



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Committee Meeting

Wednesday 1st September 2021

8:15 AM Online with ZOOM

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Traffic Safety (BPTS) Committee Meeting Minutes

1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Ed Holland called the online Zoom meeting to order at 8:17 am.

Patt Baenen, Angela Hey, Ed Holland (Chair) and Kevin Welch attended. Gary Hanes sent his apologies for absence. Also in attendance were Howard Young (Town Public Works Director), Gary Nielsen (Police Commissioner) and Craig Hughes (Town Council member). Karen Lucian (Portola Valley School District) attended too.

Residents attending included Rita Comes, Kristi Corley, Patty Dewes (Parks and Recreation Committee), Lorrie Duval, Joan Leighton, Caroline Vertongen, Joel and Maddie.

2 Approve Minutes from the August 4th 2021 meeting

Caroline Vertongen requested that the August minutes be changed to reflect that she voiced concern that the town needs to respond to requests from the public in accordance with town documents such as the Municipal Code and General Plan.

With this change, Patt proposed the minutes be accepted, Kevin seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

3 Oral Communications – Resident and Open Committee Comments

Patt Baenen wanted to add directional signs for bikes in the town, as seen in many local towns. The aim was to communicate more directly with cyclists.

Patt would like to see chevrons on the pavement in the main traffic lane where cars park in the shoulder. In particular, on Portola Road where cars sometimes park in the shoulder, blocking the way for cyclists.

4 Sheriff's Report

Sergeant Andy Hui (San Mateo County Sheriff's Office) gave statistics for July.

There were 37 moving citations, 17 or 18 were stop sign violations.

In addition, 43 parking citations were issued.

There were 4 collisions – 2 hit and runs, 1 minor, 1 major.

In a hit and run a contractor, going slowly backed into a resident as he was backing out of a driveway.

Near Windmill School a telephone pole was struck during the night.

There was also a minor solo vehicle collision near Portola and Willowbrook.

The major collision, involved a cyclist who was hit going down Alpine Road by a vehicle leaving Golden Oak.

A new captain - Andy Armando - will be meeting the town manager, Jeremy Dennis, about the Zots to Tots run and Town Picnic on October 9th where police presence is needed to close the road. Ed noted the committee is keen to have support from the Sheriff's Department, based on prior Zots to Tots runs. Patty Hewes from the Parks and Recs Department will work with Andy Hui after the meeting. The need for a Plan B, in case the Sheriff's deputies were called away for an emergency was mentioned.

5 Public Works Update

5.1 Resurfacing

Howard reported that the town plans to resurface 24 streets, 20% of streets. He has informed residents – sending 300 notifications – in locations where there will be new signs and striping. The town is also going to roll the shoulders so they are smoothed for cyclists. It is expected that it will take 2 weeks, starting September 20th to resurface with slurry seal.

Howard drew attention to the town website where there are the following links:

- <https://www.portolavalley.net/departments/public-works/traffic-improvement-project> - this details the location of traffic improvements that include replacement of warning signs, additional warning signs and pavement markings, showing examples of Caltrans standards that will be followed
- <https://www.portolavalley.net/building-planning/building-planning-department/projects-public-works> - this gives an overview of the town's public works project – completed, future and in progress.

Angela asked if, at Alpine and Portola Road junction, the Alpine Road uphill lanes could indicate where bikes should go. Angela and Patt will work on a restriping proposal for Howard.

Patt asked if there would be any weekend work on the roads. In accordance with the town noise ordinance work will not be done on weekends.

5.2 Back To School

The public works department has done maintenance work on trails around schools.

5.3 Parking at Alpine and Golden Oak

The town put one big log to define the shoulder on Golden Oak near the junction with Alpine opposite the Alpine Inn. The log does not prevent people from parking on Golden Oak, it just prevents them in one place so they don't drive into a ditch or fence. This was done based on residents complaints that the smaller logs that were in place tended to get rolled away, not from a BPTS committee recommendation. Ed asked that in the future, the committee be updated when logs are put in place.

Kristi Corley wondered what was being done about SamTrans buses dropping off school children between the other end of Golden Oak and Portola Valley garage. Craig suggested that Kristi speak with

SamTrans. Craig suggested the issue of bus stop location be put on the agenda for another meeting. Howard and Ed will work on it, although Ed did not see it as a massive safety issue.

6 Ongoing Committee Business

6.1 PV Ranch

Leo Gonzales, the Ranch manager, did not attend and the meeting time was constrained, so a discussion by the committee on signs for the Ranch was not discussed. Angela had looked at signs on Indian Crossing and Valley Oak. This will be an agenda item for the next BPTS meeting.

6.2 Town Council Presentation

Ed would like the subcommittee on parking to continue. Ed would like to see details from Howard and Paul Krupka on changes that are to be made. First the council needs to approve a budget for hiring a traffic engineer. Craig said that he will work with Jeremy on what is required.

6.3 Parking at northern end of Golden Oak

Craig said the goal of the log on Golden Oak is to define the shoulder and make sure the parking doesn't cause problems by cars going into the ditch or fence. The town plans to allow parking continue on Golden Oak. The BPTS committee has not made recommendations on parking in this area.

Caroline Vertongen says the town is denying that there is a problem. Residents have submitted pictures of a problem. Ed noted that the committee and committee members had discussed parking with residents.

6.4 Environmental Reports for the Stanford Wedge and the Neely Winery Tasting Room

Regarding traffic studies as part of the environmental impact reports (EIRs) for the Stanford Wedge (Portola Terrace) and Neely Winery proposed tasting room on Portola Road, Craig said they were not available yet.

For the Stanford property, he noted that blue stakes mark the two entrances to the property off Alpine Road. The new entrance is higher up Alpine Road than the current entrance to the stables on the Stanford land. Stanford had held open days for committee members to walk around the property and see posts and storey poles for a few of the proposed buildings.

Ed said he spoke to the Stanford representatives when he visited the property about traffic. Craig said he had been on a visit and the two entrances to the property have better line of sight than the current driveway. Angela agreed. Kristi had spoken with Stanford representative, John Donahoe, he said Stanford's traffic modeling assumes 6 trips per day per dwelling unit. He is waiting to see the town's traffic report.

7 Events

7.1 Zots to Tots – Request for Assistance with Organization, Event Parking from Parks & Recreation Committee

October 9th is the date for Zots to Tots. As noted earlier, Ed agreed with Patty that there is a need to reach out to private firms in case backup is needed. Craig said the Sheriff's contract with the town is coming up and that resources for events would be part of the contract and he believed they would be available.

The committee plans to have a booth there.

7.2 Late Summer Energizer Station

With Zots to Tots and a town picnic on October 9th, it was felt that there would not be a separate late summer energizer event.

8 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

9 Next meeting

The next general meeting of the committee is on Wednesday 6th October at 8:15 AM, via Zoom.

10 Adjournment

Ed adjourned the meeting at 9:02 am.