

ITEM V-E: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT – CIRCULATION ELEMENT UPDATE AND UPDATE TO THE BICYCLE MASTER PLAN - FILE# 2008PL-036 (PROJECT# GPA-00047)

REQUEST

The applicant requests approval of amendments to the General Plan Circulation Element to revise wording and incorporate the proposed 2008 Bicycle Master Plan.

Applicant: City of Roseville Planning & Redevelopment/Public Works

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The Planning & Redevelopment Department recommends that the Planning Commission take the following action:

- A. Recommend that the City Council adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration;
- B. Recommend that the City Council adopt the Bicycle Master Plan update ; and
- C. Recommend that the City Council adopt a Resolution approving the General Plan Amendment.

SUMMARY OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES

There are no outstanding issues associated with the proposed General Plan Amendment.

BACKGROUND

The Bicycle Master Plan is intended to guide and influence bikeway policies, programs and development standards to make bicycling in Roseville safe, comfortable, convenient, and enjoyable for all bicyclists. The ultimate goal of this effort is to increase the number of persons who bicycle in Roseville for transportation to work, school, and errands, and for recreation. The benefits of increased bicycling include improved air quality, reduced emissions that contribute to global warming, improved traffic conditions, reduced dependence on non-renewable fuel, lower transportation costs for citizens, improved physical fitness, stress reduction, and reduced health care costs.

The City of Roseville Bicycle Master Plan was adopted in 1994 pursuant to the Roseville General Plan and in accordance with the State of California Bicycle Transportation Act. The Bicycle Transportation Act (BTA) requires that local agencies complete a Bicycle Master Plan in order to qualify for bikeway grant funds issued by the California Department of Transportation. The BTA further requires that Bicycle Master Plans be updated every four years. The Roseville BMP has been updated two times since 1994, most recently in 2002. These prior updates focused primarily on updating the bikeway map to reflect the construction of new bike lanes and bike trails, and recognizing changes to the City limits.

DISCUSSION

Bicycle Master Plan

Since it has been over 12 years since the adoption of the original Bicycle Master Plan, City staff used the current Bicycle Master Plan Update to comprehensively assess the status of bicycle facilities and programs in Roseville. Staff used a comprehensive public outreach program to solicit input on existing bicycling conditions, potential roadways for improvements, crossing locations, and the type of support facilities or programs needed to improve bicycling in the City of Roseville. The goal of this approach is

to develop a community supported vision for a comprehensive bikeway network and program that will facilitate biking for transportation and recreation purposes by enhancing bicyclist safety, comfort, and convenience. The Bicycle Master Plan Update was prepared by Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants and is provided as Exhibit B.

The BMP Update includes several new proposed bikeways. For example, new Class I trail crossings are proposed across State Highway 65 in the vicinity of Pleasant Grove Boulevard (see trail 3f and 3g of Figure 5 of the Bicycle Master Plan). The inclusion of trail segments within the BMP Update does not mean with certainty that they will be built. Appendix F of the Bicycle Master Plan show the short term, medium term, and long term priorities for proposed bike facilities. Studies on individual projects will be required in the future to determine the feasibility of the projects.

The BMP Update does not propose to eliminate any constructed bikeways. However, the BMP Update also deletes several planned bikeways that were proposed in prior versions of the BMP. An example is the Class I trail that was previously proposed along Cirby Creek between Eureka Road and Douglas Boulevard (directly northeast of Maidu Park.) In that case, the proposed trail was deleted because it was relatively short, did not offer important connections and had significant design constraints.

The BMP Update further identifies several road segments that are candidates for bike lane installation, and designates a number of low volume/low speed streets as potential Class III bike routes.

Table 1 provides a summary of existing and proposed bikeway facilities, and Attachment 2 provides a detailed list of changes to the Recommended Bicycle Network.

Bikeway Classification	Existing	Proposed	Total
Class I Bike Trail – off street trails	27	28	55
Class II Bike Lane – semi-exclusive on-street striped bike lanes	83	27	110
Class III Bike Route – sign designated, shared with motorists	9	33	42
Total Miles	119	88	207

General Plan Amendment

The BMP Update includes recommended modifications to the General Plan Circulation Element. The modifications are provided in redline/strikeout format in Exhibit A. The BMP Update includes updated goals, policies and implementation measures. The updated goals, policies and implementation measures are organized into the following topics:

- Bikeway Route Development
- Bikeway Support Facilities
- Maintenance
- Education
- Enforcement
- Encouragement
- Environment
- Funding

Some of the updated goals, policies, and implementation measures are provided to reflect current practices and changes that have occurred since the adoption of the BMP in 1994. Other goals, policies, and implementation measures are intended to facilitate enhancements to the City’s current practices. As an example, the education and encouragement sections identify existing outreach programs that are conducted by the City, as well as new programs that are intended to increase the acceptance for bicycling in Roseville. The increased emphasis on bicycle support facilities, education, enforcement,

and encouragement is provided in recognition that a successful bicycle program includes not only on-the-ground bikeway improvements, but also awareness of the many benefits of bicycling and foster a climate of acceptance for bicycling within the community.

The proposed bikeway goals of the General Plan are listed below:

1. Increase the percentage of all trips made by bicyclists in Roseville.
2. Establish and maintain a safe, comprehensive and integrated bikeway and trail system that encourages the use of bikes and walking for commuting, recreation and other trips.
3. Establish education, encouragement, and enforcement programs that increase bicyclist and motorist awareness of the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists in order to foster a climate of acceptance for bike riding.
4. Obtain the Bicycle Friendly Community Designation from the League of American Bicyclists.

Staff proposes Goal #4 (Bicycle Friendly Community Designation) because obtaining this designation would assist the City when applying for bikeway grants and it signifies that the City has made a significant commitment to bicycling. The program also provides a benchmark for ongoing efforts to improve the City's bicycle program.

The text changes were reviewed by multiple City Departments and any comments have been incorporated into the proposed document.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study (Exhibit C) was prepared by Foothills Associates and City staff to identify and assess the anticipated environmental impacts of the project. On the basis of the Initial Study, the City of Roseville has determined that the potential environmental impacts resulting from adoption of the Bicycle Master Plan Update are less than significant with the recommended mitigation measures, and a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared. After adoption of the BMP Update, subsequent program activities and bikeway projects will be subject to further site-specific environmental review as required by CEQA.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Planning and Redevelopment Department recommends that the Planning Commission take the following actions:

- A. Recommend that the City Council adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration;
- B. Recommend that the City Council adopt the Bicycle Master Plan update; and
- C. Recommend that the City Council adopt a Resolution approving the General Plan Amendment.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Transportation Commission Staff Report – April 15, 2008
2. Summary of Changes to Recommended Bicycle Network
3. Public Comments on Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
 - Native American Heritage Commission
 - Public Utilities Commission

EXHIBITS

- A. Proposed Text Changes to the General Plan Circulation Element redline (Previously transmitted to the Planning Commission on April 18, 2008)

- B. Draft 2008 Bicycle Master Plan (Previously transmitted to the Planning Commission on April 18, 2008)
- C. Bicycle Master Plan Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Previously transmitted to the Planning Commission on April 18, 2008)

Note to Applicant and/or Developer: Please contact the Planning Department staff at (916) 774-5276 prior to the Commission meeting if you have any questions on any of the recommended conditions for your project. If you challenge the decision of the Commission in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues which you or someone else raised at the public hearing held for this project, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Director at, or prior to, the public hearing.