BCDC To Review RSR Bike Access Study

Mark this very important date on your calendar: On **June 20th**, the BCDC will be holding a hearing on the Caltrans Freeway Access Study. The meeting will begin at 1:30pm at the MTC Building. Attendance is very much encouraged!

Under terms of the BCDC permit to retrofit the bridge, the Freeway Access study was initiated to study the feasibility of cyclists using the 12 foot shoulders on the bridge.

As you can see from the following timeline, cyclists have been fighting for almost 50 years to restore bicycle access to Marin County.

- **1956** - Bicycle access ends with demise of ferry service and opening of Richmond-San Rafael bridge with excess lane capacity in each direction.
- **1975** Short-lived proposal for a “demonstration” bike lane on the 5.5-mile span would “shorten the bicyclist’s distance from Richmond to Marin by 110 miles,” reported the *Marin Independent Journal* (May 15).
- **1977** - Drought dictates that superfluous third lane be used for water pipeline to Marin County. Lanes restriped as a 12’ shoulders following removal of pipeline.
- **1996** - Bicycle shuttle on RSR discontinued.
- **1996** - EBBC and Marin bicyclists begin monthly “access feasibility rides” to both sides of bridge in

**RSR, continued p. 3.**
BAC Calendar
Compiled by: John Ruzek

**Alameda County**
Meets as required, 1333 Broadway Suite 220, Oakland. **Staff:** Beth Walukas, 510-836-2560, x13, BWalukas@accma.ca.gov, www.accma.ca.gov.

**BART (Bicycle Accessibility Task Force)**
June 3, Aug 5, 6 pm MTC, 101 8th Street, Oakland. Bimonthly, first Mondays. **Staff:** Laura Timothy, 510-464-6425; **Co-Chairs** Joe Carroll, JCarroll@lmi.net, Dave Favello, 925-939-9462, davevelo@aol.com. - County representatives: Alameda - Raines Cohen 510-337-9427 raines@raines.com; Contra Costa – Dave Favello, Craig Hagelin 925-937-7610, change@earthlink.net.

**Berkeley**
June 5, July 3, 4-6 pm, (call to confirm date and time) 2118 Milvia St., 2nd floor. **Staff:** Carolyn Helmkne 510-705-8131, CHelmkne@ci.berkeley.ca.us; **Chair:** Stephen Wheeler, SWheeler@uclink.berkeley.edu; EBBC rep Hank Resnik, hankr@earthlink.net, 510-524-4488.

**Brentwood**
June 13, July 11, 3:30 pm (2nd Thurs) Parks & Recreation Department 740 3rd St. **Staff:** Janet Hansen, 925-516-5369, JHansen@ci.brentwood.ca.us, Delta Pedalers rep Dave Stoeffler 925-634-1793, Daves@ecis.com.

**California Bicycle Advisory Committee (CBAC)**
Jun 6, Aug 1, 10:00 - 3:00 pm, Meetings held bimonthly in Sacramento at Department of Transportation, Conference Rm 2116, 1120 N Street. CBAC addresses bicycle issues regarding Caltrans facilities, standards and legislation of statewide significance. **Staff:** Ken McGuire, Caltrans, 916-653-2750, Ken_McGuire@dot.ca.gov; **Chair:** Alan Wachtel, CABO, 650-494-1750, Wachtel@aol.com; REBAC rep: Alex Zuckermann, 510-452-1221, REBACazu@earthlink.net

**Caltrans District 4**
July 9, 1:30 pm, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland. Meets quarterly to review state highway projects which impact bicycle facilities. **Staff:** Julian Carroll, 510-286-5598, Julian_Carroll@dot.ca.gov; **Chair:** Doug Kimsey, MTC, 510-464-7794, dkimsey@mtc.dst.ca.us; EBBC rep Doug Faunt, 510-655-8604, Faunt@netcom.com.

**Concord**
(Trails Advisory Group) Call for date & location or check www.ci.Concord.CA.gov.us. **Staff:** Ginger Gessner, Parks Manager, 925-671-3444, EBBC rep Kathy Tate, 925-671-7579, BikeTate@tpi.net.

