



PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 8, 2010

ITEM NUMBER: VIII.1

SUBJECT: BICYCLE CONNECTION BETWEEN SANTA ANA RIVER AND UPPER NEWPORT BAY

DATE: OCTOBER 28, 2010

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: PETER NAGHAVI, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES, 714-754-5182

DESCRIPTION

The Planning Commission, in an effort to improve the bicycle connectivity within the City, is considering additional bicycle trails and routes to provide an east/west connection between the Santa Ana River and Upper Newport Bay. A prior such effort was undertaken by the Department of Public Services based on City Council direction, wherein bicycle trails were proposed along Paularino and Santa Ana/Delhi flood control channels. This document provides the background and analysis of flood control channel bicycle trail options for further consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission may forward a request to the City Council for authorization to further pursue the feasibility of the bicycle trail connection between the Santa Ana River and Upper Newport Bay.

PETER NAGHAVI

Director, Department of Public Services

KIMBERLY BRANDT

Development Services Director

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Services Division maintains the Citywide Master Plan of Bikeways (MPB). The MPB designates three classes of bikeways, and these are:

Class I – Off-street bicycle trails that provide dedicated concrete or asphalt pavement outside of travel lanes;

Class II – On-street dedicated (striped) bicycle lanes; and

Class III – On-street bike routes designated with sign without any dedicated lanes.

The City has several Class I bicycle trails, Class II bicycle lanes, and Class III bicycle routes (Attachment 1). However, due to significant right-of-way needed, the number of Class I bicycle trails are limited in the City. Approximately three years ago, staff completed a preliminary investigation of potential use of existing flood control maintenance roads for development of Class I bicycle facilities. This study determined that Paularino and Santa Ana/Delhi Channels may be suitable for providing a bicycle trail on existing and/or improved maintenance roads. Attachment 2 shows the proposed alignment of the east-west connection utilizing Paularino and Santa Ana/Delhi channels.

The utilization of flood control channels for bicycle facilities was presented to City Council at their Study Session on May 8, 2007, and at their regular meetings on June 5, 2007, December 4, 2007, and January 15, 2008. A comprehensive chronology of events of the proposed bicycle trail project is included in Attachment 3. At the meeting of January 15, 2008, the City Council, based on resident concerns, directed staff to suspend efforts on this project. Attachments 4 and 5 show all correspondence from residents with regard to this project.

ANALYSIS

The City is served by major Orange County trails that run along the eastern and western boundaries. The 22-mile Mountains to Sea trail from Irvine Lake to Upper Newport Bay and Newport Beach is along the eastern City boundary and on the west is the 29-mile Santa Ana Regional Bicycle Trail connecting Riverside County and Huntington Beach. While there are many access connections to these regional trails in Costa Mesa, there is not a defined and direct bicycle trail or system that links both trails.

Recently, the City's Public Services Department received a grant to add a bicycle trail connecting the Santa Ana River Trail to Placentia Avenue adjacent to Fairview Channel within Fairview Park. In addition, a project is currently underway that improves the Joann Street bicycle trail and also the bicycle trail along Harbor Boulevard north of the Joann Bicycle Trail. As these various projects are planned and implemented, it is desirable to achieve a well-defined, east-west bicycle trail connection between Harbor Boulevard and Fairview Road. Bicycle facilities are typically Class II on-street bicycle lanes and are provided on Adams Avenue, Merrimac Way, and Fair Drive.

Staff has reviewed several options for implementation of an east-west bicycle connection and has determined that the flood control maintenance roads could be used effectively as

part of this system. The Paularino Channel could be used to provide off-street trails from east of Fairview Road just north of Adams Avenue to the Bristol Street/Bear Street intersection. The Santa Ana/Delhi Channel connects Bristol Street south of Newport Boulevard North Frontage Road and Irvine Avenue. Existing bicycle lanes on Irvine Avenue provide access to the Upper Newport Bay trail system. Further review is required for the Bristol Street portion of the above connection between Bear Street and the Santa Ana/Delhi Flood Control Channel, as existing right-of-way is limited for provision of dedicated bicycle paths or lanes. During meetings, the Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD) agreed in "concept" that such a system could be further considered for potential implementation.

A portion of the flood control channel bicycle system would be directly behind several single-family and multi-family dwellings. Based on input from adjacent residents, while potential benefits may exist, concerns with the trail's negative impacts have been raised. Staff recognizes the need to outreach to these residents during the planning phase to evaluate the feasibility of such a trail. Similar bicycle trails have been successfully implemented in adjacent jurisdictions and also in other areas of Costa Mesa. Based on the results of the feasibility study and public input, a decision on whether to include this trail in the City's MPB could be determined by the Planning Commission and City Council.

ALTERNATIVES

One alternative would be to receive and file this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

There is no environmental action with this report.

