SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Staff Report September 12, 2006
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments Conference Room

I. MINUTES

The minutes of the June 6, 2006 meeting are enclosed with the agenda package.

Staff recommendation: Approve the June 6, 2006 Minutes.

II. REPORTS

The attached package includes attachment for the reports to committee.

Attachment A – Letter to SLOCOG requesting review of circulation elements
Attachment B – Grand Jury Reponse

III. BUSINESS

a. Request to form committee on new board member welcome package

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Direct staff to support committee activities.

b. Reclassification of Pozo Road from Class 3 to Class 2 bike lanes.

During the unmet bike need hearings held by SLOCOG, a request was made for reclassification of Pozo Road from a Class 3 bikeway to Class 2 bike lanes from Route 58 to Santa Margarita Lake. This road serves as a popular recreational route and access Santa Margarita Lake. The road was recently paved and the shoulders resurfaced from Route 58 to Las Pilitas Road. This segment would have sufficient width to mark as bike lanes in its present condition. There are no shoulders on Pozo Road from Las Pilitias Road to Santa Margarita Road. This would be a significant future project to construct.

The portion of Route 58 between the town of Santa Margarita to Pozo Road does not have improved shoulders and has pronounced vertical curves in the alignment. Caltrans does not have any planned project for widening this section. The Santa Margarita Ranch is preparing an EIR for a first phase of approximately 110 homes which would be placed along this segment. They would be required to improve Route 58 to include improved shoulders for bike lanes over this segment for at least the eastbound direction fronting the proposed project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Reclassify Pozo Road to a Class 2 facility.

c. Reclassification of Hazel Lane in Nipomo from Class 3 to Class 2 bike lanes

Public Works Department is working towards implementation of bike lane construction in Nipomo to interconnect the existing portions of bike lanes in the town. Piecemeal development and widening projects have constructed about half the bike lanes but gaps existing to provide access to schools, parks and the business district. The South County Air Quality Fee program will fund construction of gaps on Division Street and Thompson Avenue this fiscal year. Public Works would also see the opportunity to stripe class 2 bike lanes on Hazel Lane between Tefft Street and Division Street. Hazel Lane is a flat road with sufficient width to support the bike lanes and one parking lane along the residents of the east side of the road. Hazel Lane provides a lower traffic volume alternative to Orchard Avenue bike lanes between Division Street and Tefft Street. Area map is attached.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Reclassify Hazel Lane to a Class 2 facility

d. Update to County Bikeway Project Ranking

Funding for bikeway improvements is sought annually through the State Bike Transportation Account. Applications are submitted from priorities defined by the BAC. It is important that priorities are established to define these projects while being aware of the competitive nature of the applications as well as the viability to construct. Toward that end, the BAC should process member requests for particular projects and understand the terms for a viable application. The first requirement of a bike lane project is for its CEQA clearance to have been granted. The attached list provides an overview of the amount of work needed to develop CEQA clearance for individual projects.

Applications are due by December 1, 2006. We will need to have a early November meeting to determine the priorities for this years submittals and have the Board of Supervisors approve the application at their November 21st meeting. Being that the turn around time is so short, it will be necessary to focus on environmental conditions rated as "1" on the attached table.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Review and agendize for action at the November 14th meeting.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Committee members may suggest items for discussion at future meetings of the Committee, and may recommend suggested scheduling of these items.
ADJOURN TO MEETING OF November 14,2006

Staff report prepared by:
Dave Flynn
Secretary to the Bicycle Advisory Committee

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