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September 2010 SFMTA Livable Streets Report to the San Francisco Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

See www.sfgov.org/bac for more information.

Compiled by the SFMTA Livable Streets Subdivision Staff

A. BICYCLE PLAN

1. **INJUNCTION:** The injunction has been lifted! The SFMTA striped bike lanes on Laguna Honda, Townsend and North Point. This is in addition to the bike lanes on Beale, Howard, and Otis, Scott, Mississippi, Kansas, Claremont, Clipper, and 7th Ave.

B. FACILITIES & PROJECTS

1. **FELL & DIVISADERO BIKE PROJECT:** The bicycle lane on Fell St, between Scott and Divisadero was painted green on Tuesday 8/3. Reactions have so far been positive – but there are still some calls to revoke the gas station's driveway permit for the entrance and exit from Fell Street at Divisadero. Those requests have been referred to DPW who retains jurisdiction over driveway permits. Staff completed a draft memo summarizing findings of before-and-after counts of vehicle encroachment in the bike lane (painted green near Arco).
2. **JOHN F. KENNEDY DRIVE BIKE PROJECT**– Staff reviewed the corridor and identified a 2000' segment where we can pilot the design where there is no downhill grade and where we can maintain a 5' painted buffer between cars and the cycle track. SFBC staff is trying to facilitate a field test of the design with SFMTA and R&P to illustrate what a cycle track would look like and to build support for the concept. This is tentatively scheduled to happen in mid-September.
3. **BIKE PARKING:** Staff submitted work orders for approximately 32 additional bike racks to the shops for installation. Staff also responded to approximately 100 requests from the public about bike racks. Staff had a meeting with 311 representatives to discuss the details of transitioning bike parking requests over to the 311 system.

4. **TOWNSEND STREET BIKE LANES:** Bike lanes have been installed in the eastbound direction on Townsend Street between 7th and 8th Streets, and in the westbound direction on Townsend Street between 4th and 8th Streets. In addition, a pedestrian space has been defined on the north side of Townsend Street between 4th and 7th Streets, in those areas where the sidewalk is not yet constructed.
5. **NORTH POINT STREET BIKE LANES:** Bikes lanes have been installed in both directions on North Point Street between The Embarcadero and Van Ness Avenue.
6. **SHARROWS:** Staff submitted work orders for approximately 190 additional sharrows to the shops for installation.
7. **MARKET STREET:** Innovative Staff working with Accessible Services to respond to concerns about paratransit access to blocks with delineated bike lanes. Staff attended walk-through along Market St from 5th to 6th Sts with other Livable Streets staff, TA staff and Neil Patel of the SFBC to discuss bike boardwalk concept and possible treatments in safety zones. Accessible Services will be organizing meeting to clarify SFMTA position on taxis on Market St and would like to include Livable Streets.
8. **GLEN PARK BIKE LANES:** Staff communicated to the merchant groups that SFMTA has withdrawn the proposed bike lane on Arlington St. between Wilder St. and Bosworth St. Working with the community the project will be reevaluated after the rest of the project has been installed and the level of demand from bicyclists is assessed. Ric Lopez, the president of the Merchant Group expressed appreciation for City efforts and committed to participate any future evaluations.
9. **UPPER MARKET BIKE LANE EXPANSION** – The proposal to reconfigure parking in the area and fill in gaps in the bike lane network went to public hearing on August 13. Everything except the proposal for angled parking on Noe Street passed. Livable Streets staff committed to facilitate a meeting among residents and merchants. Residents and the merchants directly facing the angled parking ultimately opposed the plan for angled parking which provided two additional parking spaces – completely offsetting all the parking losses due to the bike project.
10. **BIKE SHARING:** Innovation Staff attended Sunday Streets on 8/22. Staff tested the Bixi bikes and helped distribute informational fliers, maps and helped to demonstrate the use of the Muni Bus Bike Rack.

11. **REVISED BIKE/WALK MAP:** Staff received the first 150 SF Bike Map & Walking Guide from the publisher. The remaining 2,950 will be delivered to the SFMTA within two weeks.
12. **BICYCLE LANE FACILITIES WITH SHARROWS AT INTERSECTIONS:** Staff is recommending modifying the design of bicycle lanes approaching intersections. Currently, a six inch dashed white line is used for the last 100 feet of bicycle lane approaching an intersection which allows right-turns. Under the new recommended design, this dashed white line would be replaced with two sharrows. Staff believes this design is more intuitive to all road users, encouraging proper merge behavior between bicycles and right turning vehicles. Currently, this treatment is being recommended only at signalized intersections. Staff is still evaluating whether this design would be appropriate at non-signalized intersections. This treatment would be used for new facilities and as older facilities are restriped as part of maintenance.
13. **GREAT STREETS PROJECT: MARKET TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP –** Staff met with SFCTA and SFBC to talk about specific bike-related changes that could happen in the near term along Market Street to improve conditions for bicyclists. Most of the ideas require additional analysis to determine their feasibility given the significant constraints of the roadway and Muni service.
14. **WEBSITE AND HOTLINE: WEBSITE AND HOTLINE:** Email addresses and hotline numbers for the former Bicycle and Traffic Calming programs are being discontinued. Both the Bicycle Program Hotline and the Livable Streets/Traffic Calming hotline will no longer be regularly monitored. Their outgoing message has been changed to instruct callers to call 311. The email address Livablestreets@sfmta.com and bicycle@sfmta.com will now be forwarded directly to sustainable.streets@sfmta.com. All references to these hotlines and emails on the website and in outreach materials will be revised to direct the public to call 311 or email sustainable.streets@SFMTA.com.

C. FUNDING

1. **PROP K ALLOCATION REQUESTS (ARF):** Staff is requesting funding for a SRTS local match for West Portal Elementary, Bicycle Safety Outreach funding, and construction funding for 3 bike projects (Potrero, McCoppin, and John Muir). These requests will be considered for approval at the SFCTA Board in late September.

D. BIKE ED AND SAFETY

1. **BICYCLE SAFETY EDUCATION CLASSES:** Staff is in the process of amending the contract for Bicycle Safety Education for an extended term. The purpose of the extension is to maintain bicycle safety education classes while a new contract is secured. Increased scrutiny of City contracting has extended the estimated timeframe for new contracts.
2. **BIKE TO WORK DAY:** Staff is in the process of amending the contract for Bicycle Safety Education for an extended term. Increased scrutiny of City contracting has extended the estimated timeframe for new contracts and the SFMTA seeks to avoid any disruption in the pre-planning and coordination for Bike to Work Day.
3. **5th/MARKET GIFT FROM DEVELOPER:** An appeal was heard and denied for the 935-965 Market Street Project EIR. Some additional compromises were included with the approval of the project. Once all litigation is resolved, A&C staff will prepare a resolution for the BOS to accept a gift (\$200,000) from the developer to implement pedestrian and bicycle enhancements in the area of the project.
4. **WALK YOUR BIKES ON SIDEWALK CAMPAIGN:** Staff revised and translated into Chinese and Spanish the “Walk Your Bike on the Sidewalk” poster. Staff sent the image files to the publisher on Sept. 16. Staff will coordinate with non-profit groups and other public agencies to post the posters during October.

E. MISCELLANEOUS

1. **WEBINARS & SEMINARS:** Livable Streets hosted two APBP webinars, Road Diets on Aug. 18 and Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities with Transit on Sept. 15.
2. **ANNUAL BICYCLIST COUNT:** Staff trained all interns in bike counting methodology. Annual bike counts started this week. The SOMA/Downtown cordon count was conducted on August 12th.