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# SONOMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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New time,  
date and  
location!

## AGENDA

**Thursday, July 24, 2003**

3:30 –5:00

Santa Rosa Public Works

Conference Room #5

69 Stony Circle, Santa Rosa

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### Directors

**Jake Mackenzie, Chair**  
Rohnert Park

**Paul Kelley, V. Chair**  
Sonoma County

**Steve Allen**  
Windsor

**Joe Costello**  
Sonoma

**Patricia Gilardi**  
Cotati

**Mike Healy**  
Petaluma

**Robert Jehn**  
Cloverdale

**Mike Kerns**  
Sonoma County

**Lisa Schaffner**  
Healdsburg

**Tim Smith**  
Sonoma County

**Sam Spooner**  
Sebastopol

**Sharon Wright**  
Santa Rosa

### ITEM

- I. Introductions and public comment on items not on agenda
  - II. Consent Items – DISCUSSION/ACTION
    - A. Approval of the Agenda
    - B. Approval of June 2, 2003 Minutes
  - III. Reports – INFORMATION
    - A. Member Reports/Information
    - B. SCTA Report
  - IV. Proposed 101 Bike & Pedestrian Bridge Project
  - V. SCTA Countywide Bicycle Plan Update – DISCUSSION/ACTION
  - VI. Adjourn – ACTION
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### SCTA Staff

**Suzanne Wilford**  
Executive Director

**Janet Spilman**  
Transportation Planner

**Janie Ramirez**  
Executive Assistant

520 Mendocino Avenue  
Suite 240  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
PH: 707-565-5373  
FAX: 707-565-5370

The next **CBAC** meeting is?  
The next **SCTA** meeting is September 8, 2003

Santa Rosa Public Works is just off Stony Point a little north of the intersection with 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Across from Stony Point Grill and the near the Volunteer Center – next group of buildings north.  
Call if you have any questions. 565-5371

**This CBAC agenda packet is available online at  
[www.sonoma-county.org/scta](http://www.sonoma-county.org/scta)**

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**SONOMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**MINUTES**

June 2, 2003

ATTENDEES

Sue Kelly, Sebastopol  
Steven Schmitz, County  
Brian Mealins, Petaluma  
Elizabeth Tyree, Windsor

Lynn Woznicki, Healdsburg  
Janet Spilman, SCTA  
Matt Townsend, Rohnert Park  
Bruce Eisert, Santa Rosa

ITEM

- I. Introductions and public comment on items not on agenda Introductions were made. There were no public comments. It was very very warm.
- II. Consent Items
  - a. Approval of the Agenda - agenda was approved
  - b. Approval of March 3, 2003 Minutes – minutes were approved with corrections  
Santa Rosa project listing in Item III should read Sonoma Ave Bike lanes (remove phase 2)
- III. Member reports

Steve Schmitz – Sonoma County – The bicycle awareness campaign is ongoing. The campaign includes banners, billboards, a mural, survey of motorists and bicyclists on the effectiveness of the campaign. Most Share The Road signs are posted.

Bruce Eisert – Santa Rosa – Fehr and Peers is conducting a Bicycle Safety Study for Santa Rosa. New bike maps are available. Projects at North & Franklin and Santa Rosa Ave will be constructed this summer.

Matt Townsend – Rohnert Park – The commerce bike path is going to bid. The bikeway will be on Commerce from Rohnert Park expressway to State Farm drive.

Elizabeth Tyree – Windsor – The Town of Windsor is accumulating property along the Railroad right of way for a continuous bike path.

Susan Kelly – Sebastopol – Sebastopol is still waiting for a state contract for the Railroad Forest bike path. California Tiger Salamander mitigation may be an obstacle. The Street Smart project is scheduled to obligate in June. The Highway 116 project from Cotati to Sebastopol is moving slowly and may be susceptible to scope creep as the project grows.

Lynn Woznicki – Healdsburg – They are working with SMART on the Foss Creek project.
- IV. SCTA Countywide Bicycle Plan Update – The project list is the only outstanding issue. The committee decided to limit the list to the foreseeable future – 5 years.
- V. CBAC meeting schedule. It was agreed to meet at a new time and location to accommodate staff members who attend the Technical Advisory Committee meeting of the SCTA. The new meeting schedule is 3:30 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, as needed.
- VI. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

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**SONOMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**DATE:** July 22, 2003  
**TO:** Countywide Bicycle Advisory Committee (CBAC)  
**FROM:** Janet Spilman, Transportation Planner  
**SUBJECT:** Staff Reports Items III, IV and V

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**Item III – SCTA staff report**

The SCTA has begun to update the Countywide Transportation Plan. Public planning sessions are scheduled for mid August. All modes of transportation will be featured including bicycling. Participants will be asked to consider some of the challenges of mobility in Sonoma County and asked for their input. Results from the sessions will be reported to the SCTA and incorporated into the CTP. The Plan is expected to be approved spring of 2004.