---

**SUPPORTING BUSINESSES**

- A Round World 2416 Telegraph Ave, Oakland
- Hank & Frank Bicycles 3377 Mt. Diablo, Lafayette
- Missing Link 1988 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley
- REI Coop 1338 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley
- REI Coop 1975 Diamond Blvd, Concord
- Start to Finish 37120 Fremont Blvd, Fremont
- The Pedaler 3826 San Pablo Dam Rd, El Sobrante
- Geoff Palmer http://www.bikeparking.com
- Twofish Unlimited 510-524-2309
- Stone’s Cyclery, 2320 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda
- Sharp Bicycle, 969 Moraga Rd., Lafayette
- Dublin Cyclery, 7001 Dublin Blvd, Dublin
- Cycle Sports 3241 Grand Ave, Oakland

---

Coordination? Only three months after dedicating the Berkeley Bike/Ped Bridge, bicyclists are prohibited from traveling on the I-80 West Frontage Road between University and Ashby.
**Short Reports**

**Carquinez Scenic Drive** - Accompany *Save The Bay* staff (naturalist and EBBC member Paul Revier) on a relaxed ride along this often-overlooked section of the North Bay between Port Costa and Martinez. The EBBC is encouraging that improvements be made to the deteriorating former road, now a car-free section of the Bay Trail, with great Bay and City views, verdant wetlands, and shorebirds. Everyone, no cost, donations welcome. Contact Eric Vance, evance@savestbay.org or (510) 452-9261 and plan to meet at 9am on June 29 near Costco in Richmond.

**Iron Horse Trail** - The Transportation and Compact Growth Committee of the Sierra Club’s San Francisco Bay Chapter supported the Mount Diablo Group’s resolution encouraging creation of a landscaped open space and completion of the multiuse path. EBBC members made a strong showing at the May 20 meeting to speak in support of continued nonmotorized transportation on this popular trail.

**EBBC Hazard Reports** - Ian Mac-Donald wishes to remind riders to take note of hazardous situations created during winter storms and report them at www.ebbc.org. Oakland has also implemented a storm drain grate “improvement” program and requested that we report any hazardous storm drain. He also notes that a CoCoWater District hero or heroine is willing to repair those annoying metal lids that are about 12 inches around their private property. Ideas?

**Hayward Eden Landing** - ABAG Bay Trail Director, Janet McBride (510-464-7935), reports sighting the pillars for the new Highway 92 bicycle-pedestrian overpass. The project is part of the San Mateo bridge mitigation that will extend the Bay Trail southward to connect to the Dumbarton Bridge.

**Caltrans Interchanges** - Caltrans is soliciting complaints, comments, observations, examples etc. that bicycle operators and pedestrians have had with intersection ramps and intersections on state routes. Please take this opportunity to identify locations that don’t work well for bikes and pedestrians (e.g., Camino Pablo at SR-24). Send comments to Maggie O’Mara, maggie_o_mara@dot.ca.gov and District 4 Bicycle Coordinator Julian Carroll, julian_carroll@dot.ca.gov.

**Lafayette** - In the absence of a local BAC, the EBBC suggested Lafayette complete the bikeway connection to the St Stephens path. This simple project to sign and improve the road surface would score very highly as a gap closure project of regional nature. Instead, Lafayette will be submitting a project to construct “pedestrian and bicycle facilities” along Pleasant Hill Road between Mt. Diablo Blvd. and Olympic Blvd that will cost over $3 million. Local advocates report that no such improvements are needed.

**Oakland Grand Prix** - On Sunday July 14 (Bastille Day) you will have the opportunity to watch olympic hopefuls and national champions race. You can check out the course! Get three friends to join you in a fun team relay - four riders, one bike, two laps each. Compete against Oakland Police, Berkeley Police, Oakland Fire, advocates, club teams, an Extra-Cycle team and ??? Don’t want to race? Everyone is eligible to serve as a corner marshall. A youth bike rodeo and fun kid races are also scheduled. The start/finish at Harrison St in front of Snow Park will also feature displays of the bike-friendly Lake Merritt Master Plan. Call 510/530-3444 for info.

