinson, Steve Rock, Richard Swent, Bill Zaumen

Members Absent: Eric Nordman (Chair), Bruce Arthur, Ann Crichton, David Hirsh, Jane Rosten

Staff Present: Rosie Mesterhazy, Sylvia Star-Lack

Guest: Owen Longstreth, Alan Wachtel

1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:03 p.m.

2. AGENDA CHANGES

None

3. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

MOTION

Motion by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Rock, to approve the minutes of June 4, 2019, as presented. Motion passed unanimously with Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Zaumen abstaining.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. SRTS UPDATE

Ms. Mesterhazy reported she presented "Creating Safe Routes to School Programs" at the Bike Summit the prior week. A second Safe Routes to School Coordinator position has been posted. The next City/School Traffic Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for August 22 when incoming transportation safety representatives will receive training. Staff wants to obtain parent feedback via a parent survey regarding bike boulevards and to correct the misconception that a
bike boulevard means only projects that resemble the Ross Road project. Ms. Mesterhazy requested suggestions.

Mr. Rock noted the different needs and wants of work commuters and school commuters with respect to traffic, speed, and safety. Perhaps staff should have two classifications of bicycle boulevards. Bill remarked that the Ross Road project was extremely different from other bike boulevards in Palo Alto. Mr. Liberman suggested staff should obtain parent feedback early in the planning phase of a project. Ms. Star-Lack advised that staff obtained parent feedback regarding the Ross Road project in 2012. Mr. Liberman stated the 2012 students are no longer in elementary school, and the information needs to be presented again. Mr. Goldstein suggested staff learn what parents want in a project such that they will encourage their children to ride their bikes to school. Mr. Longstreh suggested student input is needed because they are the commuters. Surveys are probably the best method to obtain student input. Ms. Durham indicated the safety benefits of bike facilities are unknown to the general public, and safety is a fundamental responsibility of a bicycle-friendly community.

Ms. Mesterhazy related that staff hopes to move forward with components of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan. She clarified that she meant to request PABAC's thoughts about the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Transportation Plan as it relates to the Ross Road project being a component of the Plan. Prior to the Traffic Safety Committee meeting, she needs to find the best way to share information and obtain feedback regarding the Plan and the Council review of bike boulevard data.

Mr. Goldstein concurred with obtaining student feedback; however, students don't vote. Perhaps, Ms. Mesterhazy could talk about the purposes of the Plan and recognize the issues around the Ross Road project. Bill felt the public developed negative perceptions of the project because of the difficulty of traversing Ross Road during construction. Mr. de la Beaujardiere suggested student feedback could indicate the safety and support of Ross Road users.

6. STAFF UPDATES:

a. Transportation Staffing

Ms. Star-Lack announced Philip Kamhi has been hired as Chief Transportation Official and will begin work on August 19. Joanna Chan has been hired as Senior Transportation Planner.

b. Bike Boulevard Evaluation

Ms. Star-Lack reported she has not been able to determine a date for a staff presentation of bike boulevard data to the Council. A draft staff report is being prepared but is not available for review.

c. Bikeshare/Scootershare

Ms. Star-Lack indicated the City Manager has not yet approved the draft guidelines, permit application, and process for reviewing applications for the pilot program.
d. Adobe Bridge

Ms. Star-Lack advised that Caltrans approved an encroachment permit in June and is awaiting the federal funds authorization (E-76). As soon as the E-76 is approved, the project will be released for bid, which hopefully will occur in August. Construction could begin in the fall and be complete by early 2021.

Mr. Neff inquired whether the undercrossing may be closed prior to September 29. The undercrossing is part of the Bike Palo Alto route.

e. Newell Bridge EIR

Ms. Star-Lack noted the comment period for the EIR ended July 30. The EIR is scheduled for certification later in the year. Staff continues to submit applications for regulatory permits and construction funding. Under a best case scenario, the project will be released for bid in 2020 with in-channel work beginning in the summer of 2020 if feasible. The current design includes stop-controlled intersections, solid white shoulder lines, and 10-foot-wide travel lanes with sharrows. Staff will continue to work with Caltrans to determine if alternatives are feasible.

Mr. Neff inquired whether the bridge can remain open to bicyclists and pedestrians during construction.

f. Bikeway via Mercedes Project Condition of Approval

Ms. Star-Lack explained that a condition of approval for the Mercedes dealership project requires the construction of a bicycle path along East Bayshore and Embarcadero Road on private property. The condition of approval is consistent with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan and will help cyclists navigate to Geng Road.

g. Charleston-Arastradero Corridor

Ms. Star-Lack reported the paving for Phases I and II is complete. Median curbs and permanent striping will be complete prior to the beginning of school. Minor concrete work and landscaping at medians will follow median curb installation.

