

**City of Oakland, Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission
 Minutes from the March 21, 2024 Meeting
 City Hall, 2nd Floor, Sergeant Daniel Sakai Hearing Room (A.K.A. Hearing Room 4)**

Meeting agenda at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/boards-commissions/bicyclist-and-pedestrian-advisory-commission/meetings>



Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM by BPAC Chair Gardner.

Item 1. Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, Introductions, and Acknowledgement of Recent Bicyclist and Pedestrian Fatal Traffic Crashes

Chair Gardner acknowledged the change to the regular item order with the goals of creating time for meaningful comments on substantive items and keeping meetings on schedule.

At roll call, quorum was established with 6 Commissioners present (X). Commissioners Mangrum and Frank were excused.

Commissioners	Present
Alex Frank	-
Grey Gardner (Chair)	X
Jimmy Jessup	X
Phoenix Mangrum	-
David Ralston (Vice-Chair)	X
Patricia Schader	X
Nick Whipps	X
Dianne Yee	X
One vacancy	

Introductions were made.

1. Staff: Pierre Gerard (Oakland Department of Transportation – OakDOT), Jason Patton (OakDOT), Noel Pond-Danchik (OakDOT), Charlie Ream (OakDOT), Andre Soucy (OakDOT), Craig Raphael (OakDOT)
2. Other attendees: Kevin Dalley (TVRR, Transport Oakland), George Spies (TVRR), Colleen Brown (Mills Garden Association), Robert Prinz (Bike East Bay), Colleen Brown (Mills Garden Neighborhood Association), Brian Culbertson, Swetha, Herb, Carly

Chair Gardner led the commission in an acknowledgement of recent fatal and other high-profile traffic crashes in Oakland involving bicyclists and pedestrians; for more information visit:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/traffic-fatality-tracking>.

- On February 5th, 2024, at approximately 12:49 PM, a 73-year-old male pedestrian using the crosswalk on northbound 95th Avenue at International Boulevard was killed in a hit-and-run crash with a motor vehicle traveling eastbound on International Boulevard.
- On February 27th, 2024, at approximately 9:47 PM, a 60-year-old male bicyclist traveling southbound on Madison Street was killed in a crash with an AC Transit bus traveling westbound on 12th Street.

Summary of Discussion:

- There was also a crash involving a bus and two passenger vehicles on March 8th, 2024, on International Blvd and 54th Ave which underscores the need for additional safety measures on International Blvd. There was a request for more information on this collision from the City of Oakland.
- Police should include information on the speed of the vehicles involved in crashes in crash reports.

Speakers other than Commissioners: George Spies, Kevin Dalley

Item 2. Open Forum / Public Comment / Announcements

A list of announcements and attachments were included in the meeting’s agenda packet.

- An item on report backs on Rapid Response projects to the BPAC was suggested.
- Tonya Love from the Oakland City Council D3 Office provided gratitude to those who attended the community-initiated traffic calming project meetings to provide input.
- Form 700 is due April 1 for all commissioners and can be completed online.
- “[BIKE] OAKLAND” Newsletter, 34th Edition: The Bicycle & Pedestrian Program is pleased to share the 34th edition of the “[BIKE] OAKLAND” newsletter. This bi-annual newsletter provides an overview of the City’s progress implementing Oakland’s Bicycle Plan over the last six months (July-December 2023). The newsletter is currently available in English, will be available in Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese soon, and is posted at www.oaklandca.gov/resources/i-bike-oakland-newsletter.
- The San Antonio Station Alliance is advocating for a new BART station in the San Antonio neighborhood. For more information, see: <https://www.sanantonystation.net/>

Speakers other than Commissioners: George Spies, Noel Pond-Danchik

Item 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The draft meeting minutes from the February 2024 BPAC meeting were considered for adoption.

→ A motion to adopt the Bicyclist & Pedestrian Advisory Commission February 15th, 2024, Meeting minutes was made (Whipps), seconded (Yee), and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Adopted minutes online at www.oaklandbikes.info/BPAC

Item 4. Update on Commissioner Appointments

OakDOT staff to the commission, Jason Patton, and members of the former BPAC 2023 Ad-Hoc Recruitment Committee welcomed new Commissioner Jessup, noted Commissioner Daye's resignation, and requested a motion for the BPAC to recommend Priyanka Altman to fill the Commissioner vacancy. Priyanka Altman briefly shared about her experience promoting walking and bicycling in Oakland.

