

**CITY OF UNION CITY
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
OF JANUARY 20, 7:00 P.M.
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL
34009 ALVARADO-NILES ROAD, UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA**

- I. ROLL CALL: Commissioners Lew, Sison, Sweeney and Chairperson Anderson
ABSENT: Commissioner Savage**

STAFF PRESENT: Joan Malloy (Planning Manager); Glenn Kirby (Neighborhood Preservation Coordinator); Kris Fitzgerald (Administrative Assistant).

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of December 16, 2004 were approved as submitted.

- III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

- IV. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

- V. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

A. CONTINUED HEARINGS: None.

B. NEW HEARINGS: None.

- VI. SUPPLEMENTAL STAFF REPORTS:**

A. CONTINUED REPORTS: None.

B. NEW REPORTS: None.

- VII. COMMISSION MATTERS:**

A. WORKSESSION FOR PROPOSED BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT, AG-01-05 – The City is proposing to revise and strengthen the goals, policies and diagrams in the General Plan regarding Transportation Element, Section C, Pedestrians, Bicycles and Trails.

Joan Malloy, Planning Manager, presented the staff report.

Chairperson Anderson suggested adding a goal to cover maintenance.

Commissioner Sweeney suggested that maintenance could be added to Goal 6.

Commissioner Sweeney stated that she prefers the current language of TR C.3.4 as it is more comprehensive than the proposed language.

Glenn Kirby, Neighborhood Preservation Coordinator, stated that the 2002 General Plan goals were broadly stated and split into different areas.

Commissioner Sweeney asked why there are three categories of trails.

Mr. Kirby stated that trails are multi-use facilities, bicycle trails could be striped areas on roadways where pedestrians wouldn't walk and pedestrian only would be sidewalk areas.

Commissioner Sweeney suggested changing the title of the goal to "Multi-use Trail System".

Commissioner Sweeney asked to have the last sentence in the last paragraph of the old TR C.3.4 put back into the revised goal.

Ms. Malloy suggested moving that sentence in the policy statement of Goal 1.

Commissioner Sweeney suggested that Figure TR-5, Bike Network Map, not only show the trails that are proposed but what type of trails are proposed.

Commissioner Lew asked if all 100 proposed projects are identified on Exhibit A.

Ms. Malloy stated that all the proposed projects are identified on Exhibit A.

Commissioner Sweeney stated that on both exhibits it appears that the extension of Railroad Avenue into the Intermodal station is missing.

Commissioner Sweeney asked to have the word "out" deleted from Goal 1 TR C.1.3.

Commissioner Sweeney asked if Goal 1 TR 1.6 and Goal 3 TR 3.3 appear to be similar and could they be combined into one.

Commissioner Sweeney asked for a definition of "secure bike parking".

Mr. Kirby stated that it could be a bike rack, lockers or cages.

Commissioner Sweeney asked that Goal 3 TR 3.1 should say "bicycle and/or pedestrian" design guidelines.

Commissioner Sweeney suggested adding additional policies in Goal 5 that the City would produce maps for the public.

Ms. Malloy stated that those types of materials would be covered in TR-C.5.4

Commissioner Sweeney asked to change it to include maps.

Chairperson Anderson suggested adding "such as maps"

Commissioner Sweeney asked to add a policy that the City will seek funding and work cooperatively with transit providers to provide information on how to use transit plus bicycle and /or pedestrian routing.

Ms. Malloy replied “The City shall work with transit providers to provide information on pedestrian/bicycle transit routing.

Commissioner Sweeney commented that this is an excellent rework.

Commissioner Sison asked if motorized scooters will be prohibited on trails.

Mr. Kirby replied that many jurisdictions are struggling with this question. Mr. Kirby stated that the intent is not to allow them but will have to be worked out over time.

Chairperson Anderson asked what provisions have been made for horseback riders.

Mr. Kirby stated that there is a riding stable on the west side of the City and there are trails approved for horses.

Commissioner Lew suggested working with a small publishing company to create informational materials about the City and Regional trail system.

Chairperson Anderson asked for public comments.

Ken Ryan, 254 Molokai Circle, Union City, stated that this is a good plan. Mr. Ryan suggested adding Santa Maria where it crosses Alvarado-Niles to the improvement list. Mr. Ryan noted that the committee had added the connection from Meyers Drive to the Alameda County Flood Control and it is not on the map. Mr. Ryan suggested that as new projects are brought before the Planning Commission that they should make sure that there is connectivity to the rest of the community.

Robert Raburn, East Bay Bicycle Coalition, POBox 1736, Oakland, CA 94604, stated that he has been working on “Safe Routes to Transit”. Mr. Raburn stated that secure bicycle parking can be as simple as a cage at a school that is locked at the start of classes to a bicycle station located at a BART station where you can pay someone to keep an eye on your bicycle. Mr. Raburn feels that the Police Department should keep motorized scooters off the trails. Mr. Raburn suggested that the Police Department should take an active role in trail issues. Mr. Raburn thinks that providing trail information on the internet would be very useful. Mr. Raburn suggested the truck test for trails, they should be easily maintained and can be accessed easily by emergency response personnel. Mr. Raburn suggested keeping the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory committee to review plans and prioritize projects.

Yolanda Triana, 916 E St., Union City, asked to connect the hill trails to the Alameda County Flood Control for horseback riders.

Mr. Ryan stated that there is a serious problem for pedestrians and bicyclists coming out Niles Canyon. Mr. Ryan would like a letter written to Fremont asking to make that area safer for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Ms. Malloy stated that at the Brookstone neighborhood there is a proposed connection across the flood control channel to BART and it was left off of the map.

Chairperson Anderson asked to add a policy that would include neighborhood connectivity.

Chairperson Anderson also requested that the role of the BPAC be more clearly stated in policy TR-C.1.1.2.

- B.** Follow-up on Planning Commission referrals to the City Council.
- C.** Upcoming applications for the Regular Planning Commission meeting of February 3, 2005.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Sweeney stated that the trees that are being overgrown by weeds on Mission Boulevard and Holly Leaf across from O'Connell Lane and wanted staff to check to see if the maintenance agreement with the developer has expired.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

APPROVED:

TIKISA ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

MARK LEONARD, SECRETARY