

**MEMORANDUM**

TOWN OF LOS GATOS

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

From: Bob Kass, Special Project Manager

Subject: Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update

Date: September 28, 2016

September 8, 2016 Community Meeting

On September 8, 2016, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission hosted a Community Meeting on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP). Approximately 20 members of the public attended. Michael Nilsson, the lead consultant from PlaceWorks covered the following major components of the BPMP

- Vision, goals and policy framework
- Preliminary network and policy recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian improvements
- Online public comment mapping tool
- Current timeline for completion of Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan document

Following the presentation portion of the meeting, comments were received from the public and the BPAC. The public comments from this meeting have been summarized and organized in the attachment memorandum from Placeworks (Attachment 1).

Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts

Two bicycle and pedestrian count volunteer training sessions were held in early September. Counts were taken at nine locations in Town (see Attachment 2) by 32 volunteers and three Parks and Public Works interns. Counts were taken on Wednesday, September 14th, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 17th, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Only one count session was missed (Saturday morning at Union/Los Gatos Almaden Blvd.). The use of volunteers for the Town's first-ever counts was highly successful, in no small part due to the exceptional commitment and enthusiasm of the volunteers.

Count data is currently being tabulated and will be included as part of the BPMP.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Web Page

The BPMP web page (<http://www.losgatosca.gov/2347/Bicycle-and-Pedestrian-Master-Plan>) has

been updated with the addition of presentations from the volunteer training and the September 8, 2016 Community Meeting, as well as all material and reports that have been presented to the BPAC.

Next Steps

At the September 8, 2016 Community Meeting, staff presented a tentative schedule of Next Steps for finalizing the BPMP. The tentative schedule anticipated launching the online public comment mapping tool by early October. The online public comment mapping tool is intended to obtain feedback on proposed bicycle and pedestrian network projects as well as solicit suggestions for additional projects. Because the BPAC has not yet had an opportunity to review the proposed project list in detail, staff is recommending that the general release of the online tool be deferred until after the BPAC has had an opportunity to review in detail the mapping tool and the list of proposed improvements. This would occur at a special November 3, 2016 Study Session.

A revised schedule for bringing the BPMP to completion including the proposed November 3 Study Session to review proposed improvements and projects is provided below. Dates, while corresponding to regular commission and council meetings, should be considered desired but tentative, particularly in light of the Thanksgiving holidays and December/January Town closure, both of which fall within the schedule of activities.

Date	Activity
10/6	BPAC Regular Meeting--Status Update
10/7	Online comment mapping tool released to BPAC
10/20	BPAC comments due to Town PPW
11/3	BPAC Study Session on BPMP Network Recommendations
11/9	Online comment mapping tool launched
12/1	BPAC Review of Draft Final Plan
12/5	Parks Commission Review
12/7	Presentation to Safe Routes To Schools Committee
12/8	Transportation and Parking Commission Review
12/14	Planning Commission Review
1/17	Council Approval

Attachments:

1. Public Comments from September 8, 2016 Community Meeting
2. Los Gatos Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Locations



MEMORANDUM

TO Town of Los Gatos
FROM PlaceWorks
SUBJECT **Los Gatos Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) Community Meeting Public Comments – September 8, 2016**

Meeting Summary

The Town of Los Gatos Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission held its community meeting on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) on September 8, 2016, at Town Council Chambers. The purpose of this meeting was to:

- Discuss the framework of the potential goals and policies for the Bicycle and pedestrian Master Plan
- Present preliminary network recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian improvements
- Discuss additional opportunities for community feedback, including the online engagement tool
- Receive feedback from the BPAC and community on goals, policies and network recommendations
- Determine prioritization for improvements

Bob Kass, Project Manager with the Town of Los Gatos, welcomed and introduced the Commissioners and PlaceWorks, the prime consultant for this project. Michael Nilsson of PlaceWorks gave a presentation focused on broad policy goals of the BPMP, followed by potential pedestrian and bicycle enhancements that may occur as result of the Plan. After the presentation, Bob Kass presented a brief summary on the results of the “Traffic Around Schools” project, of which the recommendations will be incorporated into the BPMP. Once the presentations concluded, the BPAC provided their feedback on the presentation topics, followed by comments and questions from members of the community. The meeting ended with concluding remarks from the members of the BPAC.