CONCLUSION

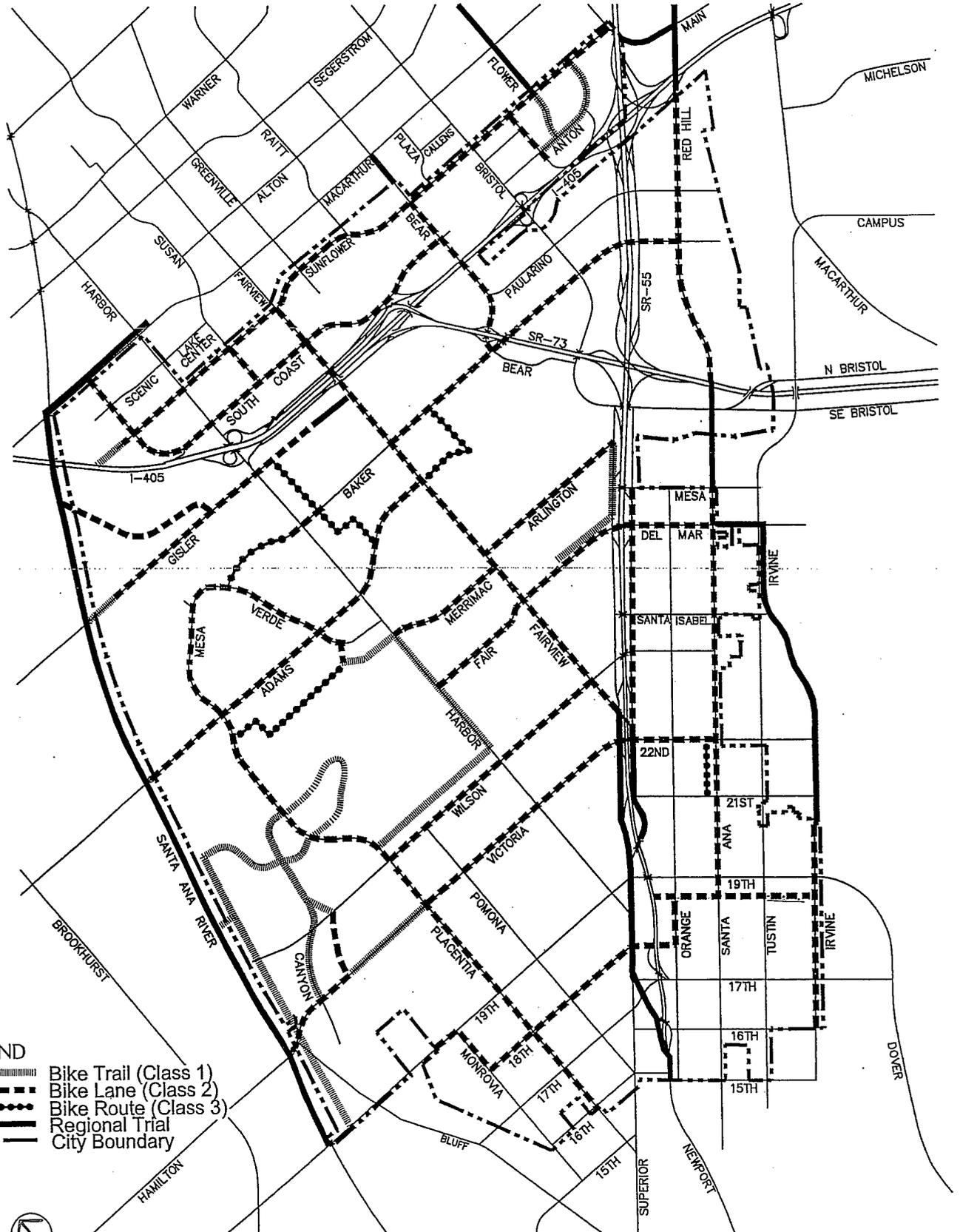
The Planning Commission, in order to improve the east-west bicycle facility connection between the Santa Ana River Regional Bicycle Trail and Mountains to Sea Bicycle Trail, requested staff to present a report on previous studies regarding utilizing flood control channels for bicycle trails. This report summarizes previous activities and analysis, as well as correspondence on this item. Staff requests the Planning Commission's direction regarding the next steps on the flood control bicycle trail plan.

Attachments: 1 - City's Master Plan of Bikeways
2 - Proposed Bicycle Trail Alignment
3 - Chronology of Events
4 - Correspondence Supporting Bicycle Trail along Flood Control Channels
5 - Correspondence Opposing Bicycle Trail along Flood Control Channels

Distribution: City Manager
Assistant City Manager
City Attorney
City Engineer
Transportation Services Manager



MASTER PLAN OF BIKEWAYS



- LEGEND**
- Bike Trail (Class 1)
 - Bike Lane (Class 2)
 - Bike Route (Class 3)
 - Regional Trail
 - City Boundary

N.T.S. Source: Austin-Foust Associates, Inc.
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EXHIBIT CIR-6



LEGEND

- PROPOSED MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL
- PROPOSED BIKE LANES
- EXISTING MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL
- EXISTING BIKE LANES

