



**SIERRA VISTA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES: AUGUST 26, 2019**

**DRAFT**

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**MEETING LOCATION:**

Sierra Vista Public Works Bld.  
Training Room  
401 Giulio Cesare Ave.  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

**MEETING DATE AND TIME:**

August 26, 2019  
11:00 AM



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**Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chair: *Vacant*  
Vice-Chair: Bud Dragoo  
Member: John Healy  
Member: CBA Representative: Kathy Buonocore  
Member: Kara Harris  
Member: Carol Langley (for Jacob Jones-Martinez/CC Health & Social Services)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Member: Ana Stompro

**STAFF:**

SVMPO Administrator: Karen L. Lamberton, AICP  
Regional Transportation Planner Intern: Catarina Porter, BYU-I Intern

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Heather Rodda, Sierra Vista School District/Wellness Coordinator

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**1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m. Administrator Lamberton confirmed a quorum and thanked the members for making the effort to convene for this important meeting today. She welcomed two potential new representatives to this group: Carole Langley, for Cochise County Health and Social Services and Heather Rodda, Sierra Vista School District/Wellness Coordinator. BPAC members introduced themselves.

Administrator Lamberton advised that the ADOT Bike and Pedestrian Coordinator was unable to make this meeting due to a scheduled conference she was attending. Potential members have also been solicited from Summit Fitness and from Hiking Clubs in the area.

## 2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Vice-Chair Dragoo asked if BPAC members had any corrections or comments on the BPAC Regular Meeting Minutes of Feb. 25, 2019 and April 29, 2019 Meetings. Hearing none, he called for a Motion to Accept the Minutes as presented. Member Buonocore so moved, Member Healy seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** CBA Member Buonocore

**SECOND:** Member Healy

**ACTION:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

## 3. OPERATING STRUCTURE and COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP PROPOSED REVISIONS

The primary topic for this BPAC meeting was the current operational structure and composition of the SVMPO BPAC Committee. The SVMPO Administrator expressed her concern that this advisor committee was simply not coalescing into an effective group and had begun to question if adjustments to the purpose of the group were needed to refocus activities to better meet regional needs. Provided in the Agenda packet was the underlying guidance for the BPAC committee. The group discussed each section and made the following observations:

1. **Underlying role/purpose of the BPAC:** These stated ideas were not bad but could be more specific and targeted to activities in the Work Program and/or to moving the bar on American League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community criteria. Public health should be a concern, e.g. reducing obesity and include goals adopted by the Community Health Plans. Be Healthy, Sierra Vista was mentioned as a model. Safe Routes to School also an important concept that the group would like additional focus on. Aligning to SVMPO Work Program tasks was suggested.
2. **Applicability of the objectives of the BPAC:** Evidence based assessment was mentioned as were activities like going after grants, supporting grants by the member jurisdictions and/or non-profits, increasing clarity as to what specifically would be accomplished.
3. **Possible revisions to the BPAC membership:** The BPAC members supported broadening the membership and focusing on groups, rather than individuals, that would hold a voting seat but could send one or more members to each meeting. It was acknowledged that positions change over time and the current structure is harder to change or replace members. The need for citizen representatives was also emphasized with a desire for a balance between citizen representations and more formal organizations or agencies representatives. Including the health/fitness community was also supported and it was noted that a more diverse group would help to provide the integration that the regional committee needs for developing solid recommendations.
4. **Potential revisions to the structure of BPAC meetings:** BPAC members stated that quarterly meetings actually seemed too far apart but thought if there were more meetings, more frequently, they might be better attended. Administrator Lamberton stated she was not opposed to that concept but noted that of the last five meetings held this was the first one with a quorum. If restructuring does not revitalize the group more meetings would not be productive.

The need for the BPAC to reach to a larger region, the entirety of the SVMPO, was also discussed. The BPAC members felt that most riders do go outside the City boundaries and the rides are all over the place, including to Bisbee and Tombstone. Addressing gaps in the system

was stated as a priority. Three specific gaps were mentioned: 7<sup>th</sup> street around the bypass, Ramsey Canyon shoulders, SR90 east past the hospital. It was noted that improvements to bicycling infrastructure usually helps to support pedestrian safety and activities too. The implications of the American League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community criteria was discussed and it was felt that the regional committee was not the primary reason to keep the committee active but that the criteria noted were good assessment tools for making recommendations for the region.

In summary, the BPAC felt that there should a stronger connection to wellness/health/active living; an expansion of focus even beyond the SVMPO borders; consistency and increased frequency in meeting and indicated enthusiasm for taking on the long-range plan analysis and development of recommendations.

Both the Cochise County Health and Social Services Dept. and Sierra Vista School District Wellness Coordinator, invitees to this meeting indicated that this group seemed to be a worthwhile cause that they should patriciate in, if the BPAC continues to meet.

The BPAC members concurred that the SVMPO Administrator should take forward recommendations for restructuring to the TAC and the SVMPO Board and that this group should meet again, sooner than the next scheduled meeting, to continue this discussion.