Public Comments

After the presentation, community members provided input regarding the goals and policies and network recommendations, with the following summary provided, organized by the following topics:

Implementation Strategies

- There is a need to structure and prioritize recommendations in the BPMP.

Network Recommendations – Bicycle Improvements

- Highway 9 has intermittent bikeway infrastructure, it needs to be improved.
- Need to provide more bike facilities such as valets, corrals, and lockers in Town.
- Community members suggested installing a new paved trailhead at highway 9 leading to Los Gatos Creek Trail.
- Consider installing a bike share network along Los Gatos Creek Trail which could connect to a regional bike share network.
- Promote regional coordination to improve connections and safety along Los Gatos Boulevard crossing Highway 85. Consider incorporating facilities along major arterials.

Network Recommendations – Pedestrian Improvements

- Consider improving walkability along Quito Road.
- Community members are concerned about the speeding, auto collisions and the S-curve on Wedgewood road. There is a need for traffic calming and appropriate signage along this road.
- There are concerns about crossing Los Gatos Boulevard, Samaritan Drive and Highway 85.

Policy Recommendations

- Consider developing a program to reduce bike thefts, this program may be developed through a partnership between Parks & Public Works, Planning and the Police Department.
- Residents expressed concern regarding right hooks and feel there is a need to educate bicyclists and motorists where each should be, especially for streets that have green bike lanes.
- Need strict law enforcement for cars turning at red lights. There is a need for pedestrian signal delay at signalized intersections to ensure safety of pedestrians crossing the street.
- Need bicycle laws displayed on Town website and events.
- Consider coordinating with plans proposed for North Forty Development, even if development plans are currently being put on hold.
- Require bicycle parking facilities to be provided at offices and retail centers, and upcoming developments.
- Consistent maintenance standards need to be incorporated into the BPMP for the Town, especially along roadways such as Highway 9 which have intermittent infrastructure due to lack of maintenance.

Questions on Outreach Strategy for BPMP

- How do the online survey responses for the BPMP get incorporated? Wanted to make sure feedback received was incorporated into the Plan.

Safe Routes to School

- Community members asked if the roundabout at Manor Circle can be converted to true roundabout. Cherry Blossom Lane also provides an opportunity for roundabout improvements and needs to be included in the “Traffic Around Schools” Plan.
- Residents mentioned that Kennedy Road and South Kennedy Road are not safe to walk to school. The road has a lot of cyclists and pedestrians and needs improvements.
- Residents suggested that Marshall Lane Elementary School should be identified in the current Safe Routes to School efforts and improvements displayed on the maps. Children in the La Rinconada neighborhood go to this school and should be incorporated in the “Traffic Around Schools” effort.
- Recommend the “Traffic Around Schools” study also include Union School District or Campbell Union School District.
- Residents expressed concern about walking along Blossom Hill Road near Union Middle School.
- Community members wanted to know if they can still comment on the “Traffic Around Schools” maps.

LOS GATOS BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COUNT LOCATIONS

SEPTEMBER 14TH AND 17TH, 2016

- (A)** Los Gatos Creek Trail - South of Main Street/Maple Place entrance (at bench and water fountain)
- (B)** Santa Cruz Avenue and Main Street
- (C)** Los Gatos Creek Trail (between the two ped/bike bridges at the end of Lundy Lane)
- (D)** Los Gatos-Saratoga Road (HWY 9) at Massol Avenue
- (E)** Daves Avenue and Winchester Boulevard
- (F)** Blossom Hill Road and Roberts Road
- (G)** Los Gatos Boulevard and Shannon Road (near elementary and middle schools)
- (H)** Los Gatos Creek Trail (on west side of creek intersecting the bike/ped bridge, just north of Lark Avenue)
- (I)** Union Avenue and Los Gatos Almaden Road