PROPOSED MULTIPURPOSE TRAIL

Chronology of Events

Proposed Multipurpose Trail at Paularino Channel and Santa Ana Delhi Flood Control Channels

Date	Event
August, 2006	Transportation staff conducted comprehensive field visits to all flood control channels in the City. Staff determined that the Paularino and Santa Ana Delhi Channels are the only viable facility to construct a multipurpose trail on the existing maintenance road.
September, 2006	Preliminary Meeting with Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD).
January, 2007	Second meeting with OCFCD staff. OCFCD supports proposed project.
May 8, 2007 City Council Study Session Meeting	Staff presented comprehensive Powerpoint presentation outlining proposed project
June 5, 2007 City Council Meeting	City Council directed staff to commence "preliminary design and public outreach" program and approved Budget Adjustment No. 07-078 for an amount of \$75,000.
August, 2007	Staff sent Request For Proposals (RFP) to eight civil engineering firms for "conceptual design" services for proposed project. Three firms responded to RFP.
September-October, 2007	Staff selected KFM Engineering, Inc. based on qualifications and relevant experience. Staff negotiated with KFM Engineering, Inc. to include Caltrop Corporation as a subconsultant to conduct extensive " public outreach services ".
December 4, 2007 City Council Meeting	Staff presented City Council Agenda Report to award professional services agreement for an amount not to exceed \$92,277 to KFM Engineering, Inc. for preliminary conceptual design and public outreach services . Staff also presented Budget Adjustment No. 08-011 in the amount of \$29,500 to appropriate additional AB 2766 Air Quality Improvement Funds for the public outreach part of this project. City Council directed staff to suspend work on proposed project due to resident concerns.
December 11, 2007	A rehearing request regarding the proposed project was filed by one City Council Member. The rehearing is requested to be scheduled for the regular City Council Meeting on January 15, 2008.
January 15, 2008 City Council Meeting	A rehearing regarding Proposed Multipurpose Trail at Paularino and Santa Ana Delhi Flood Control Channels was held based on a request filed by one City Council Member. The City Council received and filed staff report summarizing the subject project.

ATTACHMENT 4

CHO, DAVID

From: NAGHAVI, PETER
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2007 9:40 AM
To: CHO, DAVID
Subject: FW: Paularino Bike Trail
Importance: High

FYI.

Peter Naghavi
Transportation Manager
City of Costa Mesa, CA

From: HATCH, THOMAS
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2007 8:20 AM
To: MANSOOR, ALLAN; BEVER, ERIC; dixon
 PROCTOR, CAROL
Subject: FW: Paularino Bike Trail
Importance: High

'Katrina Anne Foley'; LEECE, WENDY; ROEDER, ALLAN; NAGHAVI, PETER;

From: Richard Gillock
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2007 11:29 PM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Paularino Bike Trail

Honorable Council Members,

I was shocked when I heard that the Paularino Bike Trail study was not passed by the City Council on December 4. This is a no-brainer improvement for our city, a trail linking the great trails in Newport Beach, Irvine, and the beach trail with Costa Mesa; all of this beginning just a couple of blocks from Orange Coast College and Costa Mesa High School.

It seems that one paranoid resident, with unnatural fears for his family and property, was able to nullify years of work on this project. The project will *increase* safety by providing safe bike transportation for kids and adults alike. I have ridden my bike in Costa Mesa for years, and there are few safe trails to ride, even though there are many canals that could be used for bike trails. When I ride in Irvine I see many different people using the trails: bikes, razors, joggers, baby strollers, and walkers. These trails are safe and crisscross many residential neighborhoods. They enhance the community and make it livable.

Those who prefer to lock their door, build a wall, and treat a community canal as a personal moat, are not part of our community. They have isolated themselves. The City Council must act for the community, not just for one lonely, pathetic, paranoid voice. Please reconsider the Paularino Trail and move it forward with great haste. I'm tired of dodging traffic on unsafe bike trails.

Richard Gillock
 1030 Cannonade Circle
 Costa Mesa, CA 92626

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CHO, DAVID

From: NAGHAVI, PETER
Sent: Wednesday, November 21, 2007 11:21 AM
To: CHO, DAVID; SETHURAMAN, RAJA
Subject: FW: Paularino Flood Channels

FYI, the only one so far.

