



**City of Oakland, Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission**  
**Minutes from the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting**  
**Teleconference**

Meeting agenda at <https://cao-94612.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/May-2022-BPAC-Meeting-Agenda.pdf>.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by BPAC Chair Patricia Schader.

**Item 1. Teleconference Protocol/Roll Call/Determination of Quorum/Introductions**

At roll call, quorum was established with eight commissioners present (X). One commissioner was excused (-) (provided notice of absence as specified in by-laws).

Commissioners	Present
Andrew Campbell	-
Alex Frank	X
Grey Gardner	X
Mike Lok	X
Phoenix Mangrum	X
David Ralston	X
Patricia Schader (Chair)	X
Nick Whipps	X
Dianne Yee (Vice Chair)	X

Introductions were made.

- Other attendees: Mike Alston, Dave Campbell, Hans ChavezFerreya, Bryan Culbertson, Max Davis, Jack DeQuavius, Dani Dynes, Mark Fisher, Scott Forman, Will Freyman, Alex Ghenis, Jimmy Jessup, Cathy Leonard, Don Morey, Scott Owades, Robert Prinz, Justin Rex, Derek Sagehorn, George Spies, Midori Tabata, Mana Tominaga, James W, Adam, Anish, Dvorit, Jon, Jw, Max, Scott
- Staff: Josie Ahrens, Jesse Boudart, Celina Chan, Emily Ehlers, Ofurhe Igbinedion, Jason Patton, David Pené, Colin Piethe, Noel Pond-Danchik, Charlie Ream, KTOP

**Item 2. Open Forum / Public Comment**

- Mark Fisher noted that Lodestar School, a charter school at 105<sup>th</sup> Ave and Edes Ave, has no school zone designations, despite there being recent crashes, including crashes involving students. He is seeking to have this issue rectified.
- Robert Prinz provided an update on a previous Open Forum item regarding a bus stop on Broadway at 7<sup>th</sup> St. The bus stop had been blocked (and closed) due to barricades at the Police Department headquarters building. He announced the barricades have been moved and the bus stop is now open.
- Midori Tabata spoke to Mark Fisher's comment above, encouraging the Commission to follow up on this concern.

### Item 3. Approval of meeting minutes

- A motion to **adopt the Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission meeting minutes from April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022** was made (Whipps), seconded (Frank), and approved by roll call vote with the following Commissioners voting in favor: Frank, Gardner, Lok, Mangrum, Ralston, Schader, Whipps, and Yee (unanimously). Adopted minutes online at [www.oaklandbikes.info/BPAC](http://www.oaklandbikes.info/BPAC).

### Item 4. Renewal of Resolution to Continue Teleconference Meetings

The Commission considered renewing a resolution determining that conducting in-person meetings of the Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission and its committees would present imminent risks to attendees' health, and electing to continue conducting meetings using teleconferencing in accordance with California Government Code Section 54953(e), a provision of Assembly Bill 361 (AB-361).

- The Commission **adopted a resolution determining that conducting in-person meetings of the Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission and its Committees would present imminent risks to attendees' health, and electing to continue conducting meetings using teleconferencing in accordance with California Government Code Section 54953(e), a provision of AB-361.** The motion was made (Frank), seconded (Mangrum), and adopted by roll call vote with the following Commissioners voting in favor: Frank, Gardner, Lok, Mangrum, Ralston, Schader, Whipps, and Yee (unanimously).

Speakers other than commissioners: None

### Item 5. Recent Bicyclist and Pedestrian Fatal Traffic Crashes

Chair Schader led the Commission in a discussion of recent fatal and other high-profile traffic crashes in Oakland involving bicyclists and pedestrians.

- Around 7:00 am on Friday, April 22, 2022, a 91-year-old, male, Asian, Oakland resident was fatally struck by a vehicle while crossing 20th St at Telegraph Ave in a marked crosswalk. The vehicle driver was turning left from Telegraph Ave onto 20th St.

Summary of Discussion:

- The driver was traveling north on Telegraph Ave and turning left onto westbound 20<sup>th</sup> St. At this signalized intersection, southbound Telegraph Ave has a protected left turn phase while northbound Telegraph Ave does not.
- The southbound protected left turn may have been installed as a transit improvement to facilitate AC Transit buses accessing the 20<sup>th</sup> St Transit Center, including the AC Transit Line 1R (a precursor to the Bus Rapid Transit project).
- Protected left turn phasing can be a significant pedestrian safety improvement by separating turning drivers from crossing pedestrians. However, it can be technically complicated and costly when upgrading an existing traffic signal.