→ A motion to recommend Priyanka Altman to be appointed to the BPAC was made (Whipps), seconded (Schader), and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Speakers other than Commissioners: Priyanka Altman

Item 5. Committee Report Backs

- **Infrastructure Committee:** the committee met on Thursday, March 7th, 2024, and heard two items: the Laurel Access to Mills, Maxwell Park & Seminary (LAMMPS) Project and the Lakeshore Ave Separated Bike Lanes Project. The minutes from the meeting and project plans are available at: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q2o6NJK57JZsDeEPM9L7cenCNcciQlkwWHvdCZDg1s/edit?usp=sharing> Feel free to submit comments on the plans presented at that meeting to either Robert (robert@bikeeastbay.org) or Commissioner Yee (yee.bpac@gmail.com). The next meeting will be held on the first Thursday of May (May 2nd, 2024), from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM in the Broadway Conference Room (4th floor) at 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza.
- **Policy and Legislative Committee:** The next meeting is on Monday, May 13th, from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM in City Hall, Hearing Room 2 but ad-hoc groups may meet earlier, and members of the public are encouraged to reach out if they are interested. Minutes from the last meeting are available at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/meeting/february-2024-bicyclist-pedestrian-advisory-commission-bpac-policy-and-legislative-committee-meeting>

Summary of Discussion:

- Members of the public and new commissioners are encouraged to join BPAC Committees. Priyanka Altman volunteered to join the Infrastructure Committee.
- The Legislative Committee has work groups including one on the Land Use & Transportation Element of the General Plan Update and one on traffic safety design guidelines.
- New commissioners and members of the public are encouraged to participate in leading the Infrastructure Committee.
- Infrastructure Committee meetings are usually in the afternoon to encourage staff to join.
- Vice-Chair Ralston is stepping down from the Affordable Housing & Infrastructure (I-BOND) Public Oversight liaison role and encourages someone to volunteer.
- Commissioner Whipps encourages others to get involved in his work as liaison to the Planning Commission.

- Commissioner Whipps may reach out directly to staff at the Planning Department or to a Commissioner of the Planning Commission.

Speakers other than Commissioners: Priyanka Altman, Robert Prinz, Jason Patton

Item 6. Bike to Wherever Day 2024 Planning

Chris Hwang (chris@wobo.org) from Walk Oakland Bike Oakland (WOBO) shared plans for and ways to get involved in Bike to Wherever Day (BTWD) 2024, Thursday May 16, 2024. Commissioners are encouraged to join Pedal Pools with elected officials and ride from various points in the city to Frank Ogawa Plaza. During Old Oakland Happy Hour from 4-8 pm, groups including the Crucible and OakDOT will be tabling. The BPAC is encouraged to table. For more information visit <https://wobo.org/>. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Summary of Discussion:

- Since there's a BPAC meeting scheduled for the day of BTWD, the BPAC meeting will likely be rescheduled.
- The BPAC volunteered to table at the Old Oakland Happy Hour. They may bring a smoothie bike.
- Commissioners will join the Pedal Pool.
- Bryan Culbertson and Kevin Dalley will host a bicycling infrastructure ride.
- On May 18, 2024, Bike East Bay is hosting a Bikes, Brews, and Birds ride. See <https://bikeeastbay.org/events/2024-birds-bikes-brews/> for more details.
- On May 14, 2024, Bike East Bay is hosting a Fix-A-Flat webinar. For more details see <https://bikeeastbay.org/events/1-hr-may-14-24/>

Speakers other than Commissioners: Jason Patton, Brian Culbertson, Kevin Dalley, Robert Prinz

Item 7. TDA Project Recommendations, ATP, Safe Streets for All (LAMMPS Phase 2&3), Other Grants

Craig Raphael (Craphael@oaklandca.gov) from OakDOT's Capital Finance and Planning team and Charlie Ream (cream@oaklandca.gov) from OakDOT's Project Development team presented on the Department's plans for Spring/Summer 2024 Grant Applications including the Active Transportation Program (ATP), Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), Transportation Development Act Article 3 (TDA) and Safe Streets 4 All (SS4A) grant applications. A copy of the presentation is included in the agenda packet for this meeting.

Summary of Discussion:

- Presentations on the LAAMPS Phase 2&3 project came to the last Infrastructure meeting. The notes for that meeting can be found at: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q2o6NJK57JZsDeEPM9L7cenCNcciQlkwWHvdCZDg1s/e/dit?usp=sharing>