Peter Naghavi
Transportation Manager
City of Costa Mesa

From: PROCTOR, CAROL
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2007 5:05 PM
To: BEVER, ERIC; dixon FOLEY, KATRINA; LEECE, WENDY; MANSOOR, ALLAN
Cc: FOLCIK, JULIE; NAGHAVI, PETER
Subject: FW: Paularino Flood Channels

Council Members: FYI

Carol

From: Anthony Betts
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2007 5:02 PM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Paularino Flood Channels

Dear City Council,
I am in favor of converting our flood channel into a multi-purpose trail system. Please keep actively researching the impact on our neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Anthony Betts
2872 Velasco Lane
Costa Mesa, Ca. 92626

12/28/2007

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CHO, DAVID

From: NAGHAVI, PETER
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2007 11:40 AM
To: CHO, DAVID
Subject: FW: Bike/Walking trails

FYI

Peter Naghavi
Transportation Manager
City of Costa Mesa

From: PROCTOR, CAROL
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2007 11:26 AM
To: BEVER, ERIC; dixon FOLEY, KATRINA; LEECE, WENDY; MANSOOR, ALLAN
Cc: FOLCIK, JULIE; NAGHAVI, PETER
Subject: FW: Bike/Walking trails

Council Members: FYI

Carol

From: christine chapel
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2007 11:27 AM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Bike/Walking trails

Dear Esteemed City Council Members,

My family would love it if you would connect the bike/walking trails in Costa Mesa and Newport Beach. Being able to safely ride to the Back Bay would be awesome!!!! Bike riding is fun, great exercise, and a good family activity. Please take this opportunity to increase the recreational activities in Costa Mesa! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Chapel
Costa Mesa Resident

Live Earth is coming. Learn more about the hottest summer event - only on MSN. [Check it out!](#)

CHO, DAVID

From: NAGHAVI, PETER
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2007 10:41 AM
To: CHO, DAVID
Subject: FW: Consider Changing Paularino Flood Channel into Multi-purpose

FYL

Peter Naghavi
Transportation Manager
City of Costa Mesa

From: PROCTOR, CAROL
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2007 9:55 AM
To: BEVER, ERIC; dixon; FOLEY, KATRINA; LEECE, WENDY; MANSOOR, ALLAN
Cc: FOLCIK, JULIE; NAGHAVI, PETER
Subject: FW: Consider Changing Paularino Flood Channel into Multi-purpose

Council Members: FYI

Carol

From: santos
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2007 9:49 AM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Consider Changing Paularino Flood Channel into Multi-purpose

I am not able to attend tonight's meeting, but wanted to voice my support for walking and biking trails to the Back Bay. I live in Costa Mesa with my husband and three small children, and look forward to a safe and scenic path for us to walk with our neighbors in the near future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michele Santos
2870 Regis Lane

CHO, DAVID

From: Kiril Kundurazieff
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2007 11:23 AM
To: NAGHAVI, PETER; FOLEY, KATRINA
Cc: JOHNSON; DENNIS; CHO, DAVID
Subject: RE: FOLEY & NAGHAVI -- Questions about New Bike Trail Proposal

KIRIL KUNDURAZIEFF
The Mad Macedonian!
Putting the ING in BLOGGING Since May 2002 Sneakeasy's Joint:

>
>Dear Mr. Kundurazieff;
>Thank you for your interest in Costa Mesa, and cycling in general.
>What you may have read in OC Register is basically a very very
>preliminary step towards consideration of a trail.
>Costa Mesa Transportation consistently looks for possible ways to
>improve our bike lane/trail system. As such, we may look at every
>avenue available.
>The trail you mention, while not quite continuous but could potentially
>provided needed links between Santa Ana River, and the Back Bay.
>At this point, it is only "an idea", and accordingly lots of questions
>remain. Once a direction has been provided, then staff will expend the
>necessary time and effort to thoroughly explore all related issues.
>We welcome ideas, and suggestions where practical, and will be happy to
>talk to you whenever you would like to visit our offices.
>

Dear Mr. Naghavi (And everyone else, hee, hee!):

Thanks for replying!

I think that you are doing the right thing by exploring all aspects of your idea before proceeding, and hope i am not the only user of the city trail system to contact you, or appear at meetings to opine.

As you can tell from this link, and may have already heard from Mrs. Foley, I responded, in more depth, to her e-mail to me.

I would love to attend the Study Session she mentioned if I knew when, and where, and am able.

Alternatively if there is info posted online afterward, or is currently info online, I'd be interested in the links.

I'd love to come in for a visit, and will see what my work schedule is, and get back to you.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. Kiril Kundurazieff
Santa Ana, Ca.

Putting the ING in BICYCLING Since January 2003!

I, and my readers, would be interested in your thoughts on my report, and any more light you can shed on what is being planned.

Is there something on the City Website that I could check out for more info?

I'd even be willing to come down to your offices, and/or wander around the neighborhood again, for future stories. ;-D

Sincerely yours,

MR. KIRIL KUNDURAZIEFF
Santa Ana, CA.

Putting the ING in BICYCLING Since January 2003!

Get in the mood for Valentine's Day. View photos, recipes and more on your Live.com page.
<http://www.live.com/?addTemplate=ValentinesDay&ocid=T001MSN30A0701>

CHO, DAVID

From: NAGHAVI, PETER
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2007 4:34 PM
To: 'Kiril Kundurazieff'; FOLEY, KATRINA
Cc: JOHNSON, DENNIS; CHO, DAVID
Subject: RE: FOLEY & NAGHAVI -- Questions about New Bike Trail Proposal

Dear Mr. Kundurazieff;

Thank you for your interest in Costa Mesa, and cycling in general.

