

**CITY OF SARATOGA  
PEDESTRIAN, EQUESTRIAN & BICYCLE TRAILS  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Meeting Minutes**

DATE: Tuesday, March 19, 2013  
TIME: 4:00 pm  
LOCATION: City of Saratoga Administrative Conference Room, 13777 Fruitvale Avenue,  
Saratoga, CA 95070

1. **Call to Order:** *Meeting called to order by the Chair at 4:00pm*
2. **Roll Call:** *Present: Stallman, Cosyn, Swan, Waltonsmith; City liaison Harvancik*
3. **Report on Posting of the Agenda:** *So done*
4. **Accept Agenda Items and Order:** *Accepted*
5. **Approval of Minutes:** *January meeting minutes approved*
6. **Oral and Written Communication:** *Written submittal identifying “Adopt a Trail” signage found at a park not in Saratoga was submitted by a Saratoga resident for consideration by the committee as a possible idea to incorporate here. Discussion ensued and the item was proposed to be a future meeting agenda item.*
7. **Old Business:**
  - Blue Hills School Crossing update and grand opening event for the Fredericksburg connection
    - *Staff provided a verbal update on the project.*
    - *VTA funds have been applied for.*
    - *VTA has the project on its current roster of projects for Saratoga.*
    - *Path will be upgraded to ADA by the project.*
    - *Train does one round trip at most once a week – on Fridays.*
    - *The Cox crossing upgrade took 10 years and UP (Union Pacific Railroad) did the work per their own schedule – which delayed it for years.*
    - *Residents in attendance said that they have had to replace walking/biking trips with auto trips to reach schools and now feel isolated.*
    - *The project has also been named Reconnect Saratoga by the neighborhood which got cut off from all their schools by the crossing closure and the school side neighborhood residents who got cut off from their friends.*
    - *It was reported that the bicycle trips have had to use Cox including crossing it twice in order to get to the other side. Cox is heavily traveled and has difficult intersections to navigate safely.*
    - *The Council will take up the roster of Capital Improvement Projects in the April/May timeframe to decide what projects to fund – in this case – providing the local match component to combine with the VTA funds.*
    - *A ribbon cutting event will be planned for the reopened Fredericksburg pathway.*
  - Quarry Property update (RFP; Guided walk Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am)
    - *The Request for Proposal to develop the Park Plan is issued. Property preparations are completed to facilitate the upcoming walk.*

- Capital Improvement Projects related to trails  
- *In progress: Village Creek Trail, Village Creek Overlook, Quarry Master Plan*
- VTA BPAC representative  
- *Rick Waltsonsmith is the new rep and he attended the March VTA BPAC meeting.*

#### **8. Staff Report:**

- Commissioner Recognition Dinner – Thursday, May 30th at 6:00pm, location TBD
- The Saratoga sponsored Arbor Day is 3:00 pm April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Saratoga Library.
- Saratoga Historical Foundation’s Blossom Festival is March 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Civic Center and adjoining Heritage Orchard - info at [www.SaratogaHistory.com/BlossomFestival/](http://www.SaratogaHistory.com/BlossomFestival/)

#### **9. New Business:**

- Gardiner Park easement sale will go before a public hearing on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The property will be sold for a minimum of \$80k.  
- *Committee comments suggested that Blue Hills Crossing Reconnect Saratoga advocates attend the hearing to show support - including requesting that the money provide the city match for this trail/BPAC project*

#### **10. Reports:**

- Pending trails updates – *Work at Mendelsohn Lane along HWY 9 was noted as part of the current phase constructing pedestrian paths the length of Saratoga–Los Gatos Rd.*
- Member reports – *Photos of the new steps constructed for the school trail connecting to the library and the upgraded Fredericksburg access to Joe’s Trail reopened March 18th were presented.*

#### **11. Action Items Summary:**

- *Ann and Iveta are planning the Fredericksburg access to Joe’s Trail ribbon cutting*
- *Ann is a member of a new Mid-Pen Open Space Vision planning committee*
- *Watch for the upcoming Council CIP agenda item in April or May*
- *Attend the Gardiner Park easement sale Public Hearing April 18th*

#### **12. Adjournment was at 5:30 with the next scheduled meeting date being April 16, 2013.**