BPAC Policy and Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

The meeting agenda can be found at: https://www.oaklandca.gov/meeting/august-2024-bicyclist-pedestrian-advisory-commission-bpac-policy-and-legislative-committee-meeting

City Hall Hearing Room 2 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland CA 94612

Monday, August 12, 2024 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance:

- Commissioners: Alex Frank (Chair), Nick Whipps (Co-Chair), David Ralston (BPAC)
- Members of the public: Kevin Dalley, Andre Sandford, George Spies
- Staff: Jason Patton, Pierre Gerard

Acronyms:

- BPAC = Bicyclist and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, a city-appointed volunteer group that meets monthly to discuss and advise staff on bike/walk projects, policy, and funding
- OakDOT = Oakland Department of Transportation
- SWITRS: Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System
- TIMS: Transportation Injury Mapping System

1. Introductions and Updates on Previous Agenda Items

- Alex Frank announced his decision to step back as Committee Chair due to bandwidth limitations.
- Nick Whipps will continue to support the committee in a leadership role as interim Co-Chair until further elections.
- Updates reaffirmed the committee's focus on actionable city policies, including traffic calming, light timing, and data improvements.

2. Public Comment

• No public comments were made during this session.

3. Committee Organization & Discussion/Election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

- Alex Frank reiterated his decision to step back as Committee Chair, citing bandwidth challenges.
- The committee held a discussion on leadership roles and the importance of maintaining active and engaged leadership.
- Kevin Dalley was unanimously selected as a new Co-Chair.
- Nick Whipps was affirmed to continue as interim Co-Chair, with discussions to revisit the role in the future as additional leadership candidates emerge.

4. Bicyclist and Pedestrian Severe Injury and Fatality Crash Reporting

• The committee discussed challenges with the completeness and accuracy of current crash data, which is largely sourced from SWITRS/TIMS based on police reports.

- Suggestions were made to incorporate additional data sources, such as Fire Department records and coroner's reports, to provide a more comprehensive picture of crash severity and locations.
- Issues with data jurisdiction and underreporting of delayed fatalities were highlighted, emphasizing the need for improved data coordination across agencies.
- Participants discussed forming a working group to address data integration, aiming to refine methodologies and prioritize interventions based on enhanced datasets.

5. Service Requests

- The committee briefly reviewed the Oak311/SeeClickFix service request process, focusing on its effectiveness for addressing pothole-related issues.
- Recommendations included streamlining the request process to ensure timely responses and improved transparency for residents.
- Discussions emphasized the importance of integrating feedback from community members to refine service delivery and align with safety goals.

6. Oakland General Plan Land Use and Transportation Element Update Discussion

- The committee discussed the upcoming second phase of the General Plan update and its implications for bicyclist and pedestrian infrastructure.
- Commissioners highlighted the importance of ensuring the Land Use and Transportation Element (LUTE) reflects citywide bike and pedestrian goals, such as connected Class I bikeways and improved neighborhood accessibility.
- Members expressed interest in providing input on design standards, network classifications, and integration of bike/pedestrian goals with other plan elements like infrastructure and recreation.
- Commissioner Ralston volunteered to lead an ad-hoc working group focused on the General Plan update, with plans to collaborate with OakDOT staff and stakeholders over the next 18 months.

7. Future Agenda Items

The committee identified several topics for future meetings, including:

- Updates on the integration of additional crash data sources (e.g., Fire Department and coroner data).
- Presentation from OakDOT Traffic Engineering on walk button policies and implementation.
- Updates on curb parking policy changes and their impact on bike/pedestrian infrastructure.
- Further discussion of Oakland's General Plan Land Use and Transportation Element updates.
- Development of a "Driving Code of Conduct" to promote shared accountability among all road users.
- Exploration of expanding bike and pedestrian safety content in California's standard driving test.
- Ad hoc working groups were encouraged to report progress at each meeting, with timelines set for recommendations and sunset dates.