



AGENDA

Regular Meeting of the
SAN LUIS OBISPO BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Council Hearing Room, City Hall
990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo

May 21, 2009

Thursday

7 p.m.

MISSION:

The purpose of the Bicycle Advisory Committee is to provide oversight and policy direction on matters related to bicycle transportation in San Luis Obispo and its relationship to bicycling outside the City.

ROLL CALL: Glen Matteson (Chair), Chris Black, Matt Colonell, Tim Gillham, Cheryl Lenhardt, and Kristina Seley (Vice Chair).

SWEARING IN: Swearing in of new Bicycle Advisory Committee Member, Woolf.

PUBLIC COMMENT: At this time, the public is invited to address the Committee concerning items not on the agenda but are of interest to the public and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Bicycle Advisory Committee. The Committee may not discuss or take action on issues that are not on the agenda other than to briefly respond to statements made or questions raised, or to ask staff to follow up on such issues.

MINUTES: March 26, 2009 (Attachment 1)

ACTION ITEMS:

1. BTA Grant Candidate and Bicycle Transportation Plan Amendment-Bridge over Railroad: Phillips to Pepper (Attachment 2, 3)
2. Bike Rodeo Funding

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

3. Committee Items:
4. Staff Items:
 - Madonna bike path review
 - Railroad Safety Trail, Phase 4 dedication
 - Railroad Safety Trail Phase 3 stimulus funding
 - Airport Area Specific Plan bike paths
 - Caltrans Marsh Street underpass
 - RBP3, Railroad path to Laurel
 - Bike Month Update
 - Bike Parking Update (3/26 meeting request concerning The Nautical Bean)
 - Shared Use Path, Authorized Devices update



ACTION ITEMS:

Agenda Item # 1: BTA Grant Candidate / Bicycle Transportation Plan Amendment

The next deadline for Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grant applications is December 1, 2009. The Streets and Highways Code 893 requires Caltrans to disburse "...money from the Bicycle Transportation Account... for projects that improve the safety and convenience of bicycle commuters." A commuter is defined as "...a person making a trip by bicycle primarily for transportation purposes, including, but not limited to,

- travel to work
- school
- shopping
- or other destination that is a center of activity and does not include a trip by bicycle primarily for physical exercise or recreation without such a destination"

To be eligible to receive funding, projects applied for must be a part of the jurisdiction's current Bicycle Transportation Plan, and the Plan must specifically "discuss or list" the project.

As the highest priority project in the City's Bicycle Transportation Plan, the Railroad Safety Trail continues to be the logical project to target for a BTA grant. The one bike path section that remains unfunded is the section between the bicycle bridge over Highway 101 and Marsh Street. Due to its size, cost and complexity, staff recommends dividing this section into more manageable sub-sections. While reviewing options for a sub-section south of Highway 101, staff has identified the potential for a connection to Phillips Lane, northeast of the railroad tracks with the possibility of re-establishing a bridge connection over the railroad tracks to Pepper Street (see Attachment 2). Such a connection would provide improved access to the downtown, reducing the desire by many to trespass on Union Pacific Railroad property. This project differs from the Railroad Safety Trail Preliminary Alignment Plans in that it proposes an over crossing of the railroad tracks rather than an under crossing (see Attachment 3).

To pursue a BTA grant for this project, an amendment to the Bicycle Transportation Plan may be needed. At the meeting, staff will present more information on this potential project.

Staff Recommendation: The BAC should act on one of the following options:

1. Recommend the proposed sub-section project (a bridge crossing the railroad tracks at Phillips Lane) for the next BTA grant application, using the adopted Bicycle Transportation Plan map showing a grade separated crossing as the project's inclusion in the Plan; or
2. Recommend the proposed sub-section project for the next BTA grant application and recommend that staff process an amendment to the Bicycle Transportation Plan to more clearly identify the sub-section project; or
3. Recommend an alternate Bicycle Plan Project for the next BTA Grant application.

Agenda Item # 2: Bicycle Rodeo Funding

Each year the City of San Luis Obispo Police and Parks and Recreation Departments organize a Bicycle Rodeo held in the Fall. This year's event is planned to be held again at Emerson Park on September 19th. Last year marked the beginning of a more collaborative planning process involving Public Works staff, with input from the BAC. Notable additions to the Rodeo are the inclusion of a Parent Education/ Helmet Fit booth, more comprehensive station attendant training, and the re-introduction of a police-cruiser for "door-zone" practice.

