

**MOTION:** Commissioner Silverman moved to recommend to the City Council to relocate the parking space a small amount westerly as specified in the third alternative recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fournier.

Commissioner Stabile commented the motion fails to address degradation of homeowner's quality of life issues and safety.

Commissioner Silverman explained he did not see an issue with quality of life or blocking sunlight issues because their living space is on the third floor.

Commissioner Nicholson reiterated that the homeowner's purchased the property with the current parking in place and does not know the extent of the relationship between the parking spot and damage.

Ayes: Silverman, Nicholson and Fournier.

Noes: Chair Adami and Stabile.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Management Analyst Madrid explained to the appellants that the PPIC's recommendation will go to City Council most likely at the second meeting in January 2013 because the first meeting in January is dark.

### **RECESS AND RECONVENE**

At 7:53 p.m., there was a recess until 8:02 p.m., when the meeting reconvened in regular agenda order with all Commissioners present.

### **12/06/12-3 Installation of Shared Roadway Bicycle Markings (Sharrows) on Pacific Avenue**

Management Analyst Madrid presented the staff report. She provided background information including that in November 2011 the City Council adopted the multi-jurisdictional South Bay Bicycle Master Plan which includes 31 total miles to be implemented over a 10 year period. She then introduced South Bay Bicycle Coalition Executive Director Mike Don.

South Bay Bicycle Coalition Executive Director Mike Don addressed questions regarding why Pacific Avenue was specifically chosen for sharrow markings. Mr. Don also explained 16 meetings were conducted for the preparation of the South Bay Bicycle Master Plan and the goal is to create safer streets for all road users alike. Sharrows protect cyclists and keep them off sidewalks. He continued that the more bike users, the calmer and friendlier the streets will be; he then asked all audience members in support

Parking and Public Improvements Commission  
December 6, 2012

of the sharrows to stand and encouraged the commission to approve the sharrow markings at 125 feet intervals instead of the recommended 250 feet intervals.

Commissioner Stabile shared one of the concerns that had been expressed: sharrows would encourage bicyclists to ride abreast and slow down traffic.

Mr. Don explained Pacific Avenue is the start of a grid and bicyclists already have the right to use the entire lane. He hopes the sharrow markings will have a calming effect on all traffic and explained that history shows it is not a problem.

Commissioner Silverman asked what if someone is on their bike and is riding slower and you have a car that needs to pass.

Mr. Don explained that situation is very tough because right now that same thing exists, in the State of California bikes have the right to use the entire lane, but with education both the cyclists and drivers should be more courteous.

Commissioner Silverman asked if there will be education for cyclists.

Mr. Don explained the Beach Cities Cycling Club President will be announcing a new program and law enforcement has the ability to give cyclists the same kind of citation as a motorist for violating traffic laws.

Commissioner Fournier asked if pedestrians lose any rights on a class two bike path.

Mr. Don stated that no, pedestrians do not lose any rights.

Chair Adami asked Mr. Don to explain bicycle lane classes.

Mr. Don shared that Class I is like the bike path, it is separated; Class II has dedicated white lines painted on the street; Class III has BIKE ROUTE signage but can include other measures for calming streets.

Chair Adami stated the staff report is recommending two hundred and fifty feet while the Bicycle Coalition is recommending 125 feet, he asked why that was the case.

Mr. Don explained the more reminders, the safer the street.

### **Audience Participation**

Individuals addressing the Commission on this item were as follows:

**Jamie Sheek, 17<sup>th</sup> and Pacific Avenue**, related her apprehension and explained that mothers and fathers do not slow down when taking their kids to school in the morning. She expressed concern that installing the markings will encourage people to ride their bikes to school and make the situation more dangerous on Pacific Avenue.

**Jim Hannon, Beach Cities Cycling Club President and South Bay Bicycle Coalition Board Member**, announced the Beach Cities Cycling Club and South Bay

Parking and Public Improvements Commission

December 6, 2012

Bicycle Coalition will be rolling out a joint youth safe cycling program in the first quarter of 2013. The program will address how to ride properly, safely, and hopefully encourage fewer parents to drive their children to school. He shared his feeling that sharrows on Pacific Avenue would encourage people to commute by bicycle to work.

**Eleane Hoons, 3400 Block of Pacific Avenue**, expressed her concern with the sharrow markings. She backs out of her driveway and feels it is dangerous without the sharrow markings; she felt bikers are more aware when there are no markings.