September in call to open shoulders to bicyclists (see: rideOn, Oct).

- 1997 - Bay Area Air Quality Management District encourages Caltrans to provide direct bicycle access on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge in letter to the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) on May 6.
- 1997 - Gov Wilson’s Attorney General (AG) offers opinion in early August that the BCDC would lose in court if it continued to push Caltrans for bicycle access as a permit requirement.
- 1997 - Caltrans sanctions feasibility ride (see: RideOn, Sept 1997) knowing that AG legal opinion would decide matter in their favor.
- 1997 - BCDC granted Caltrans permit #1-97 to allow RSR seismic retrofitproject, sans bikeway.
- 1998 - Attorney General Bill Lockyer reversed opinion of prior AG noting that “BCDC legally may impose a permit condition which requires that Caltrans provide bicycle and pedestrian access,” and that “the Vehicle Code does not preempt BCDC’s authority.”
- 1998 - EBBC members prepared 36-page “Safety Subcommittee” portion of Caltrans’ Richmond-San Rafael Public Access Feasibility Study (December) that supported conversion of the existing shoulders to offer bicycle access. In published version of the 343-page report, Caltrans misplaced a key section assessing suitability of RSR shoulders for bicyclists from pp. 14-16 to pp. 131-133.
- 2000 - BCDC promises hearing to revisit the issue of bicycle accessfollowing completion of a statewide Freeway Shoulder Bicycle Access study.
- 2001 - Statewide Safety Study of Bicycles and Pedestrians on Freeways, Expressways, Toll Bridges, and Tunnels (Mineta Transportation Institute, SJSU) http://transweb.sjsu.edu/publications/BikesAndPeds2.pdf finds that the existing RSR “railings appears to be adequate to protect bicycles from leaving the bridge” and that the existing 12’ shoulder is more
Fat Streets and Road Diets: Common Cause for Bike and Ped Advocates

Bicycle advocacy and pedestrian advocacy are often separate worlds with different and sometimes competing goals. Bicyclists want bike lanes, smooth pavement, and secure bike parking. Pedestrians want pleasant sidewalks with safe and convenient crossings. However, both bike and ped advocates have common cause in humanizing wide streets with fast traffic. How about the "road diet" as a strategy for coalition-building?

Road diets re-stripe streets to reconfigure the travel lanes. For example, imagine a four lane street with two travel lanes in each direction. Now re-stripe it with one lane in each direction, left turn pockets, and bike lanes in each direction. (The same concept applies for streets with more lanes.)

The bike advocates call the project a victory because of the bike lanes. The ped advocates call it a victory for improved crossing safety. (Fewer motor vehicle lanes means shorter and safer crossings. The bike lane also provides a buffer where drivers are more likely to see pedestrians beginning to cross.) The residents call it a victory for reducing motor vehicle speeds. (Fewer lanes mean that the slower vehicles set the effective speed limit.) Motorists will approve of the left turn pockets (that improve traffic flow by getting turning vehicles out of the way). Local government can call it victory because of the project’s minimal cost.

The City of Oakland's recent reconfiguration of Grand Avenue between downtown and the Grand Lake district is just such a success story. Is it a bike project or a ped project? The right answer is All of the above — because we win when we work together.

-Jason Patton

The EBBC Online

To keep up with the latest news and happenings, subscribe to the EBBC online mailing list. Mailing lists are a great way to quickly notify lots of EBBC members of important meetings, hearings, etc.

To subscribe to the list, send email to:

*ebbc-talk-request@idiom.com*

with the following in the **body** of the message:

*subscribe*

Submissions to *ebbc-talk* are archived at [http://www.ebbc.org/list.html](http://www.ebbc.org/list.html)
Mining the TRB Proceedings for Bicycle Ore

The world’s premier English-language research forum for transportation planners and engineers meets each January as the Transportation Research Board in Washington DC. Of the 1185 paper presentations in 2002, 31 researchers specifically addressed non-motorized transportation issues.

