



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: 09/13/16	SUBMITTED BY: Nancy Ferguson
SUBCOMMITTEE NAME: Active Transportation Plan Subcommittee	SUBMITTED DATE: 09/10/16
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: Sept 5, 2016 (Nancy Ferguson, Grant Wilson, Brett Klein, Vic Yepello); Sept 7, 2016 (Joe Jackson, Grant Wilson, Marcus Fuller, David Ready) Sept 10, 2016 (Nancy Ferguson, Grant Wilson)	NEXT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: TBD

Subcommittee Meeting Goal:

- 1) September 5th Meeting – Coordinate with Brett and Vic as they transition away from the Active Transportation Committee.
- 2) September 7th Meeting – Continue conversation with City Manager and City Engineer on ATC projects and focus moving forward.
- 3) September 10th Meeting – Grant downloaded Nancy on the 9-7 meeting.

Summary:

1) September 5rd Meeting

- a. Discussed the priorities that were set at the June 28th meeting with Council subcommittee, David Ready and Marcus Fuller (see July 2016 ATC report for details). These were:
 - San Rafael Drive to replace Racquet Club for a Class II bike lane.
 - Murray Canyon Drive between South Palm Canyon and Toledo
 - La Verne Way between East Palm Canyon and South Pam Canyon (connects to Toledo)
 - Farrell Drive between Ramon and East Palm Canyon
 - La Verne Way improvement are complete but did not include a road diet with bike lane at this time. The decision was made that one or the other (La Verne or Farrell could be completed. The Farrell Drive road diet was completed.
- b. With the finalization of the roadway projects currently within engineering, the City will have exhausted all available funds as provided from Measure J. Focus should now be placed on community awareness and education. This will bring the populace into sync with the wellness focus of biking, walking and capitalize on the network of paths created to date. This will also allow the committee to focus their collective energies and funding in an efficient and proactive direction and utilize the existing funding that Michele has remaining or in grants.
- c. The 'Vision Palm Springs' event was also discussed, but we agreed that there is not the support needed to make this a showcase event for the City at this time. We had approached the Tribe's event staff to see if there was interest, but to date, no additional discussion has occurred. Therefore, we believe that the grant Sustainability has received for ATC work can be best utilized on action items listed below.
 - Lay out a strategic advertising publicity campaign in order to educate our citizens and tourists alike.
 - This should be a year-round awareness campaign on educating the public.
 - This would be a coordinated effort with Jeff Hocker marketing. This also promotes wellness overall as it connects to our sustainability master plan, CV link, and our wellness initiatives overall.
 - Given the current local climate regarding sustainability, wellness and non-motorized, a strident effort needs to happen to keep Council and our citizens engaged and focused.

2) **September 7rd Meeting**

- a) Grant Wilson and Joe Jackson met with the City Manager and City Engineer to discuss Sustainability and Active Transportation.
- b) City Manager and City Engineer are looking to the Sustainability Commission for input on how to move forward with implementation of the Sustainability Master Plan and Active Transportation in particular.
- c) The main takeaway was a desire to establish a few specific goals that can be achieved over the next year or two. Michele got a start on this with a list she generated but we may conclude as a commission that we would like to focus on others.

3) **September 10th Meeting**

- a) Discuss the best approach for providing input to City Manager and City Engineer.
 - Meet with Measure J Hot Spot subcommittee on their initiative and coordinate our efforts.
 - Meet with Lisa Middleton to discuss how to interface with the Planning Commission on the upcoming General Plan Update.

Recommendation/Request

- 1. ATC will periodically check in with Engineering staff to discuss opportunities for grants to continue with public outreach and education for cycling.
- 2. ATC will look for opportunities for funding of our pedestrian demonstration projects.

ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO COMMISSION

Coordinate with David Freedman (PC liaison) for meeting with Lisa Middleton

ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

None at this time

POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT/REQUEST IF ANY:

To be determined through discussions with Jeff Hocker and the Sustainability Outreach subcommittee



9.13.16 Sustainability Commission Testimony: Solar Ordinance

Climate change is the defining issue of our age. It represents a very real threat to humanity with deepening droughts, water shortages, epic storms, massive wildfires, coastal flooding and ocean de-oxygenation. The past 11 months globally were the hottest in 137 years of record keeping.

In April the American College of Physicians issued the following call to action: “Climate change will have devastating consequences for public and individual health unless aggressive, global action is taken now to curb greenhouse gas emissions.”

Communities and businesses worldwide are demonstrating how to transition to renewable energy. It’s time for Palm Springs and other Coachella Valley cities to join visionary world leaders in creating a better future. This will require courage, imagination and determination.

Our first priority must be to prevent new sources of GHG emissions to our environment. In Palm Springs, our last GHG audit (2010) revealed that 70% of our emissions come from the gas and electricity used to heat, light and cool our buildings.

New construction creates additional GHG emissions and accelerates climate change. Once emitted, these gases can remain in our atmosphere for hundreds of years.

In response to this reality, we strongly support the approval of a common sense Palm Springs ordinance requiring installed solar on all new construction and major remodels. Policies requiring installed solar on new construction have already been enacted in Santa Monica, San Francisco, Lancaster, Sebastopol and Culver City.

These homes need not be expensive. Pioneering home builder Meritage Homes <https://www.meritagehomes.com/whybuy/energyefficient/netzero.php#.V9YVXzf6TB> is currently selling installed solar homes in their Fontana Sierra Crest development. These homes are in the \$400K range. This is an excellent model of what is possible in Palm Springs.

The good news: when we act to curb greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, we create opportunity. We diversify our seasonal tourist economy, we grow our local renewable businesses, we create new jobs for our citizens and we attract the next generation of eco-tourists. Most important, we create a viable future for our children and grandchildren.

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