**Julian Katz, Hermosa Beach Public Works Commissioner**, shared he rides his bicycle frequently and stated professionals have looked at the steps being taken to make the Beach Cities more bicycle friendly. He stated the signs that will be installed will help notify bicyclists and motorists that everyone should be more vigilant.

**Fred Manna, No Address Provided**, explained that sharrows are not encouraging people to ride on the specific streets but making it safer for those who already ride on the street. The design of the sharrow is not to create a bike route but to make bikes more visible to drivers.

**Jeanne Hendricks, No Address Provided**, expressed her support for safer and calmer streets for cycling, walking, and driving in Manhattan Beach and sees the sharrows as an opportunity to make healthier choices.

**Ted Ernst, former Manhattan Beach Resident**, urged the Commission to recommend the sharrows on Pacific to City Council so awareness and safety are highlighted. He stated they would be aligning themselves with minimizing their reliance on gasoline.

**John Wilcox, Manhattan Beach Resident**, thanked the Commissioners for their service to the City. He mentioned he is an advocate for the South Bay Bicycle Coalition and encouraged the Commission to support the sharrow markings every 250 feet to make the route to school safer for kids walking or riding their bikes to one of the three schools on Pacific Avenue. He stated it helps adhere to the commitment to the Bicycle Master Plan and the City's commitment to the Vitality City plan. He also mentioned the City should be addressing dangerous drivers.

**David Sounis, No Address Provided**, mentioned that he rides to Raytheon sometimes and if you are biking up 8<sup>th</sup> street to get to the east side of the City the Valley/Ardmore intersection is difficult.

**Todd Dipaola, South Bay Bicycle Coalition Founder**, thanked staff and the Commission for their support. He shared that when he was a little boy he began riding his bike to elementary school, then to high school, then to college, and eventually biked across America. He explained sharrows provide safety benefits and is excited to see Manhattan Beach making this first step.

### **Commission Discussion**

Commissioner Nicholson explained it is a wonderful proposal and shared his hope the Commission move forward with it. He is very much in favor of what has been said tonight and saw this as an opportunity to change the mindset of residents of

Parking and Public Improvements Commission

December 6, 2012

Manhattan Beach. He hopes the markings will mitigate some of the dangerousness of going to school on bikes and really believes it is a great opportunity for the public.

Commissioner Fournier thanked the City for putting on all of the workshops and allowing the Commissioners and residents to be better informed. He explained although it may seem scary, any type of effort to mark roadways differently is an added value in the safety issue. He expressed his appreciation to the coalition and suggested anyone who has doubts should look at the data and educate themselves.

Commissioner Silverman shared his vision that the size of cars and new regulations are going to encourage lighter, smaller cars and more bicycle commuters. He sees bicycle commuting as the way of the future all over the world. And his belief this proposal is a move in the right direction and needed to help us to move forward with bicycle transportation in Manhattan Beach and the world.

Commissioner Stabile announced he has been a supporter of the South Bay Bicycle Master Plan since he became aware of it and now is the implementation. He asked how to continue to move the process forward and shared his support for the sharrow markings.

Chair Adami shared that he lived on Pacific in 1988 and used to ride his bike to LAX; he is excited and happy to move forward with the ideas brought forth in the Bicycle Master Plan and thanked the Bicycle Coalition for their commitment. He explained his two sons and wife were in the audience earlier and had hoped to share their support for the sharrow markings; he suggested an education campaign in the schools and thanked staff for their work.

Commissioner Nicholson suggested the next street to add sharrow markings should be Bell Avenue.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Stabile moved to recommend to the City Council that the proposed Sharrow markings be installed on Pacific Avenue between 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Rosecrans Avenue at 250 foot intervals. The motion was seconded by Chair Adami. Commissioner Silverman added a friendly amendment allowing markings to be less than 250 feet apart. Chair Adami asked Traffic Engineer Rydell to confirm the current interval are not greater than 250 feet. Traffic Engineer Rydell confirmed and Chair Adami suggested the friendly amendment state “intervals not greater than 250 feet” and the motion passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes:	Stabile, Nicholson, Fournier, Silverman and Chair Adami.
Noes:	None.
Abstain:	None.
Absent:	None.

**F. COMMISSION ITEMS**

F1. Commissioner Stabile asked about the smoking on the strand issue he raised at the last PPIC meeting.