This was a discussion item: No action was taken on this item. Direction was given to the SVMPO Administrator to take a restructuring recommendation forward to the SVMPO Board.

#### **4. SELECTION OF A BPAC CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

This item was tabled until the next BPAC meeting, at the consensus of the BPAC members. It was felt that if the membership is expanded then there might be other members willing to take on the Chair and/or Vice-Chair position. The current Vice-Chair, Bud Dragoo, indicated he has been in this position for some time and was not sure he wanted to take on another year in a leadership role.

**TABLED:** No action was taken on this item.

### **NEW BUSINESS: PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

#### **5. SVMPO FY20 & FY21 WORK PROGRAM**

The final FY20 & FY21 work program was provided in hard copy to all BPAC members. Administrator Lamberton advised that this is the document that guides the work of the MPO as well as the potential work activities for the BPAC. Element Six has a targeted focus on alternative modes, primarily bicycle and pedestrian related activities.

This is an informational item: No action was taken in this item.

#### **6. SVMPO LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PENDING UPDATE**

BPAC members were provided with the Bicycle & Pedestrian element from the current SVMPO Long-Range Transportation Plan. Administrator Lamberton advised that this plan will be updated in the next year and that the BPAC was always intended to be the lead advisory committee on developing this section of the long-range transportation plan for the region. This

section needs expanded into the larger SVMPO area. It also needs to include what of these projects has been completed and the Administrator stated that she would follow up with the City to see what projects, noted on page 32 in Table 4.4. & 4.5, have been taken forward.

BPAC members stated that there were several groups that should be integrated into that planning process; including, the Active Health Committee, the Fort Huachuca Health Advisory group, the School Districts Health Advisory Committee. BPAC members stated they would see if they had contacts for the SVMPO and solicit interest in participating in either the BPAC or the Long-Range Transportation Plan effort. Public outreach activities should take advantage of scheduled rides or bicycling/walking events.

This was an informational item: No action was taken on this item.

## **7. SIGNALIZATION CONFLICTS**

Administrator Lamberton indicated that BPAC members had in their Agenda packets information about the May 8, 2019 City of Sierra Vista City Engineer response to inquiry on potential conflicts between green light turn arrows and pedestrian WALK sign indicators. The Cochise Bicycle Advocates had indicated that they did not feel that the City Engineers response adequately addressed previous guidance they had received from ADOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, Donna Lewandowski. Administrator Lamberton noted that this issue continually seems to be churning about but the question had been asked, the City Engineer responded, and the City believes the matter to be closed. The CBA representative, Member Buonocore, will bring this up at their next CBA meeting, scheduled for the next Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. The SVMPO Administrator stated she would try to attend that meeting.

This was a discussion item: No action was taken on this item.

## **8. EAST/WEST BICYCLE ROUTE UPDATE**

Administrator Lamberton indicated that their agenda packets included an August 19, 2019 e-mail update of the East/West bicycle path plans and construction progress. This project is underway at this time.

This is an information item: No action was taken on this item.

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & MEETING DATE/TIMES**

BPAC members felt that a meeting sooner rather than later was warranted to follow-up on the Executive Board action regarding this advisory committee. By general consensus, the group decided to meet in one month: **Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.** The next scheduled 2019 meeting date for BPAC will still be set for: October 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.

Administrator Lamberton asked about the day of week and time set. The BPAC members indicated that they prefer a set day of the week for all meetings and that the current time set for BPAC meetings, 11 a.m. works for them. Administrator Lamberton reiterated that this timeframe was selected to allow members to overlap their lunch with this meeting and they were welcome to bring in their lunch if that is helpful to any of them.

This is an information item: No action was taken on this item. Direction was given to the SVMPO Administrator to schedule a BPAC meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **10. ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES AND GENERAL CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

This is the time set aside for BPAC members to share information and current events. This is also the time set aside for members of the public to provide general comments to the BPAC committee. Members of the Committee may not take formal action on matters not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01 (H) action taken as a result of public comment is limited to responding to any criticism, directing staff to review the matter, or scheduling the matter for discussion at a later date.

BPAC members shared information with each other about pending events and bicycle infrastructure concerns. These included the upcoming October 5<sup>th</sup> Sky Island Event and the Buena Mountain Bike competition, also on October 5<sup>th</sup>, at Fort Huachuca. Fifty teams from around the State are expected. It is also the same day as Art in the Park so the City will be busy with all these activities next month.

The CBA group indicated that they had bike racks dedicated to the area and if any BPAC members knew of locations to place them to let them know. The BPAC discussed the blind turn caused by the presence of a wall at the Golf Links and Carmichael intersection but had no suggestions as what could be done about it. The Sky Island Tour could use flags like they had last year on donation from the Tour de Tucson group. Administrator Lamberton stated she would see if they were available this year.

This was an information item: No action was taken on this item.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The committee adjourned by general consent at approximately 12:25 p.m.