What you may have read in OC Register is basically a very very preliminary step towards consideration of a trail.

Costa Mesa Transportation consistently looks for possible ways to improve our bike lane/trail system. As such, we may look at every avenue available.

The trail you mention, while not quite continuous but could potentially provided needed links between Santa Ana River, and the Back Bay.

At this point, it is only "an idea", and accordingly lots of questions remain. Once a direction has been provided, then staff will expend the necessary time and effort to thoroughly explore all related issues.

We welcome ideas, and suggestions where practical, and will be happy to talk to you whenever you would like to visit our offices.

Peter Naghavi
Transportation Manager
City of Costa Mesa

-----Original Message-----

From: Kiril Kundurazieff
Sent: Sunday, January 28, 2007 9:12 AM
To: FOLEY, KATRINA
Cc: TransServices
Subject: TO: FOLEY & NAGHAVI -- Questions about New Bike Trail Proposal

Dear Councilperson Foley, and Mr. Naghavi :

I recently read the OC Register story on the possibility of a new Bike Trail in Costa Mesa.

As a BikeBlogger, who lived in Costa Mesa for 2 years, writes about cycling in the city, and the Back Bay as well, not to mention writing about cycling in the OC in general, I was interested.

I made a couple of trips to explore the route, as described, before writing my own story as a follow-up to the one in the Register.

Did you go wandering around for a look see, as well, before deciding to explore this idea?

The reason I ask is that, after checking things out for myself, I have plenty of questions. ;-D

I applaud your goal, but the article/map, give the impression that the trail would be continuous, when all the evidence I saw clearly shows otherwise.

I just completed a 3 part series, with pictures, and will add more chapters as the story warrants.

New Bike Trail Plan in Costa Mesa Brings Questions =

There is a link leading to the next chapter to make it easy to follow the story.

Get a preview of Live Earth, the hottest event this summer - only on MSN
<http://liveearth.msn.com?source=msntaglineliveearthhm>

ATTACHMENT 5

CHO, DAVID

From: NAGHAVI, PETER
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2007 8:43 AM
To: CHO, DAVID; SETHURAMAN, RAJA; JOHNSON, DENNIS
Subject: FW: Paularino Channel of the Proposed Flood Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

David:
FYI and keep this for your record. As of this date, we will schedule the award for Dec. 8th.
Keep in mind, this project may be canceled.

Peter Naghavi
Transportation Manager
City of Costa Mesa

From: ROEDER, ALLAN
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2007 12:31 PM
To: NAGHAVI, PETER; MORRIS, WILLIAM
Subject: FW: Paularino Channel of the Proposed Flood Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

fyi

From: ROEDER, ALLAN
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2007 12:30 PM
To: LEECE, WENDY
Subject: RE: Paularino Channel of the Proposed Flood Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

Wendy,

I have not seen this although we are aware that there are residents that back up to the Flood Control Channel who are opposed to the bike trail idea. How many residents are opposed and the basis for their opposition would be simply speculation on my part.

Based on the City Council's support for looking into this possibility, staff has been moving forward with a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant for the Preliminary Engineering and public outreach. We are in the process of negotiating that contract at present and expect to bring it forward to the City Council for approval at your December 6th regular Council meeting. That contract would ascertain (1) how should the bike trail be constructed and what are the design/environmental/public safety implications for adjoining residences and (2) if a project can be designed, is there community support to go forward with construction? Based on the estimated schedule, we would begin meetings with residents and all other interested parties in the March 2008 timeframe.

It is not too late for Mr. Bose to submit his petitions.

As Mr. Bose notes, we are scheduled to come back to the City Council on 11/20 with the Project Priority list, including this project. If there is a change of heart by the City Council and there no longer is an interest in pursuing this, it should be dropped from the list. As you know, we have more than enough work to keep us very, very busy and we

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should not be allocating manpower and financial resources to projects for which there is no majority support. I do think it unfortunate that residents are opposing something before they even know what it is but sometimes that happens? Nothing has been looked into as yet so it is premature to conclude that it will be a safety hazard or that resident's homes will be subject to the kinds of acts Mr. Bose poses. That is not to say his points are not very legitimate concerns – simply that they have not been addressed as yet.

I hope this helps.

Allan

From: LEECE, WENDY
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2007 11:51 AM
To: ROEDER, ALLAN
Subject: FW: Paularino Channel of the Proposed Flood Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

Allan,
Have you seen this? Is it too late for him to turn in the petitions to have an effect?