Please see the newsletter included here for more information.

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**Item IV – Proposed 101 Bike & Pedestrian Bridge Project**

The SCTA received correspondence and heard testimony from the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition (SCBC) on the subject of a Hwy 101 over crossing to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian traffic between the Santa Rosa Junior College and the west side of the freeway. This project is listed in the Countywide Transportation Plan list of projects. The Santa Rosa Junior College has been invited to attend this meeting to discuss their transportation related plans. The SCTA is seeking input on how to address the SCBC's request. Please see attached letter from SCBC President Ken Wells.

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**Item V - SCTA Countywide Bicycle Plan Update**

The Draft Bike Plan is included in this packet.

Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition  
P. O. Box 3088  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402-3088



[www.bikesonoma.org](http://www.bikesonoma.org)

*promoting the bicycle for transportation and recreation*

e-mail address: [info@bikesonoma.org](mailto:info@bikesonoma.org)

Sonoma County Transportation Authority  
520 Mendocino Ave., Suite 240  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

May 12, 2003

Chairman Mackenzie and Authority Directors:

The Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition (SCBC) requests your leadership and assistance to ensure that our limited public funds for transportation projects in Sonoma County are spent in the most efficient way. We are contacting you to bring to your attention an opportunity to coordinate three different projects to produce a significant improvement in our local transportation system.

The 101 widening project currently being designed between Hwy 12 and Steele Lane is occurring at the same place and in generally the same time-frame as two other very significant local transportation projects: the SMART commuter rail effort and the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) parking project. It is the position of the SCBC that this confluence of transportation projects provides a unique opportunity to coordinate the three projects so that our community can be provided with the best possible outcome; from economic, social and environmental perspectives.

Unfortunately, the SRJC, which succeeded in getting a \$251 million local bond measure approved (Measure A) in 2002, which included \$17 million to address "parking improvements" at the SRJC campus, is rushing forward without consideration of the community and the other projects which will impact it and which it will impact. The SCBC has urged the JC to consider the possibility of a pedestrian and bicycle overpass over Hwy 101 such that it would provide student and staff access from the JC over the new, widened 101 and connect with the SMART rail station being planned for the Jennings Ave. site, which is immediately across 101 from the JC. Our request to the SRJC Board of Trustees last year was ignored and the SRJC isn't even studying the idea and is currently moving forward with construction of a four-story parking structure on the SRJC campus next to Bailey Field.

The SCBC hopes that by making the Transportation Authority and the community aware of the need to coordinate all three projects at this critical point in the process, that the responsible organizations will begin to work together to improve our transportation system, not make it even worse.

Specifically, the SCBC requests that the Transportation Authority contact the SRJC and request that they include the possibility of a pedestrian and bicycle overpass, similar to the one just completed over I-80 in Davis (which cost only \$2.4 million) to connect the SRJC with a parking area on the west side of 101 in the location planned for the SMART North Santa Rosa station, and determine if this approach would be more environmentally and economically superior to using our \$17 million of local taxes to build a parking structure. A bike and pedestrian bridge over 101 would provide the opportunity to significantly reduce the traffic and parking requirements on the SRJC campus, and create an immediate population of riders for the train when it is available. Although the bicycle and pedestrian 101 overpass would require

a fraction of the Measure A bond money, it would reduce the size necessary for a parking garage, and the combination could be less costly, providing additional funds for other critical SRJC projects.

Meanwhile, as we write this, the SRJC is moving forward with plans to use our money to build a large parking garage, which will encourage more cars on our streets and highways and further negatively impact Hwy 101, the Steele Lane-101 interchange, and traffic circulation along Steele Lane, Mendocino Avenue and nearby Santa Rosa residential streets.

Additionally, we are asking the Transportation Authority to ensure that CalTrans design in an accommodation for this possibility in their 101 widening plans and the SMART planning process include the JC's traffic impacts and parking opportunities in its environmental review and design process.

By integrating and coordinating the three projects at the current design stage, we can achieve the best use of local tax dollars, reduce traffic congestion, reduce the impacts of JC traffic on local residential areas, and make progress towards reducing pollution and the other environmental impacts from cars.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring this to your attention and we hope you'll take a leadership role in this situation.

Sincerely,



Ken Wells, President  
Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition

c: Suzanne Wilford, Executive Director