Mr. Wachtel expressed concern that dashed bike lane striping in front of driveways will lead motorists turning into driveways to cut off bicyclists rather than to merge into the bike lane in advance of the turn. Green paint in the bike lane as it approaches an intersection may discourage motorists from merging toward the curb before turning at the intersection.

Mr. Neff added that improvements to Middlefield may occur in Phase III. Ms. Mesterhazy indicated the earliest Phase III could begin is November.

h. Caltrans Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons

Ms. Star-Lack advised that Caltrans is working on several pedestrian hybrid beacons on El Camino due to pedestrian fatalities. Electrical work and ADA curb ramps have been completed for the beacons located at El Camino/Vista and El Camino/Wilton/Barron. Electrical work is not
complete and the ADA curb ramps have not begun for the beacons located at El Camino/Fernando
and El Camino/College. For the beacon located at El Camino/Palo Alto Avenue, neither electric
work nor curb ramps have begun.

In response to questions, Ms. Star-Lack did not believe bike detectors would be installed because
the projects respond to pedestrian fatalities. Caltrans will not install bike detectors. The beacons
display a solid red light that stops traffic for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross the street. Safe
Routes to School maps direct students to cross El Camino at full signals, not hybrid beacons.
Posters and the Safe Routes to School website demonstrate usage of beacons.

Vice Chair Joye noted the curb has been installed at El Camino/Wilton, but the street pavement
has not been merged with the curb.

Mr. Neff explained that the El Camino/Palo Alto Avenue beacon controls the slip lane only.

Ms. Star-Lack related that she complained to Caltrans about the pedestrian timing for the signal at
Matadero, and Caltrans agreed to fix the issue.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
   a. Bike and Pedestrian Transportation Plan Project Priorities

Vice Chair Joye reported the subcommittee attempted to rank the programs and policies from
Table 7.1 and the ideas discussed at the June PABAC meeting. PABAC may wish to complete
the rankings and discuss folding the ideas into Table 7.1.

PABAC members supported prioritizing the Park Boulevard bike boulevard project. Ms. Star-
Lack advised PABAC members to make their opinions known to Council Members.

Mr. Neff suggested the subcommittee review plans for Park Boulevard and lessons learned from
the Ross Road project and consider the components that are critical for an improved Park
Boulevard project. Mr. Goldstein suggested two or three members meet with Council Members
after the subcommittee prepares its concepts for Park Boulevard. Mr. Zauman advised that
PABAC is advisory to staff; therefore, PABAC members as individuals should approach Council
Members. Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) may be the appropriate group to advocate for
bicycle projects before the Council. Mr. Courington felt PABAC can write a letter to staff
expressing its collective opinion, and staff can submit the letter to the Council. Mr. Rock suggested
experimenting with changes to the Ross Road project. Ms. Star-Lack indicated all future projects
will involve a trial of temporary improvements. An industry for substantial temporary
improvements is developing and will be another tool for staff to utilize.

8. STANDING ITEMS:
   a. VTA BPAC Update

Mr. Neff related that BPAC approved the criteria for the Measure B bicycle grant program in July,
and the Board approved the program in August. The grant program will emphasize community
support for new projects, connections to jobs and schools, cross-barrier connections, and
connections between communities. BPAC discussed a project list to provide to MTC for its 2050
transportation modeling. The vision of projects beyond completion of BART was virtually
nonexistent except for completing freeway interchanges and adding lanes. After further
discussion, the list submitted to the Board included projects to underground light rail through
downtown and to grade separate light rail across the entire system.

In reply to questions, Mr. Neff explained that a bicycle/pedestrian crossing over Alma and the train
tracks could qualify for a Measure B grant on the basis of bicycle commuter traffic, cross-barrier
connection, and a new project.

b. Grant Funding Update

Ms. Star-Lack reported grant funds for the El Camino streetscape project remain on hold.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Durham encouraged PABAC members to participate in Bike Palo Alto as volunteers and to
share bicycle projects with cyclists. The date is September 29, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Mr. Neff explained
the roles and times people can volunteer for the event.

Mr. Neff invited PABAC members to join him at the Midtown Residents Association's ice cream
social to discuss bicycling in Palo Alto. The date is September 15 at Hoover Park.

Mr. de la Beaujardiere and Mr. Goldstein volunteered to participate in the Bicycle and Pedestrian
Transportation Plan subcommittee.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 7:40 p.m.