

ITEM VI-A: BIKEWAY MASTER PLAN AND BIKEWAY PROGRAM UPDATE

REQUEST

The purpose of this report is to inform the Planning Commission of the various activities of the City's bikeway program, including the upcoming Bicycle Master Plan Update.

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission take the following actions:

1. Appoint one (1) member of the Planning Commission to the Bicycle Master Plan Update Steering Committee.
2. Provide comments on the bikeway program activities.

BIKEWAY MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The City of Roseville Bicycle Master Plan (BMP) was first adopted in 1994 pursuant to the General Plan and in accordance with the State of California Bicycle Transportation Act. The purpose of the BMP is to guide and influence bikeway policies and development standards to make bicycling in Roseville safer, more convenient and enjoyable for all bicyclists. The BMP identifies potential bikeway funding sources and provides a prioritized list of bike routes and paths to systematically expand and improve Roseville's bikeway system. To maintain eligibility for CalTrans funding, State law requires the BMP to be updated every 4 years. The Roseville BMP has been updated twice since 1994, most recently in 2002.

Staff has prepared a proposed work program (attached) that will guide the 2006 BMP Update. The work program will include six key components:

1. Creation of a steering committee composed of City of Roseville officials and members of the public.
2. Assessment of existing bicycle facilities and programs, including a survey to gauge public opinions regarding the current status of our bikeway programs.
3. Recommendations to enhance the bicycle facilities and programs.
4. Solicitation of public input via a well-publicized public workshop.
5. Preparation of the Bicycle Master Plan Update & Environmental Document.
6. Review of the Bicycle Master Plan Update before the Transportation Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission and City Council.

The Bicycle Master Plan Update is expected to take between 6 and 8 months. The City Council reviewed and approved the work program at their meeting of March 15, 2006.

The Master Plan will be developed collaboratively by: City of Roseville staff; private consultants; local bicycle advocates and clubs; other local community groups; and interested community members. As noted above, the work program includes creation of a steering committee to guide the process and ensure broad community input. The Steering Committee will review the elements of the plan as they are developed, offer comments, and attend meetings to discuss development and presentation of the plan to the public and elected officials. The process will include at least two and up to six evening public meetings at which advisory committee members are expected to attend and participate. Additionally, Steering Committee members will review plan materials and offer comments as items are developed. Please see Attachment 2 for a detailed description of Steering Committee Duties and Expectations.

BIKE TRAIL UPDATES

Class 1 bike trails are intended as multi-use facilities that support recreation and bicycle commuter purposes. These are complex Public Works projects that often include environmental and engineering challenges. In infill areas, the bike trails also include financing and right-of-way challenges. In particular, trails located within creek and open space corridors create environmental challenges, while engineering challenges often result from creek and major roadway crossings. Notwithstanding these challenges, the City is making progress on a number of off-street bike trail projects as discussed below:

Antelope Creek – The Antelope Creek bike trail is a 1.5 mile long off-street multi-use bike trail that will begin at the Galleria Boulevard/Berry Street intersection and run north to the Roseville/Rocklin City limits. The trail includes undercrossings of Roseville Parkway and Highway 65. The City recently completed right-of-way acquisition for the project. On April 5, 2006, the Roseville City Council authorized staff to go out to bid for construction of the Antelope Creek Bike Trail. If the bid process is successful, construction will begin in July.

Harding to Royer Bike Trail – The Harding to Royer bike trail is an extension of the existing Miners Ravine bike trail. The trail will extend approximately 1 mile from Harding Boulevard into Downtown Roseville. In December 2005, the City was awarded a Bicycle Transportation Account grant from CalTrans in the amount of \$534,842 for this project, the highest amount awarded to any jurisdiction in the State. This nearly completes the project funding, which has a budget of approximately \$3,100,000. The City has two other grants for this project pending before State agencies. On April 5, 2006, the City Council authorized staff to enter into a contract with URS for engineering and environmental services for the project. Trail construction is expected to begin in either 2007 or 2008.

South Branch Pleasant Grove Creek – The Parks Department recently completed a bike trail bridge over the South Branch of Pleasant Grove Creek at Adam Baquera Park. This bridge facilitates safe and convenient access to Cooley Middle School and Blue Oaks Elementary School and nearby shopping in the Quail Glen neighborhood west of Woodcreek Oaks Boulevard. The Parks Department is planning to complete the remaining trail segment this summer pending the approval of environmental permits from the Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Pleasant Grove Creek – This summer Meritage Homes will be constructing a ½-mile trail along Pleasant Grove Creek east of Woodcreek Oaks Boulevard. This trail will connect into the trails in the Diamond Creek area via the undercrossing of Woodcreek Oaks Boulevard.

