

**Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), of the  
South Lake Tahoe Recreation Facilities  
Joint Powers Authority (JPA)**

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**Biannual Joint Powers Authority Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) Report**

January 29, 2016

**To:** South Lake Tahoe Recreation Facilities Joint Powers Authority (JPA)

**From:** Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

**Subject:** Status update on previous BAC recommendations, new BAC funding recommendations and potential projects for consideration in 2016.

**Status of previous BAC Recommendations**

**1. Approximately \$70,000 of remaining funds redirected to the City from the 2014 completed rehabilitation project**

Funds redirected to support rehabilitation of the class 1 bike paths between Trout Creek and Edgewood Circle as well as between Lake View Common and the former Alta Mira building site near Takela Drive.

Due to other priorities with construction of the Bike Park, the City did not start work on these projects in 2015 and proposes to do them in early summer of 2016. The BAC recommends completion of the project to occur before the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, but after the Tahoe Bike Challenge.

**2. \$10,000 of Measure R bicycle funds authorized for pilot 2014/15 and 2015/16 snow removal programs**

The JPA authorized up to \$10,000 of remaining 2014 rehabilitation project funds as match for the City's class 1 bicycle paths pilot snow removal project. A contract with Alpine Smith used \$7,000 of the funds to clear a portion of the City's prioritized class 1 paths, with the City's snow removal crews clearing the remaining class 1 paths.

With little snow in 2014/15 to test the program, the JPA authorized an additional \$10,000 for the City's 2015/16 winter season, now under way. The BAC worked with City Staff to administer an online survey to evaluate the success of the program. The survey questions and results, attached for reference, show support of the program with requests for additional bike paths and extending snow removal to County paths. Some opposing comments felt money would be better spent on road maintenance. However, the survey did not clarify that the \$10,000 in Measure R funds supporting the snow removal program can only be used for bike path maintenance.

**3. \$87,000 of Measure R bicycle funds authorized in January 2015 to El Dorado County**

Funds authorized to support rehabilitation of the Saw Mill bridge decking.

The County received \$87,000 from the BAC for this project and secured a low bid of \$65,000 to complete the work. The County completed the project in 2015 with \$22,000 remaining in unused funds. The JPA had \$55,000 available for this project at its July 2015 meeting, but was able to remit the balance when the Auditor-Controller wired the prior year accumulated JPA funds to the JPA's fiscal agent, Union Bank.

#### **New BAC Funding Recommendations**

To respond to survey results as well as a written request from a County resident (attached), the BAC recommends redirecting the remaining \$22,000 of unspent funds from the County Saw Mill bridge decking project to snow removal on County Class 1 bicycle paths from Meyers to Viking Way. The County's Transportation Department expressed some concerns over liability, but are now in the process of soliciting a bid to determine the exact cost for the work.

**\*Requested Action:** The BAC requests the JPA authorize use of the remaining \$22,000 for snow removal in El Dorado County.

#### **4. \$10,000 of Measure R bicycle funds authorized in January 2015 for way finding signage**

Funds authorized to support the City and El Dorado County fabricating and installing new way finding signage along the class 1 bicycle paths in the South Shore.

The City received \$10,000 from the BAC for this project. The County is in the process of developing AutoCAD drawings of wayfinding signs for the bikeway connecting Meyers to Viking Way. Upon receipt of these specifications, the City sign shop will produce all signs, with City crews installing City signs and County crews installing County signs in the summer of 2016. This project is expected to be complete in 2016.

#### **Potential Projects for Consideration in 2016**

During the July 24, 2015 JPA meeting, the BAC discussed providing \$65,000 match for the ATP grant application to construct the Class 1 bicycle path along Al Tahoe Blvd from Hwy 50 to Johnson Blvd. In the fall of 2015, the City was notified that the grant was approved and funds for the project awarded. At that time, the City informed the BAC that they did not need the match to secure the grant and the project would not be ready for funding for at least two years. Rather than leave the available \$65,000 unused, the BAC reviewed other potential projects that could be performed in the near future and makes the following recommendations in priority order.

#### Priority Project # / Description / Recommendation

1. The BAC recommends including pavement improvement on the Class 1 segments along Rufus Allen from the Library to Vector Control and from Rufus Allen to the Senior Center when the City performs its planned 2016 rehabilitation of path segments between the bridge east of Meeks Lumber and Edgewood Circle and between Lakeview Commons and the Alta Mira site. The BAC recommends adding JPA funding for these projects if the existing balance is insufficient to complete the work.
2. To address user conflicts with pedestrians, the BAC recommends installation of a yellow center line on the Linear Park bike path as well as the Harrison Avenue bike path. The BAC also

requests the City to advise if the Linear Park bike path can be widened, for consideration of possible future funding.

3. The BAC recommends pavement improvement of post Measure S paths at 15<sup>th</sup> Street, the Community Playfields and the County's golf course boardwalk. Both the City and County hold existing funds for these improvements. The BAC recommends the JPA provide additional funding if the existing City and County funds are insufficient to complete the work.
4. The BAC recommends the City include a connection to the existing Class 1 trail behind Scusa in its planned Sierra Blvd bikeway. The BAC also recommends that the City make the Sierra Blvd bikeway a protected Class 4 design, on both sides of Sierra Blvd, if possible.
5. The BAC's prioritized adding green paint to the Class 3 street crossing area at Eloise and Dunlap fifth. However, Measure R requires that all needed maintenance of Class 1 trails must first be performed before funds can be used for work on other bicycle facilities. The BAC strongly urges the City to complete this when stenciling the Class 3 bike route along Eloise. Piloting green paint in this location will assist with way finding and improve safety by calming traffic along Dunlap.
6. The BAC shall consider funding increased wayfinding signage on the street network in the "Y" area following completion of the July 2015 authorized wayfinding signage project.
7. The poor surface quality of Eloise Avenue, one of the most heavily used Class 3 bike routes in the City, poses a safety concern. JPA funding is not eligible to repave Eloise Avenue, however the BAC recommends the City prioritize and fund the project
8. The BAC recommends the Tahoe Valley Area Plan include implementation of enhanced street crossings noted in the TVAP bike study, for intersections in the greenbelt plan. The BAC recommends the JPA provide additional funding if needed.
9. The BAC recommends the County use its successful on-our-way and corridor planning grant to address realignment of Pat Lowe for better bicycle access at Pioneer/US 50 and feasibility with Caltrans.
10. The BAC recommends the City analyze the feasibility of connecting the end of Melba Drive to the airport property, generally along the pre-existing campground roadway.

**Requested Action:** As noted above, the BAC expects the JPA to have approximately \$65,000 in Measure R funding available in July 2016. The BAC recommends the JPA authorize the funding to be made available to the projects in the priority noted above, directing the BAC to work with City and County staffs between now and July 2016 to establish the added JPA funds they will need to perform the work. Once additional information on cost and feasibility is determined, the BAC will make formal requests for action at the July 2015 JPA meeting.

Lastly the BAC recommends that the City complete the 2016 Bicycle Friendly Community Status application due February 11, 2016.