

NCSPC STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Santa Ynez Valley Bicycle Master Plan

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2019

AGENDA ITEM: 7

STAFF CONTACT: Michael Becker

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and comment on the draft Santa Ynez Valley Bicycle Master Plan.

DISCUSSION:

The Santa Ynez Valley Bicycle Master Plan (SYVBMP) project was a FY 18/19 project and has largely been completed since May. SBCAG staff has been working with County of Santa Barbara staff on revisions necessary to gain the County's support of the Plan.

The SYVBMP project was completed at the request of City of Solvang staff and with the support of City of Buellton and County of Santa Barbara staff. It was conceived and designed to be adopted by each of the three jurisdictions. SBCAG staff now intends to seek adoption by the SBCAG Board as a way of highlighting SBCAG's commitment to improving bicycle mobility in the Santa Ynez Valley, as well as across the entirety of the SBCAG region.

Background

Over the last several years the City of Solvang has been encouraged to make improvements for bicyclists. As a result, and considering the current City of Solvang Bicycle Transportation Plan was completed in 2008, City staff approached SBCAG and requested SBCAG develop a bicycle master plan for the entirety of the Santa Ynez Valley. SBCAG, in turn, included the project in its FY 18/19 Overall Work Program.

SBCAG assembled a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to guide the planning process. The TAC includes representation from the three Valley jurisdictions, the Chumash Tribe, and several bicycle advocates. The scope of work called for three layers of community input: the public, stakeholders, and the governing bodies. To facilitate community input from the public a total of four public workshops were conducted, two each in Buellton and Solvang. Approximately 100 people in total attended the public workshops. To gather input from stakeholders, or representatives of special interests, a survey was distributed early in the planning process to ensure their input was included in the planning process. Finally, as a final step the draft plan is being presented to the Valley's governing bodies for input. It is a goal of this planning process to arrive at one plan that is agreeable to all three of the Valley jurisdictions.

The draft plan builds on previous plans and unimplemented projects are carried forward. With the draft plan being multi-jurisdictional in nature, not all proposed projects are applicable to individual jurisdictions, and other will require coordination among two or more jurisdictions to implement. The draft plan categorizes projects into various tiers.

- Tier 1: expensive and transformative



- Tier 2: medium-sized projects
- Tier 3: minor projects
- School-related projects

Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects were prioritized by the public. Three Tier 1 projects and five Tier 2, Valley-wide, are included in the plan with those not achieving the priority threshold being included as aspirational projects. The Tier 3 projects are minor and are intended to be implemented alongside periodic road maintenance activities. The school-related projects seek to improve connections between where kids live and their schools. Except for one project, all school-related projects are minor in nature.

The City of Solvang adopted this plan during the city council's October 14, 2019 meeting. The City of Buellton adopted this plan during the city council's October 24, 2019 meeting.

Attachment:

- A. Draft Santa Ynez Valley Bicycle Master Plan ([web posting only](#))