These proceedings are available to TRB attendees on CD-ROM and represent a veritable gold mine of interesting new or innovative research and information. I wish to share with you a select digest of the most interesting, new or innovative information on bicycle transportation. For more information on-line, enter www.TRB.org/trb/meeting on your browser.

Not all research relevant to bicyclists specifically addresses bicycle transportation. One example is “Evaluation of Video Traffic Sensors for Intersection Signal Actuation: Methods and Metrics” by C. Arthur MacCarley, California Polytechnic State University, and Joseph Palen, Caltrans. They note, “A video-based detection system is just a sensor, intended to replace or substitute for the function of another sensor, (usually inductive loops) as an input to a traffic signal controller. We all know how unreliable loops are at detecting bicycles. Their rigorous field evaluation of an early (1996) video detection-based intersection system provides a means of evaluating this promising technology.

As an aside, we will have a pilot video detection project — focused on the detection of bicyclists - installed at a total of 37 intersections along Ashby Ave in Berkeley and El Camino Real in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.

Since 1965, traffic engineers have relied on level of service (LOS) evaluations of motor vehicles to justify lane widening. At the 1997 TRB, Bruce Landis, et al, presented the notion of a Bicycle LOS Model as developed in Florida. The latest edition of the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM 2000) incorporates a very simple Bicycle LOS that Richard G. Dowling, Dowling Associates (Oakland), and two Florida researchers criticize as inadequate. They note in their 2002 TRB paper, “Multi-Modal Corridor Level of Service Analysis,” that the HCM considers “bicycle lane capacity only and neglect[s] the very real impacts of facility design and the interaction with vehicular traffic.” Dowling, et al, propose that bicycle, pedestrian and transit travel be addressed in a comprehensive corridor LOS model. The bicycle portion of their MMC LOS considers the width of the outside travel lane (including the presence of a bicycle lane), outside lane motorized vehicle traffic volume, motorized vehicle speed, heavy vehicle mix, and pavement surface condition.

Eugene, Oregon continues to serve as a testing site for ways to assist bicycle travel through intersections. The Federal Highway Association recently published William W. Hunters’ Evaluation of an Innovative Application of the Bike Box. (FHWA-RD-00-141, August 2000), that addressed an advance bicycle stop area on a one-way arterial. At the 2002 TRB, Hunter presented a paper titled, “Evaluation of a Combined Bicycle Lane/Right-Turn Lane In Eugene, Oregon.” Hunter concluded, “the use of a shared, narrow right-turn lane in combination with a bike lane in a limited right-of-way situation …worked well.”

Intersections converted from stop signs or traffic signals to roundabouts are widely acknowledged to reduce vehicle crashes, yet local opposition hinders roundabout installation. Cyclists in particular can enjoy unfettered forward motion when approaching yield-on-entry roundabout intersections. Two papers at the 2002 TRB by Eugene R Russell et al examined public opposition to roundabouts: “Kansas Roundabouts Reluctance;” and “Public Opinion and Traffic Impacts of Roundabouts.” A third paper, “Roundabout Warrants,” by Jeremy R. Chapman and Rahim F. Benekehah considered where to install roundabouts.

Despite a number of “road diet” lane conversions in Oakland (7) and San Francisco (7) that exhibit significant reductions in the number and severity of vehicle crashes, Herman F. Huang et al found inconclusive evidence for improved safety at other sites nationwide in their study, “Evaluation of Lane Reduction “Road Diet” Measures on Crashes and Injuries.” Other research by Keith K. Knapp et al, “Comparison of Simulated Average Arterial Travel Speeds along Four-Lane Undivided and Three-Lane Roadways…” notes “the reduction in vehicles traveling 8.1 kph (5 mph) over the speed limit.”

And finally, the EBBC’s successful advocacy that the Yosemite Valley Plan address bicycle access has received added support from Sean A Co and two researchers from the UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies. Their paper, “Visitor Bicycle Use in Yosemite Valley,” concludes, “during the busy summer months …the bicycle is the quickest, most convenient way for many people to experience the Valley.”

