



**TO:** Newport Beach City Council  
**FROM:** Citizens Bicycle Safety Committee

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## **DRAFT REPORT ON COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

December 2011

The Citizens Bicycle Safety Committee (committee) held its first meeting December 6, 2010 and has met monthly since then. In the creation of the committee, the City Council set out a number of tasks. This is the annual report to the Council on the committee's progress in accomplishing those tasks.

The following are the activities prescribed:

1. **Produce an updated, Web-based map that would include facilities, safety information, points of interest, mileage and family friendly routes.**
  - a. The draft final map is on line on the City's Web site for comment.
2. **Jointly develop and implement a plan to provide student bicycle safety outreach with the Newport Unified School District (NMUSD).**
  - a. The committee recommended the police department host bicycle rodeos at local schools, and the Newport Beach Police Department (NBPD) has put on four.
  - b. The committee is studying the area between Newport Harbor High School and Ensign Middle School to identify ways to encourage bike riding.
  - c. A member of the Newport Mesa Unified School District attended a recent committee meeting to provide input for additional safety around schools.
3. **Develop and implement programs to educate and promote safety and encourage bicycle use for health, recreation and alternative transportation.**
  - a. A new brochure has been created.
  - b. Our regularly scheduled meetings are well attended by the general public where new information is widely disseminated. The local media report to the broader community the latest news regarding bicycle matters. The O.C. Wheelmen, O.C. Bicycle Coalition and Charlie Gandy of Long Beach have presented at our meetings.
  - c. We have conducted outreach on sharrows to the Corona del Mar Business Improvement District and the Corona del Mar Residents Association.
  - d. Harbor Day School was contacted to ensure bike safety during student pickup.
  - e. At the request of the committee, City maintenance vehicles that park in bike lanes will now put out cones as a safety measure. The City is working

with the Newport Coast master association to get a similar plan implemented there.

- f. Our recommendation to the police department resulted in a significant outreach and meeting with the bicycle community hosted by the NBPD at the Oasis Center.
  - g. We have hosted one bicycle ride and are in the process of planning another bicycle event, seeking the collaboration of the Orange County Transportation Committee.
- 4. Review the City's Bicycle Facilities network and provide input to City Staff on maintenance.**
- a. The committee has provided recommendations for clarifications and modifications including a restriping at Castaways.
  - b. As a result of our regularly scheduled meetings and public comments, potholes have been filled, bumps have been leveled, raised pavement markers removed and trash/refuse removed. In addition, there is now a site on the City's Web page for reporting road hazards.
  - c. There is new downhill signage on Newport Coast roads with heavy bicycle usage.
- 5. Review the City's Bicycle Master Plan and provide recommendations to City Council for modifications and additions.**
- a. Our recommendations were recorded and will be considered as part of any future General Plan Amendment or Update.
- 6. Review and prioritize the 18 recommended projects from the Task Force on Bicycle Safety Final report dated May 11, 2010, including potential locations for bicycle racks to promote bicycle usage.**
- a. As a result of the committee's work, striping modifications are being pursued by the City along Coast Highway.
  - b. City staff is engaged with Caltrans to alter striping and signing along Newport Coast Road near the SR-73.
  - c. The committee is prepared to recommend to the City Council a type of bike rack and public locations for the placement of the racks.

In one year, the committee has accomplished many of its goals, but we feel we need further time to consolidate our efforts and ensure a solid foundation of bicycle awareness and safety for the future. As with other city committees, the Citizens Bicycle Safety Committee has required a number of staff hours, but we feel we can finish our work with fewer demands on staff resources.