Wendy Leece
City Council
Costa Mesa, CA
wleece@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us

From: Len Bose
Sent: Sunday, November 11, 2007 2:48 PM
To: LEECE, WENDY
Subject: Fwd: Paularino Channel of the Proposed Flood Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

Hello Wendy,
My interest is in the Paularino Channel of the Proposed Flood Channel Multi-Purpose Trail. I have only picked the ball up over the last three weeks and have introduced myself to the Mesa del Mar homeowners and sent out 50 letters to the homeowners that back up to the channel. In my letter, I asked the homeowners to return a sign note asking for the removal of the Paularino Trail from the proposed flood control channel trail. At this time I have 30 returned letters and am looking to get all 50. We have volunteers walking the streets this weekend trying to complete our task of contacting the impacted homeowners.

Under New Business, on your next agenda, the Council will prioritize the current City projects. This is a good time to ask the Council to consider our request to remove the Paularino Channel from the proposed Flood Channel Trail?

Understand we are not against the rest of the proposed trail. I encourage you to contact me to discuss this issue at greater length.

This is a copy of the letter I sent out with a return envelope.

Hello Concerned Homeowners.

My name is Len Bose and I live on St. Clair Street in Mesa del Mar. This letter is to inform you of the city's plans of placing a Multi-Purpose Trail on the Paularino Channel. **YES! That's just behind your backyard fence.** PLEASE SIGN this letter and place it in the return envelope and I will present these letters as a petition to try and stop this trial.

WHY AM I DOING THIS?

It's not the bike riders I am concerned about, it's what comes after. The thought of someone looking into our back yards will lead to possible home intrusion, burglary, vandalism, graffiti, homeless living along the trail and the teenager who just threw an object over your fence and hit one of you kids.

WHERE THE BIKE TRIAL PROPSAL STANDS AT THIS TIME? In June of 2007 the City Council directed staff to commence with the preliminary conceptual plans and start with the public outreach program. The city staff is overwhelmed with other projects at this time. Within the next two months staff will return to council and ask to hire a consulting firm to perform the outreach and the design of the trail. At this point I would like to come in and present our petition and ask Council to remove the Paularino Trial from their plan.

SHOULD YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION? Just email me or call and I would glad to present the facts to this program as fairly as I can?

SHOULD YOU WISH TO HELP? Just send your email address and I will keep you in the loop with my progress.

Respectfully,
Len Bose
828 St Clair

DEAR CITY COUNCIL,

As a homeowner along the proposed Paularino Trail I feel the safety and security of my family and home is at risk and respectfully request the removal of the Paularino Trail from the proposed flood control channel trail.

Name

Address

Phone & email

Len Bose

CHO, DAVID

From: CHO, DAVID
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2007 7:52 AM
To: NAGHAVI, PETER
Subject: RE: Proposed Flood Control Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

Peter, yes her address is on the mailing list, so she should have received the letter.

David

-----Original Message-----

From: NAGHAVI, PETER
Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2007 9:03 AM
To: CHO, DAVID
Subject: FW: Proposed Flood Control Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

FYI and record.
Did she get a copy of our letter?

Peter Naghavi
Transportation Manager
City of Costa Mesa, Ca

-----Original Message-----

From: PROCTOR, CAROL
Sent: Monday, July 02, 2007 7:24 AM
To: BEVER, ERIC; dixon FOLEY, KATRINA; LEECE, WENDY; MANSOOR, ALLAN
Cc: FOLCIK, JULIE; NAGHAVI, PETER
Subject: FW: Proposed Flood Control Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

Council Members: FYI

Carol

-----Original Message-----

From: Allison McKibbin
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2007 11:51 AM
To: CMCouncil
Subject: Proposed Flood Control Channel Multi-Purpose Trail

Dear Mayor Mansoor and City Council Members,

I am contacting you concerning the proposed bike trail that would be directly behind my home at 848 St. Clair Street. I have lived in my home for over two years and my husband and I have two small children ages 3 and 2. I am a stay at home Mom and on numerous occasions have encountered people trespassing behind my home with spray cans getting ready to graffiti the walls behind my home. I have gotten very brave and on many occasions yelled that I'm calling the police to scare them off. I have a very large dog that seems to alert me when anyone is behind our house, and knowing that no one is supposed to be trespassing back there always gives me the option to call the police.

I am STRONGLY opposed to opening up the path to bikers and the entire public. I am sure that the entire wall behind my street on St. Clair that faces Bear St. would be covered with Graffiti, if it is to become a public access way. I think that crime on my street would be increased due to the chance for people to climb the fences behind our homes. The trail would be connecting a known gang related area right behind our homes which scares me to think of the consequences of what could go on behind my home, with the recent gang shootings in the area.

Many of my neighbors are elderly who are original owners in Mesa Del Mar and I fear for their well being and worry over this situation. Please help protect my neighborhood by NOT approving this Multi-Purpose Trail.