The Transportation Division applied for grant funding through the State's Habitat Conservation Fund to extend the Pleasant Grove Creek trail from the Meritage Diamond Woods project east to Foothills Boulevard. The balance of the funding for this project is coming from Stanford Ranch Company through the Foothill Business Park Development Agreement. If successful, the grant would facilitate trail construction in 2007 or 2008.

Dry Creek/Cirby Creek/Linda Creek – The Transportation Division is beginning efforts to plan the proposed multi-use bike trails along Dry Creek, Cirby Creek and Linda Creek. These trails are part of the greater Dry Creek Parkway. The Dry Creek Parkway is planned as a regionally-significant bicycle corridor with connections in the east to the American River Parkway and in the west to the Sacramento Northern Bikeway that will create an approximately 75-mile loop around the region. The proposed trail is also identified by CalTrans as an alternative for a cross-state bike route from San Francisco to Lake Tahoe. In fall 2005, the Transportation Division applied for a CalTrans Transportation Planning Grant for \$116,000 to fund a trail study and public outreach program for the Linda Creek Bike Trail, as well as a Bicycle Transportation Account grant in the amount of \$97,000 for engineering services for the portion of the Linda Creek Bike Trail from Meadowlark Way to Rocky Ridge Drive. Both grants are pending.

OTHER BIKEWAY PROGRAM UPDATES

On-street Bike Routes – The on-street bike lane system provides important links between uses and is a critical component in our efforts to promote bicycle commuting. The Transportation Division actively works with the Engineering Division to achieve improvements to our on-street bicycle route system. Recent improvements include amending the City improvement standards to increase arterial road bike lane widths from 4 to 5 or 6 feet. This standard will make bicycling in Roseville safer and will be applied to all new arterial roadways and existing arterial roadways when they are re-surfaced. The improvement standards were also amended to require bicycle detection loops at all new intersections in the City. The loops trigger a signal to the traffic light that a bicyclist is stopped in the bike lane. The traffic light will then change for the bicyclist to ride through the intersection, similar to how traffic lights operate for automobiles.

Bike Commute Month/Million Mile May – The City of Roseville is helping SACOG and other transportation agencies throughout the region to promote the Bike Commute Month/Million Mile May Program. Beginning May 1, residents of Roseville and the rest of the Sacramento region can log their bicycling miles for the Million Mile May Challenge in an effort to top last year's total of nearly 500,000 bicycle miles. All miles traveled by bike – commute, recreation, training and errand miles – count towards the goal. As cyclists log their miles, the website will track the region's cumulative progress toward bicycling one million miles in May. A Bike Commute Month website (www.bikecommutemonth.com) has been developed that allows cyclists to log their miles and help collectively log one million miles during the month of May. This is a fun, interactive way to promote bicycling as a safe, affordable and beneficial alternative to driving alone.

Bikefest – The 12th annual Roseville Bikefest will be held on Saturday May 20, 2006, at Cirby Elementary School, 814 Darling Way from 9:00 a.m. to noon. This family-oriented bicycle safety event features helmet fitting, bicycle inspections, safety presentations, obstacle courses and lots of great entertainment for children.

Bike Lockers – The City of Roseville Transportation Division recently completed the installation of 27 bicycle lockers with parking for 49 bicycles at 8 sites throughout the City. Twelve lockers are available free to the public for use as part of residents' commute trip to work. Four (4) lockers each will be at Maidu Park, 1550 Maidu Drive, and the park-and-ride lots and the Amtrak Station, 201 Pacific Street, and the Taylor Road site, 1853 Taylor Road. The City distributed the remaining 37 lockers to the Northern California Power Agency, Pasco Scientific, Kaiser Permanente-Riverside Campus, State Farm Insurance and NEC Electronics for use by employees. The companies were selected based on their active commitment to alternative transportation and a demonstrated need for employee bicycle lockers. The project also included installation of bike racks and other work to create a secure bike parking room at the Roseville Civic Center for Civic Center employees. The total cost of the project is about \$55,000, with 90% of the funding from a CalTrans Bicycle Transportation Account and the remaining 10% from local transportation funds provided by the City of Roseville.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission take the following actions:

1. Appoint one (1) member of the Planning Commission to the Bicycle Master Plan Update Steering Committee.
2. Provide comments on the bikeway program activities.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Work Program
2. Advisory Committee Duties and Expectations
3. Bikeway Map