Speakers other than commissioners: Dave Campbell, Jason Patton

## Item 6. Grand Avenue Complete Streets Paving Project

OakDOT Transportation Planners Charlie Ream and Josie Ahrens presented on the Grand Avenue Complete Streets Paving Project ([www.oaklandca.gov/projects/grand](http://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/grand)), OakDOT's next step towards realizing the vision laid out in the Grand Avenue Mobility Plan ([www.oaklandca.gov/projects/grand-avenue-mobility-plan](http://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/grand-avenue-mobility-plan)). Grand Avenue from Broadway to Elwood Avenue is on the City's 5-year Paving Plan. Along with this planned repaving, OakDOT is conducting community outreach and design related to safety improvements and mobility enhancements for people walking, biking, and taking the bus on this important connection. The presentation is included as an attachment to these meeting minutes.

### Summary of Discussion:

- On eastbound Grand Ave approaching El Embarcadero, this corner can get busy with drivers turning, pedestrians crossing, and bicyclists trying to get through. As the project progresses, intersections like these will receive more detailed design work.
- There should be two-way separated bike lanes on the lake-side of Grand Ave as part of continuous two-way separated bike lanes around Lake Merritt.
- Consider raised elements on the roadway centerline to deter illegal behavior.
- The projects on tonight's agenda are proposing separated bike lanes on three streets in the greater downtown/Lake Merritt area. This same effort needs to be put into East Oakland streets like 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Examples of separated bikeway projects currently under development in East Oakland include the LAMMPS Phase 2 project (MacArthur Blvd along Mills) and 66<sup>th</sup> Ave (to connect Coliseum BART to the Martin Luther King Jr Shoreline).
- Some amount of the double parking is for loading at the businesses, particularly along the north side of Grand Ave. This double parking would likely continue with the installation of separated bike lanes, and this will mean consideration of loading zones to balance these needs.
- On International Blvd, there are drivers in private vehicles using the transit-only lane. These drivers tend to go fast, jeopardizing pedestrians accessing the bus stations. Lessons learned from International Blvd can be applied to Grand Ave.
- The AC Transit lines NL and 12 would benefit greatly from transit lanes on Grand Ave.
- The project should separate bicyclists from double parked vehicles, improve pedestrian crossings, and lower driver speeds.
- A traffic study and the conceptual design process are currently underway. The center median area includes pedestrian safety islands, left turn pockets, and unused areas. The traffic study is addressing the complex question of which of these elements should stay and which could be removed.
- Keep in mind the many kids use Grand Ave, both at Children's Fairyland and at St Paul's Episcopal School.
- Consider the intersections that are missing crosswalks and how the project could add those crosswalks.
- The topic of the missing crosswalk at Grand Ave and Bellevue Ave (west leg at Children's Fairyland) was raised as part of the project that rebuilt the entrance to Lakeside Park. The crosswalk was not added at that time.
- Consider closing El Embarcadero between Grand Ave and Lakeshore Ave to expand the park.

Speakers other than commissioners: Dave Campbell, Derek Sagehorn, George Spies, Scott Owades, Max Davis, Robert Prinz

## Item 7. 27th and Lakeside Streets Project & Martin Luther King Jr Way Paving Project

OakDOT Transportation Planner Colin Piethe presented on two upcoming streetscape projects: the 27th and Lakeside Streets Project ([www.oaklandca.gov/projects/lakeside-family-streets](http://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/lakeside-family-streets)) and the Martin Luther King Jr Way Paving Project ([www.oaklandca.gov/projects/mlk-paving](http://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/mlk-paving)). The presentations are included as attachments to these meeting minutes.

### Summary of Discussion:

#### General Comments

- For both projects consider vertical elements to slow drivers, including bulbouts and centerline treatments.
- These projects can be discussed again in the future when more project details are available and when insights from the community input process are available.
- Less consideration should be given to the “feasibility” of transportation projects. The primary goal should be making streets safe.
- Caltrans is working at the state-level to reform its procedures for making streets safe for bicyclists and pedestrians. Local jurisdictions including Oakland should push Caltrans in this reform and hold Caltrans accountable to their complete streets policies.
- It would be helpful for projects like these to: (1) evaluate and improve pedestrian wait times at traffic signals; and (2) lower the posted speed limits.

#### Lakeside Streets Project Comments

- Multiple commenters suggested a roundabout be evaluated for the intersection of 27<sup>th</sup> St/Bay Pl/Harrison St/24<sup>th</sup> St.
- Consider increasing the pedestrian crossing times, especially for these very wide streets.
- The project previously known as “Lakeside Family Streets” is now included in the 27<sup>th</sup> and Lakeside Streets Project. Specifically, Lakeside Family Streets includes the protected intersection at Harrison St/Grand Ave, Harrison St from Grand Ave to 27<sup>th</sup> St, and Grand Ave from Harrison St to Bay Pl.