Sincerely,

Allison McKibbin
848 St. Clair
CM, CA 92626

Get a preview of Live Earth, the hottest event this summer - only on MSN
<http://liveearth.msn.com?source=msntagline-liveearthhm>

Tracking:

Recipient
NAGHAVI, PETER

Read
Read: 07/09/2007 9:11 AM



CITY OF COSTA MESA

CALIFORNIA 92628-1200

P.O. BOX 1200

RECEIVED

JUN 28 2007

PUBLIC SERVICES

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 26, 2007

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FLOOD CONTROL CHANNEL MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL

Dear Resident/Tenant:

The City of Costa Mesa as part of its General Plan, maintains a Master Plan of Bikeways (MPB). The MPB provides for off and on street bicycle facilities connecting not only different areas of the City, but also provides direct access to many "regional" bike trail facilities. Staff continually looks to improve and expand our bike trail/bike lane system to promote such uses for not only recreational purposes, but also as another mode of transportation for many residents. As part of this effort, in 2006, City staff undertook a field investigation of the possibility of utilizing existing flood control maintenance roads as multi-purpose trails.

At the conclusion of the field investigation of all flood control channels within the City, staff identified the Paularino Channel within the Mesa Del Mar neighborhood as well as Santa Ana Delhi Channel as providing a unique opportunity for a multi-purpose trail along the existing county maintenance roads. The maintenance road of the Paularino Channel begins at Fairview Road and continues east to Bristol Street where it intersects with the Santa Ana Delhi Channel. Located further east on Bristol Street, the Santa Ana Delhi Channel continues south of Bristol Street, crosses Santa Ana Avenue, and ultimately connects to the existing Santa Ana Heights and the Newport Beach golf course. Completion of a multipurpose trail on these flood control maintenance roads will ultimately connect the Santa Ana regional trail at Santa Ana River in the west to the Upper Back Bay in the City of Newport Beach.

At their regular meeting on June 5, 2007, the City Council received a full staff report and presentation on the above proposal and directed staff to commence with **preliminary conceptual plans** for a multi-purpose trail along Paularino and Santa Ana Delhi Channels. This plan includes a **public out-reach program** with all affected residents and businesses adjacent to the flood control channels. This action does not include approval for final design and construction of the multi purpose trail.

The public outreach program will afford all residents and businesses located along the proposed project the opportunity to voice concerns and discuss issues. At the conclusion of the development of preliminary conceptual plans and the public-outreach program, the proposed project will be presented to City Council for further consideration. Only at this point if the proposed project is approved by City Council, staff shall pursue grant funding sources for final design and phased construction.

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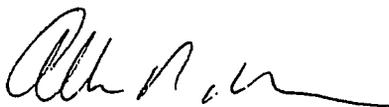
77 FAIR DRIVE

PHONE: (714) 754-5285 • FAX: (714) 754-5330 • TDD: (714) 754-5244 • www.ci.costa-mesa.ca.us

The access points of the flood control channels are currently secured with locked gates and are effectively closed to public access. The City recognizes that the Paularino and Santa Ana Delhi Channels are located directly behind a number of residences and that there may be concern for safety and liability with a multi-purpose trail open for public access. City staff, including staff from the Costa Mesa Police Department, intends to work with all affected residents through the public out-reach program, receive input, and address all concerns, such as need for additional fencing or walls to preserve safety and privacy of the community, including children and pets. Staff will contact every single household to conduct several neighborhood meetings over the course of the next several months and your participation is encouraged as the City welcomes your input and ideas regarding this proposed project.

The City hopes that the proposed multi-purpose trail will provide additional walking and bicycling opportunities while preserving the current level of safety and security for the community. If you have any further questions regarding the proposed project, you may contact David Cho, Assistant Engineer, at (714) 754-5017.

Sincerely,



ALLAN R. MANSOOR
Mayor

c: City Council Members
Allan Roeder, City Manager
Christopher Shawkey, Police Chief
William J. Morris, Director of Public Services
Peter Naghavi, Transportation Services Manager
Dennis Johnson, Assistant Engineer
✓ David Cho, Assistant Engineer
File

David C: Please See me.

Costa Mesa
City Council Members -

June 10, 2007
C: Council
CM
ACM
Bill Morris

Having viewed the City Council meeting on TV this Sunday, I was surprised to learn of the decision of a bike trail plan. I am a homeowner on St. Clair St and absolutely do not like the idea of a bike trail going behind my house. I don't think there is a proper width of the alley for this project and don't like the liability problems that could arise of having passersby view my swimming pool - will there be funds to build additional fencing along the path?

Sincerely -

Eric Feasel

268 St. Clair St.

Costa Mesa, CA 92626



Hempstead
840 Saint Clair St.
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

June 12, 2007

C. Curran
CM
ACM
Bill M.

To the members of Costa Mesa City Council,

Among one of my concerns of having a bike trail and pedestrian walk behind my home may seem like nothing, but it is the worry about our outdoor pets. Almost every home has a cat or dog. There have been times when dogs have been teased by an occasional "trespasser" and one case of hamburger in a nylon stocking thrown to a dog, which caused extensive expense in intestinal operations.

When we purchased our home in Mesa del Mar 45 years ago, one of the main points was the quiet, "private" and protected locked area behind our home along the drain ditch. It has proven to be quite safe to us and our children over the years, as promised, except when gates have been accidentally left open by workers allowing homes to be easily robbed and accessible by trucks carting away furniture from over the back wall, (2 years ago at 848 St. Clair).

