

MONTEREY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting: August 27, 2008 Time: 10:00 a.m.	Agenda Item No.: 4
Project Description: Recommend review and report to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors that the 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan is in conformity with the adopted Monterey County General Plan.	
Project Location: Unincorporated Areas of Monterey County	APN: Multiple
Planning File Number: N/A	Name: Monterey County Public Works Department
Plan Area: Unincorporated Areas of Monterey County	Flagged and staked: No
Zoning Designation: Multiple	
CEQA Action: N/A	
Department: RMA – Public Works Department	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission, pursuant to Government Code §65401, review and report to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors that the 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan (**Exhibit A**) is in conformity with the adopted Monterey County General Plan. Section §65401 of the Government Code requires that a determination of conformity with the adopted General Plan be made by a designated planning agency prior to recommending, preparing plans for, or constructing, major public works projects.

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan (Plan) is an update of the 2001 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan. The Plan includes revisions to bicycle classifications, inclusion of new bicycle routes, paths, and trails, removal of bikeways not under the County’s jurisdiction (State Highways), and revised cost estimates and tables, maps, and statistics. The 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan incorporates goals found in **Exhibit A**, which are consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies in the 1982 Monterey County General Plan, the Carmel Valley Master Plan, and the Central Salinas Valley Area Plan.

In addition, the North County Land Use Plan includes specific policies to provide bicycle shoulders and signage along Maher Road, Castroville Boulevard, and Dolan Road. It also recommends that there be a realignment of the Bicentennial Bicycle Route separating it from Highway 1 traffic between the Pajaro River and Molera Road. The Plan addresses these projects by including them on the future project list. The list of future projects take into consideration the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, utilities, and drainage to be provided on all public rights-of-way and separate bicycle/pedestrian paths from major roads, highways, and between adjacent communities, which also address the Monterey County General Plan’s policies of providing appropriate transportation modes in the design and location of new development.

Monterey County Department of Public Works staff prepares federal, state, and local grant applications to meet the future needs of Monterey County residents choosing to cycle for commuter and recreational trip purposes. The State Department of Transportation has set forth guidelines in the Streets and Highways Code, Section 891.2 (see page 45 of the Plan, Exhibit A) that all bikeway plans must follow if they are seeking final approval and State funds. State approval of the Plan enables Monterey County to apply for the various grants offered by the state. Under the guidelines the plan must include the following elements: A) Estimated number of bicycle commuters; B) Land use map; C) Existing and proposed bikeways; D) Existing and proposed bicycle parking

facilities; E) Existing and proposed bicycle transport/parking facilities; F) Existing and proposed location of support facilities; G) Bicycle safety and education program; H) Citizen and community involvement in plan development; I) Consistency of Bike Plan with other local and regional plans; J) Project listing including priority of projects, and; K) Identification of prior expenditures and future needs for bicycle safety.

On March 5, 2008, the Monterey County Public Works Department presented the draft 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee (BPC) requesting their review and comments. The TAMC BPC promotes and has a positive impact in the planning process of local bicycle transportation systems. Staff has since then received and incorporated BPC’s comments into the Plan (**Exhibit D**).

The Plan is exempt from environmental review, according to §15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines, which provides an exemption for, “The creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.” The Plan does not provide a commitment to the building of a project; it only includes projects recommended by the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and local jurisdiction. CEQA review will occur when a project is funded. An approved Plan would ensure staff’s continued involvement in preparing grant applications and meeting the Plan’s goals.

Staff requests recommendation from the Planning Commission to the Board of Supervisors that the Plan is in conformity with the 1982 Monterey County General Plan.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The Planning Department has reviewed the Plan for conformity with the 1982 Monterey County General Plan.

Note: The decision on this project is appealable to the Board of Supervisors

Patricia A. Lopez, Management Analyst III
(831) 755-8998 lopezp@co.monterey.ca.us
August 27, 2008

cc: Front Counter Copy; Planning Commission Members; Public Works; TAMC; Caltrans;
Project File.

- Attachments: Exhibit A 1982 Monterey County General Plan Goals and Policies/2008 Monterey County
General Bikeways Plan Goals Consistency Matrix
Exhibit B Resolution
Exhibit C 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan
Exhibit D Comments received

This report was reviewed by _____, Mike Novo, Director of Planning,
_____, Carl Holm, Assistant Director of Planning
_____, Paul H. Greenway, P.E., Acting Public Works Director

EXHIBIT B

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**Before the Planning Commission in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No. _____

Resolution of the Monterey County)
Planning Commission recommending to)
the Monterey County Board of Supervisors)
that the 2008 Monterey County General)
Bikeways Plan is in conformity with the)
adopted Monterey County General Plan)

The recommendation to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors that the 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan is in conformity with the adopted Monterey County General Plan came for hearing before the Monterey County Planning Commission on August 27, 2008. Having considered all the written and documentary evidence, the administrative record, the staff report, oral testimony, and other evidence presented, the Planning Commission forwards the following recommendation to the Board of Supervisors with reference to the following facts:

I. RECITALS:

1. Section 65401 of the California Government Code requires that a determination of conformity with the adopted General Plan be made by the Planning Commission to the Board of Supervisors prior to recommending, preparing plans for, or constructing, major public works projects.
2. In April 2002 the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey (“County”) adopted the 2001 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan.
3. Section 30500 of the Public Resources Code requires each County or City to prepare a Local Coastal Program (LCP) for that portion of the coastal zone within its jurisdiction.
4. The proposed 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan is consistent with the policies of the North County Land Use Plan, the Central Salinas Valley Area Plan, and the Carmel Valley Master Plan.

II DECISION:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Monterey County Planning Commission hereby recommends to the Board of Supervisors that the 2008 Monterey County General Bikeways Plan is in conformity with the adopted Monterey County General Plan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 27th day of August, 2008 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

By _____
MIKE NOVO, SECRETARY