#### Martin Luther King Jr Way Paving Project Comments

- Regarding Martin Luther King Jr Wy, bicyclists and pedestrians in the area may be going to destinations in Berkeley, including the Lorin commercial district on Adeline St, Ashby BART, and Berkeley Bowl. Coordinate with the City of Berkeley’s plans to make these connections. Berkeley has an extensive plan for Adeline St that includes separated bike lanes.
- The businesses on Martin Luther King Jr Wy may benefit from a slower street that is accessible by more modes. At least one business has had multiple drivers crash into its building.
- 52<sup>nd</sup> St is a very important link to reconnect the neighborhoods divided by Highway 24. Children’s Hospital and Caltrans are important stakeholders in helping to complete this connection.
- On Martin Luther King Jr Wy, the project needs to address speeding, crashes, and pedestrian safety irrespective of whether the project includes a bikeway.
- For Martin Luther King Jr Wy, consider providing bicyclist access on parallel routes – Genoa St and Dover St – but improve these parallel routes, including their crossings of 55<sup>th</sup> St.
- There was a fatal crash on Martin Luther King Jr Wy at 55<sup>th</sup> St in January 2021 which was not included in this project’s crash analysis. The analysis is based on 2020 and prior years. Because of the lag time in traffic crash records, the 2021 calendar year was not used in the crash analysis.

- Genoa St is challenging as a parallel route because drivers do not stop at the stop signs on cross streets.
- Regarding Martin Luther King Jr Wy, it is very difficult to cross and it is in fact the widest street in District 1.
- Trees are causing the sidewalk to buckle making it difficult for seniors and people with strollers.
- There is no crosswalk along Martin Luther King Jr Wy for crossing West St.
- Narrow the street and add bulbouts to slow drivers and make pedestrians more visible.

→ A motion to **extend the meeting by 20 minutes** was made (Ralston), seconded (Mangrum), and approved unanimously (Frank, Gardner, Lok, Mangrum, Ralston, Schader, Whipps, and Yee).

→ A motion to **support OakDOT's grant application to the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Program to obtain construction funding for the 27<sup>th</sup> St/Bay PI Project and have the project development process include protected bike lanes and traffic calming throughout the project and investigate a roundabout at the intersection of 27<sup>th</sup> St/Bay PI/Harrison St** was made (Frank), seconded (Gardner), and approved by roll call vote with the following Commissioners voting in favor: Frank, Gardner, Lok, Mangrum, Ralston, Schader, Whipps, and Yee (unanimously).

Speakers other than commissioners: Robert Prinz, Scott Forman, George Spies, Dave Campbell, Scott Owades, James Jessup, Cathy Leonard, Don Morey

→ A motion to **extend the meeting by 10 minutes** was made (Whipps), seconded (Gardner), and approved unanimously (Frank, Gardner, Lok, Mangrum, Ralston, Schader, Whipps, and Yee).

#### Item 8. Commissioner Outreach Report Backs

This item was deferred for a future meeting.

#### Item 9. Committee Report Back

Committees of the BPAC provided brief updates to the Commission. A list of active committees and updates from committees were included in the agenda packet. A list of active committees is available at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/resources/bicyclist-and-pedestrian-advisory-commission-bpac-committees-and-liasons>.

#### Summary of Discussion:

- Infrastructure Committee: Commissioner Yee noted the committee met on May 5 with presentations on parklet design guidelines, utility projects and striping restoration, and coordination for neighborhood bike routes and paving projects. The next meeting will be July 7, likely continuing the discussions on utility projects and on neighborhood bike routes.
- Legislative Committee: Commissioner Gardner announced the committee met recently to brainstorm upcoming discussion items. The committee now has a regular meeting date on the first Monday of the month, 5:00pm. Contact Commissioner Gardner at [greybpac@gmail.com](mailto:greybpac@gmail.com) to participate. Commissioner Gardner spoke at the Privacy Commission on AB 2336 (speed

enforcement cameras) and at the 5/17 City Council on an informational report regarding traffic calming.

- Bicyclist Pedestrian Police Relations Committee: Commissioner Mangrum is working to set up two meetings with the Oakland Police Department to advance the dialog on race and equity.

Speakers other than commissioners: None

### **Item 10. Three-month look-ahead, suggestions for meeting topics, announcements**

The three-month agenda look-ahead was included in the meeting's agenda packet.

#### *Suggestions for meeting topics*

- Traffic crash data, including data collection and the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force recommendation to move traffic crash investigations from OPD to OakDOT (suggested by Dave Campbell and Commissioner Gardner)
- OakDOT's policy on pedestrian push buttons (suggested by Commissioner Frank for the Legislative Committee and then the full Commission)

#### *Announcements*

- Turn out for Bike to Wherever Day tomorrow – on Friday, May 19.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

### **Attachments**

- Resolution to Continue Teleconference Meetings
- Item 6. Grand Avenue Complete Streets Paving Project Presentation
- Item 7. 27th and Lakeside Streets Project Presentation
- Item 7. Martin Luther King Jr Way Paving Project Presentation

Minutes recorded by Jason Patton, Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Supervisor, emailed to meeting attendees for review on May 23, 2022 with comments requested by 5pm, June 6, 2022 to [NPond-Danchik@oaklandca.gov](mailto:NPond-Danchik@oaklandca.gov). Revised minutes will be attached to the June 2022 meeting agenda and considered for adoption at that meeting.