I will not be happy or feel safe with strangers having free access to this area both day and night. What additional police patrolling will be available, especially now with the recent nearby-adjointing apartment gang activities that seem to be the newest Costa Mesa problem?

Over the years we have gone to the expense of rescuing and taming some of the cats that were dumped at the Newport-Mesa school bus lot by the channel, and they have lived happily as pets in our homes at night, but during the day they quietly

watch for gophers and mice in the drain ditch ... we also enjoy
and watch the birds and egrets that rest there.

Other neighbors and I are senior citizens and our cats are our
companions and we will worry about their safety, too, from
bikes and possible children with pellet-guns - the cats have been
trained to stay out of the front yard and from the street, but
this alley has been their territory for years. There are many
other homes with both dogs and cats and I'm sure "bothering"
dog barking will also increase in our quiet area with
pedestrians and bike traffic.

As senior citizens, and many of us widows, we all are
not able to afford additional higher fencing... how will
this be provided for the safety of our pets that were here
before this plan?

A bike trail and walk is a wonderful recreational
idea, but I wish it could run on the other side of the
channel where there are no residences, but I know there
is not adequate space there.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Walter Hempstead

Other concerned residents:

Mrs. Harvey Waight

Mrs. Ed Evans

Cham Nguyen

Mrs. R. Bingo 25

Maria Bell

Jerry Javra

Al Ogata

David
C.

Bill
CM
ACM
Bill

To:

Mayor Allan R. Monsoor
Mayor Pro Tem Eric R. Bever
Council Member Linda W. Dixon
Council Member Katrina Foley
Council Member Wendy Leece
Post Office Box 1200
Costa Mesa, Ca 92628

June 13, 2007

Mayor & Council Members,

We the homeowners of Drake and St. Clair Streets, in Mesa Del Mar, are very dismayed at the decision of the Costa Mesa City Council approving the bike trail and pedestrian walk behind our homes.

Without a posting or mailed public announcement, asking for our input, we feel this issue was "sneaked" past the homeowners. We have been awaiting the notice of this issue since its first presentation. Indeed, communication from the council member who resides in our tract has been curiously lacking.

How is an "open gate" policy going to offer more protection for our homes, lessen the possibility of graffiti, and keep out the homeless from their camping sites? Aren't locked gates meant as a deterrent for keeping out trespassers? Your sense of logic in this matter escapes us.

What patrol or police service is planned and how is it to be funded? We think this is an invitation for graffiti, increased gang activity, and unwanted and unneeded expense for building safe "bypasses" for the path over, above or around the freeway and streets.

Forty five years ago we chose our homes along the private area and have felt a great measure of protection by having it closed to the public. Two years ago when the gate was accidentally left open by a

county worker, one of the homes was looted by a truck. It drove in, parked at the back wall, and proceeded to transfer furniture and belongings into it. And an unlocked gate will provide more protection?

Will proper fencing be provided? Some sections had cinder block walls built by the project developer, others have falling-down fences. Many of the sections may become "playground" areas bringing unwanted bike/pedestrian traffic.

Other concerns include: 1) traffic back up on Bear for crossing and busy Newport/Bristol corner, 2) liability of backyard swimming pools, 3) childcare homes bordering on trail.

This is an unnecessary "recreation project" which is not for the betterment of Mesa Del Mar and other affected areas.

Residents on Drake and St Clair Streets
and Other concerned homeowners in Mesa Del Mar

Denise Ballan - St. Clair Street

Denise Sellen St. Clair St.

Who will be responsible for maintaining
clean up of this area?

There are people now who walk
their dogs in the neighborhood and
do not clean up after them!

To:

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Residents on Drake and St Clair Streets
and Other concerned homeowners in Mesa Del Mar

Judy Pinkley Adrian

C:cm
Aen

To:

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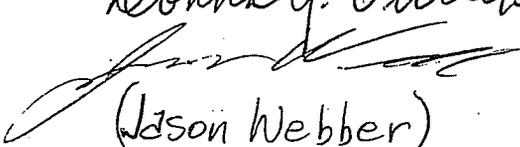
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Residents on Drake and St Clair Streets
and Other concerned homeowners in Mesa Del Mar

Donna Y. Outlieb 855 St Clair St. C.M.
 851-5 St. Clair C.M.
(Jason Webber)

RECEIVED

JUN 15 2007

PUBLIC SERVICES

To:

Mayor Allan R. Monsoor
Mayor Pro Tem Eric R. Bever
Council Member Linda W. Dixon
Council Member Katrina Foley
Council Member Wendy Leece
Post Office Box 1200
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Allen D. Baker
Frances Baker
Mrs. Hovey Haight
Mrs. Walt Hempstead
Brett McKim
Elin Hood
Mrs. Ed Evans
Jellian Dzak