- More info on LAAMPS Phase 2 can be found at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/lammeps2> and more info on LAAMPS Phase 3 can be found at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/lammeps3>
- Staff is requesting a letter of support from the BPAC for the LAAMPS Phase 2&3 Projects at this meeting.
- If successful, the LAAMPS Phase 2 & 3 Project will begin construction of new bicyclist/pedestrian paths in 2027.
- Safe access to the LAAMPS trail by slowing vehicles on Seminary Ave should be considered. Staff is in conversation with the Oakland Fire Department to design a median with this goal on Seminary.
- The Mills Garden Association's location is adjacent to the LAAMPS Phase 2&3 project. Drivers don't adhere to the striping and are diverted into the neighborhood. Traffic between 55th and Seminary is already backed up and a design that both facilitates safety for bicycling and walking to Mills without diverting traffic into the neighborhood should be considered. Staff will consult with the Mills Garden Association.
- There is support for the LAAMPS Phase 2&3 designs and quick build projects should be installed in the meantime due to the number of crashes in the area. The Traffic Engineering Section of OakDOT is considering quick-build projects in this neighborhood including one on Seminary Ave as part of the Rapid Response Program.
- Priority for the bus like a bus lane should be included in the design of the LAAMPS projects. The design includes bus boarding islands that will allow the bus to stop in-lane. AC Transit is consulting on this and other projects on major transit corridors.
- The 73rd Ave and Franklin St ATP projects will return to BPAC to next month's April meeting with updated designs based on ongoing feedback and to ask for letters of support.
- More info on the Franklin St project can be found at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/franklin-complete-streets-project>
- More info on the 73rd Ave project can be found at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/73rd-avenue-active-routes-to-transit>
- If the 73rd Ave project's grant application is successful, the project may begin constructed as early as 2026. Franklin would happen later but there's a 5-year time limit after the grant is awarded for the project.
- The 73rd Ave Project should include reducing the speed limit on 73rd Ave.
- 73rd Ave should be considered for quick-build improvements at key locations.
- The third design option shown for 73rd was preferred by some. There is a survey online.
- More info and an updated project map of the Franklin Complete Streets project is available on the project website at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/franklin-complete-streets-project>
- Staff is not aware of any other AHSC Grant Applications the City of Oakland is Oakland applying for.
- Regarding the two stair paths projects applying for TDA funding, upgrades like handrails, visual distinction on the edges of steps, and other ADA upgrades will be included.
- [Presenter Craig Raphael noted after the meeting that stair path project costs are high for two main reasons: 1) These will be near total rebuilds of the existing stairs; and 2) Soft costs are high for small, technical projects like these.]

- Stair locations further east should be considered.
- The Rosemont Ave to Longridge Ave Stairs in Trestle Glen were chosen for being well-used and high value to cost project.
- Some residents didn't want the Outlook to Hillmont Stairs to be repaired because of fears it would draw more people to the neighborhood. [Presenter Craig Raphael noted after the meeting that the Outlook to Hillmont Stairs Path project is no longer moving forward.]
- OakDOT will also be applying for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 12 which is due in September of 2024 and early proposal ideas were shown in the presentation.
- The HSIP Grant likely cannot be used for funding red-light or speed camera programs because they are more programmatic than infrastructure projects.
- Robert Prinz is working to reject a proposed requirement that future HSIP grant applications may not receive funding for projects that propose Class 3 bike lanes on streets over a certain speed limit. That proposal would make creative designs like the design with the frontage road proposed for 73rd Ave ineligible.
- Safety should be the top priority in considering design changes.

Speakers other than Commissioners: Swetha, Colleen Brown (Mills Garden Association), Robert Prinz, George Spies, Jason Patton

→ A motion to send a letter of support for the LAAMPS Phase 2&3 Project was made (Ralston), seconded (Schader), and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Item 8. BPAC Strategic Planning Review & Look Ahead for 2024

BPAC Chair Gardner and Vice Chair Ralston continued the item from the February BPAC meeting on updating the 2023 Strategic Plan.

Summary of Discussion:

- Sending letters is a power the commission should use more often. Letters to staff or City Council should be provided even if the topic doesn't have an assigned staff member.
- Safety and traffic calming and reducing severe and fatal crashes remains a top priority and there should potentially be an Ad Hoc Committee on the conditions around the crashes and recommended improvements. More data on traffic crashes should be provided by the City. Goals and outcomes should be determined before starting a new committee.
- It's important to keep naming severe and fatal crashes at the beginning of the meeting to keep focus on the important issue.
- The community-initiated safety infrastructure pilot project is a great example of an item the BPAC is interested in and will come to the BPAC next month.
- OakDOT should begin a Red-Light Pilot Program, and this should be a future item at the BPAC.
- The Speed Camera Safety Program is a key item.
- A log of all fatalities from the entire year could be included in agenda packets while highlighting the most recent ones.

- A BPAC meeting should happen at Fruitvale or 81st Ave Library or the Unity Council.
- OakDOT staff should invite commissioners to all outreach events.
- The tasks related to outreach by BPAC Commissioners on the 2023 strategic plan should be kept on the 2024 strategic plan.
- The focus should be on traffic calming when bringing items to the commission.
- Commissioners and members of the public should submit ideas outside of this meeting to OakDOT staff and/or the BPAC leadership.
- Commissioners should continue to write draft letters and bring them to the BPAC meetings.

Speakers other than Commissioners: George Spies, Priyanka Altman, Jason Patton, Kevin Dalley

→ A motion **to extend the meeting by 8 minutes** was made (Gardner), seconded (Ralston), and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Item 10. Three-month agenda look-ahead, suggestions for meeting topics

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

Suggestions for Meeting Topics

- Red Light Camera Program
- Upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) for Maintenance Work
- Bike Plan and Pedestrian Plan progress and updates
- Updates on Safe Routes to School Program
- Contracting Reform

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Attachments:

- Item 6. Bike to Wherever Day 2024 Presentation

Minutes recorded by Noel Pond-Danchik, Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Transportation Planner II, emailed to meeting attendees for review on 3/26/24 with comments requested by 4/9/24 to npond-danchik@oaklandca.gov. Revised minutes will be attached to the April 2024 meeting agenda and considered for adoption at that meeting.