-Robert Raburn

Aerial view, from Garrard Blvd at Ohio Ave, toward East Bay Hills of abandoned railroad right-of-way proposed to become the Richmond Greenway. On Saturday, June 22, 2002 join Richmond activist Allen Green as he leads a tour of the proposed Richmond Greenway. Meet at 10am on the western entrance to Richmond BART.
MINUTES of the General Meeting of Tuesday, May 21, 2002 held at the Rockridge Branch of the Oakland Public Library

CHAIR was Leo DuBose.

MEMBERSHIP: Robert Raburn reported that we received 49 new memberships as a result of our participation in Earth Day events. This brings our membership to just over 1,000. Thanks to the computer skills of Ed Mechem, Raines Cohen, and Dave Campbell, the EBBC and BFBC have merged their membership databases into a single database that is accessible on-line. Check your mailing label for accuracy and renew at www.ebbc.org.

RSR BRIDGE & BCDC: The next meeting to discuss bicycle access on the bridge will be held in Oakland at the MTC Building on June 20th at 1:00 pm. Attendance is very much encouraged for this important meeting. The web site for the Mineta Transportation Institute is at: www.transweb.sjsu.edu.

MARIN AVE. TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECT: The City of Albany is considering reducing Main Avenue from 4 to 3 lanes, with the addition of bike lanes. The proposal will be presented at the June city council meeting.

RICHMOND CENTRAL GREENWAY PROJECT: Alan Green presented slides of a new project to develop a greenway on a three-mile strip of land south of city center, and connecting to the BART station. A site visit/ride for the EBBC has tentatively been set for June 2nd to gather ideas on the bike portion of the project. This section of land will connect the Ohlone Trail to the Bay Trail.

CARQUINEZ SCENIC DRIVE: The EBRPD is soliciting consultants to plan repairs to make the deteriorating closed-to-cars segment of Carquinez Scenic Drive safe for bicyclists. The EBBC has long advocated for such improvements.

LEGISLATION: SB 1555 (Torlakson-Antioch) would designate $5 from every vehicle citation for community-based initiatives to promote bicycling and walking and to encourage better planning for bike infrastructure. Letters of support to Senator Tom Torlakson are needed. His fax number is: (916) 445-2527.

SB 1636 (Figueroa-Fremont) would remove transportation Level-of-Service (LOS) barriers to infill development and assist in the addition of bike lanes in built-up urban areas. Fax letters to Senator Liz Figueroa at (916) 327-2433, and copy your local Senator for the floor support.

PRESENTATION: Bhima Sheridan of Rivendell Bicycles in Walnut Creek, presented slides of his bicycling/business trips to Taiwan. As a country that produces most the bicycles in the world, there was little bicycling activity in Taipei due to the abundance of motorbikes on the streets.

NEXT MEETING will be at the Rockridge Library at 7:30 pm, on Tuesday, June 18, 2002.

Submitted by acting meeting secretary, Craig Hagelin.

NewsLetter notes:

Take a moment to look at the mailing label on the back of your newsletter to find the expiration date of your subscription.

If your subscription is about to expire (or if it has already expired), please renew now.

Subscribing has never been easier: visit the EBBC web page — http://www.ebbc.org — and click on the “Donate Now” icon to make a secure, online credit-card payment.
EBBC OFFICERS
Executive Director
Robert Raburn* 510-530-3444
RobertRaburn@csi.com
Chair Leo Dubose* 510-763-6311
dcampbel@lmi.net
Vice Chair Dave Campbell* 540-5971
dcampbel@lmi.net
Secretary Yehuda Sherman* 925-284-5363
yehudasherman@aol.com
Treasurer John Siemsen* 510-530-1226

EBBC VOLUNTEERS
Hazard Eliminations Committee
Ian MacDonald 832-6300
ian@roymcdonald.com
Library Michelle DeRobertis 510-482-9010
Recorded Message & Retrieval
Pat Brown 510-433-7433
Membership Coordinator
Andrew Rudik 925-462-5017
ARudik@co.alameda.ca.us
RideOn Publisher & Web Page Editor
Eric McCaughrin* 510-527-8833
meric@mondes.com
(* Denotes board member)

