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**Subject:** Re: Bicycling and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Regular Meeting  
**Date:** Sunday, October 5, 2025 8:57:04 PM  
**Importance:** High

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Dear BPAC (and please don't get a conversation going and violate the Open Meetings Act)

I am a little concerned if we are concentrating, via 7b, on motorist accountability in collisions involving cyclists without seeing what I think is a bigger picture of the plight of vulnerable users in a sea of cars and car designed roads. Cyclists and pedestrians suffer from a system that optimizes our transportation infrastructure for motorist level of service. For example, there are locations along Cerrillos Road where it might be a third of a mile or more between legal crosswalks. When a pedestrian "jaywalks" due to these onerous distances, blame is put on the hapless pedestrian when he/she is splattered across the blacktop, rather than on the road designer who created a situation where someone at walking speed has to travel long distances to cross the street in an urban setting. All so that motorists, at 45 mph, don't have very many signalized crossings to slow them down.

Likewise, a bicyclist in a bike lane on a multilane road might be effectively invisible to turning and crossing traffic due to road design. So when is "motorist error" really design error that makes it difficult for a cop to write a ticket? As a bicyclist, I have always learned to "watch my six" as well as my three, nine, and twelve, in traffic, but is that entirely fair unless our roads really are "vision zero" designed?

I am a little concerned that we might be missing the forest for the trees. While enforcement bias might be a problem, and I'd like to hear from Chief Paul Joye on that, the design of our streets makes it likely that design might be the bigger issue.

I have to say that I am a little more engaged on this issue since August 28th. That was the day I injured a disk in my back and spent more than a week barely able to hobble across the house to take a leak. So I have, indeed, discovered what it means to be a "vulnerable user" given my abilities on a bicycle have been greatly reduced such that even crossing a major road like St. Francis Drive at Camino de las Crucitas takes more courage than usual. I have not been able to get out of the saddle and sprint if needed, snap a bike around, nor easily do one of those League of American Bicyclists taught lane changes where one looks over one's shoulder easily to check traffic, lest my back blow out again. Gave me a whole new insight into what is meant by "vulnerable user".

Glad to help with this issue, but I might be the ornery old guy in the room. Especially if I run out of pain meds.

cheers,

Khal Spencer

BPAC member, 2018-2024

On 2025-10-04 17:52, GLORIOSO-MOSS , ROMELLA S. wrote:

Good evening, ALL:

Please see the attached meeting packet for the upcoming BPAC regular meeting on October 9.

My apologies. I am still transcribing the minutes from the September 11 meeting. I understand that a verbatim transcription is not required; however, Chief Joye or a representative from the Police Department will be attending our October 9 meeting. There will be a Q&A portion, so I encourage all members to review the minutes which are lengthy in order to prepare thoughtful questions that can help inform policy recommendations to City Council for improving bicycle safety and achieving Vision Zero in our city.

I've been working on the minutes as time allows since yesterday and will send them out Monday morning. They will also be uploaded to Civic Clerk.

Another important item: We are inviting anyone who is interested to join an ad hoc committee to develop a fact-based white paper outlining policy recommendations for enhancing motorist accountability in collisions involving cyclists. Please see Agenda Item 7.b. If you are interested, please email me. Councilor Garcia will appoint committee members on Thursday. Membership in this ad hoc committee is open to both BPAC and non-BPAC members.

Feel free to forward this meeting invite to community members who may be interested.

If you cannot attend in person, you are welcome to attend via Zoom: <https://santafenm.gov.zoom.us/j/83186480423>

Thank you for all you do!