AFFILIATED BIKE CLUBS
Berkeley Bicycle Club msbi@email.msn.com
Cherry City Cyclists Nikki Smith 510-742-5082
http://www.cherrycyclists.org
Delta Pedalers Dave Stoefller 925-634-1793
http://www.deltaped.org
Diablo Cyclists http://www.diablocyclists.com
Different Spokes Derek Liecty 510-339-2345
Fremont Freewheelers Ben Lee 510-651-2448
http://fremontfreewheelers.org
Grizzly Peak Cyclists Al Forkosh 510-655-4221
aforkosh@mac.com
http://GrizzlyPeakCyclists.org

EAST BAY BICYCLE COALITION
510 433-RI
http://www.ebbc.org

COMMUNITY REPS & ADVOCATES
Alameda, BikeAlameda 510-595-4690
http://www.bikealamed.org
Albany Matthew Ridgway 925-284-3200

NEW:

Membership Type
☐ Regular ($12)
☐ Shop/Club ($40)
☐ Low Income ($6)

Century Club:
☐ Half ($50)
☐ Full ($100)

☐ New
☐ Renewal
☐ Please do not share my name with other mailing lists.
Contra Costa County  Meets yearly in late fall to review TDA Article 3 projects. Staff: Joe Yee 925-313-2258; Chair: John Ruzek, 925-939-5181, John_Ruzek@yahoo.com.

Danville  Meets as required. Staff: Bryan Welch, 925-314-3313, BWelch@ci.danville.ca.us. Chair: Sandra Meyers 925-837-5960.

Dublin  Meets yearly in late fall to review TDA Article 3 projects. Staff: Ferd del Rosario, 925-833-6630, Ferd.delRosario@ci.Dublin.CA.us.

East Bay Regional Park District (Park Advisory Committee) June 24, July 22, 7:30 pm, Board Room, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland 94605 Staff: Ro Aguilar, Legislative Analyst, 510-635-0138 x2006, Chair: Henry Losee, 510-276-2271, EBHIKER@aol.com.

Lafayette Circulation Commission  June 17, July 1, 7:00 pm (1st & 3rd Mondays, but call to confirm dates), Community Center Manzanita Room, 500 St. Mary’s Road Staff: Leah Greenblat, 925-299-3229. (Contact Staff for date of first BAC meeting) Bicycle Liaison: Commissioner Lynn Hiden 925-283-5487EBBC rep YehudaSherman@aol.com, 925-284-3563.

Livermore. (BAC being formed.) Call Anna Vickroy, 925-373-5796, AMVickroy@ci.Livermore.ca.us, for further info)

Oakland June 20, July 18, 3rd Thursday at 3:30 pm at 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4314. Staff: Kathryn Hughes 510-238-6493, KHughes@oaklandnet.com; Chair: Ron Bishop 510-652-4667, rbishop747@aol.com.

Pittsburg Traffic & Circulation Advisory Committee Aug 1, 7:00 pm, Civic Center 3rd Fl, 65 Civic Avenue, Staff: Paul Reinders, Preinders@ci.Pittsburg.ca.us, 925-252-4822, Chair: Ross De Boie.

Pleasanton Next meeting TBD. Staff: Mike Tassano, 925-931-5670

UC Berkeley Staff: Karl Hans, KHans@uclink4.Berkeley.edu, EBBC rep Rachel Hiatt 510-325-6665 rhiatt@uclink.berkeley.edu.

Walnut Creek July 17, 7:30 pm, 111 N. Wiget Lane, at Shadelands Civic Arts Bldg. Staff: Mike Vecchio, Community Development, 925-256-3529; vecchio@ci.walnut-creek.ca.us, Chair: Jeff Thomas, JWT6@pge.com, 925 945-7781, EBBCC rep Dave Favello, DaveVe- lo@aol.com.

"BAC", continued p. 2.

Design by Shaina McAllister