Funding: The adopted Bicycle Transportation Plan states that two percent (2%) of the City's Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds are reserved for bicycle education and promotion activities. Annually, the City receives approximately \$15,000. In past years, the Police Department has requested and received TDA funding ranging from \$4,000 to \$7,100. The TDA funding (which in the past represented about one third of the actual cost of the Saturday event) has been used to pay for event advertising as well as bicycle helmets, t-shirts, safety reflectors, and food/drinks. Typically, the Police Department has come to the BAC to request a specific funding amount for the current year's event. Since Public Works Staff is now part of the event planning process, Staff is requesting that the BAC approve an annual expenditure of up to \$5000 for the event, at staff's discretion without the specific request being brought to the BAC each year. As previously requested by the Bicycle Advisory Committee, no TDA monies will be used for the bicycle stunt team. The remaining funding will come from the Police and Parks and Recreation Department budgets. Staff will supply updates on the event planning and post event evaluation each year to the BAC. If issues arise in the future, the Committee can vote to return the annual funding request for Committee review.

Staff supports the use of TDA monies to help fund the Bicycle Rodeo for the following reasons:

- The Bicycle Rodeo is an event which provides both educational and promotional activities for young bicyclists.
- The Bicycle Rodeo has been a successful and well attended bicycle safety event.
- The City has set aside the funds to pay for the event.
- By partnering with others, the cost of the event can be shared.

Staff Recommendation: The BAC authorizes staff to allocate up to \$5000 each year for the Bike Rodeo.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Agenda Item # 3: Committee Member Items

Agenda Item # 4: Staff Items

- Madonna bike path review
- Railroad Safety Trail, Phase 4 dedication
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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft BAC Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2009
2. Proposed Railroad Safety Trail Sub-Section Project Map
3. Approved Railroad Safety Trail Preliminary Alignment Plan Sheet



DRAFT MINUTES

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MISSION:

The purpose of the Bicycle Advisory Committee is to provide oversight and policy direction on matters related to bicycle transportation in San Luis Obispo and its relationship to bicycling outside the City.

ROLL CALL: Glen Matteson (Chair), Jean Anderson, Matt Colonell, Tim Gillham, Cheryl Lenhardt, and Recording Secretary Janet Miller

ABSENT: Chris Black and Kristina Seley

Staff Members: Peggy Mandeville, Kevin Christian, recording minutes Janet Miller

RECOGNITION: BAC service recognition for Jean Anderson.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gary Havas, San Luis Obispo resident, requested South and Broad intersection have striping for left lane through the intersection to increase bicycle safety. The bicycle lane disappears at the intersection and some motorists change lanes mid-way through the intersection. A bike box was suggested as a possible aide to the situation.

Kelsie Greer, Rideshare Program Coordinator, gave an update on Bike Month planning. The theme for Bike Month is "Chain Reaction".

Adam Fukushima, San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition (SLOCBC) Executive Director, thanked Jean Anderson for her years of service. He announced that Dan Rivoire, of the SLOCBC, was recently in Washington DC for the national "Bike Summit" where he discussed funding issues for local facilities, including the Railroad Safety Trail, with Lois Capps, referencing the "Clean Tea" bill. He also updated the Committee on the local bicycling education marketing efforts (print ads, Face Book, Flier).

MINUTES: January 29, 2009

Tim Gillham suggested changing "request" to "study" in agenda item 3.

Action: Motion to accept with changes made by **CM Lenhardt** and seconded by **CM Anderson**.

ACTION ITEMS:**Agenda Item # 1: Shared Use Path Authorized Devises**

Staff reviewed research concerning state agencies and committees viewpoints on the topic, and recommended that staff Christian monitor future legislation regarding bike path usage and inform the Committee as information comes up across the state. After discussion, the Committee concurred and agreed not to proceed with a shared us path authorized devises ordinance at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:**Agenda Item # 2: Staff Items**

- **California/Foothill intersection improvements**

Staff discussed the intersection's signal timing. An interim solution of dropping the Class II bike lane at the intersection was discussed.

Action: **CM Colonell** made a motion with **CM Anderson** seconding, approving the interim solution giving up Class II bike lanes to achieving a direct connection of a Class I trail, subject to working towards a permanent solution that includes replacement of the Class II lanes. The motion passed unanimously with CM Cheryl Lenhardt abstaining.

- **Madonna Bike Path (Attachment 4)**

Staff provided a description of the project. The Committee discussed, noting that the path was not ADA compliant and stating the reason(s) during development and public notification. **CM Anderson** suggested that solar lighting be used on the bike path. The Committee discussed the grading of the path in the proposed alignment, noting that 12% was very steep, doesn't comply to Class I requirements, and cited California St. (south of Mill St.) as an example of 12%.

The Committee supported the direction that staff reviewed as their recommendation on the project.

- **RR Safety Trail Update**

Staff reported that the new section (Hathway Ave. to Foothill Blvd.) is almost complete. An opening ceremony will be held April 30.

- **Shared Roadway Marking Update**

Staff reported that the project was completed March 25.

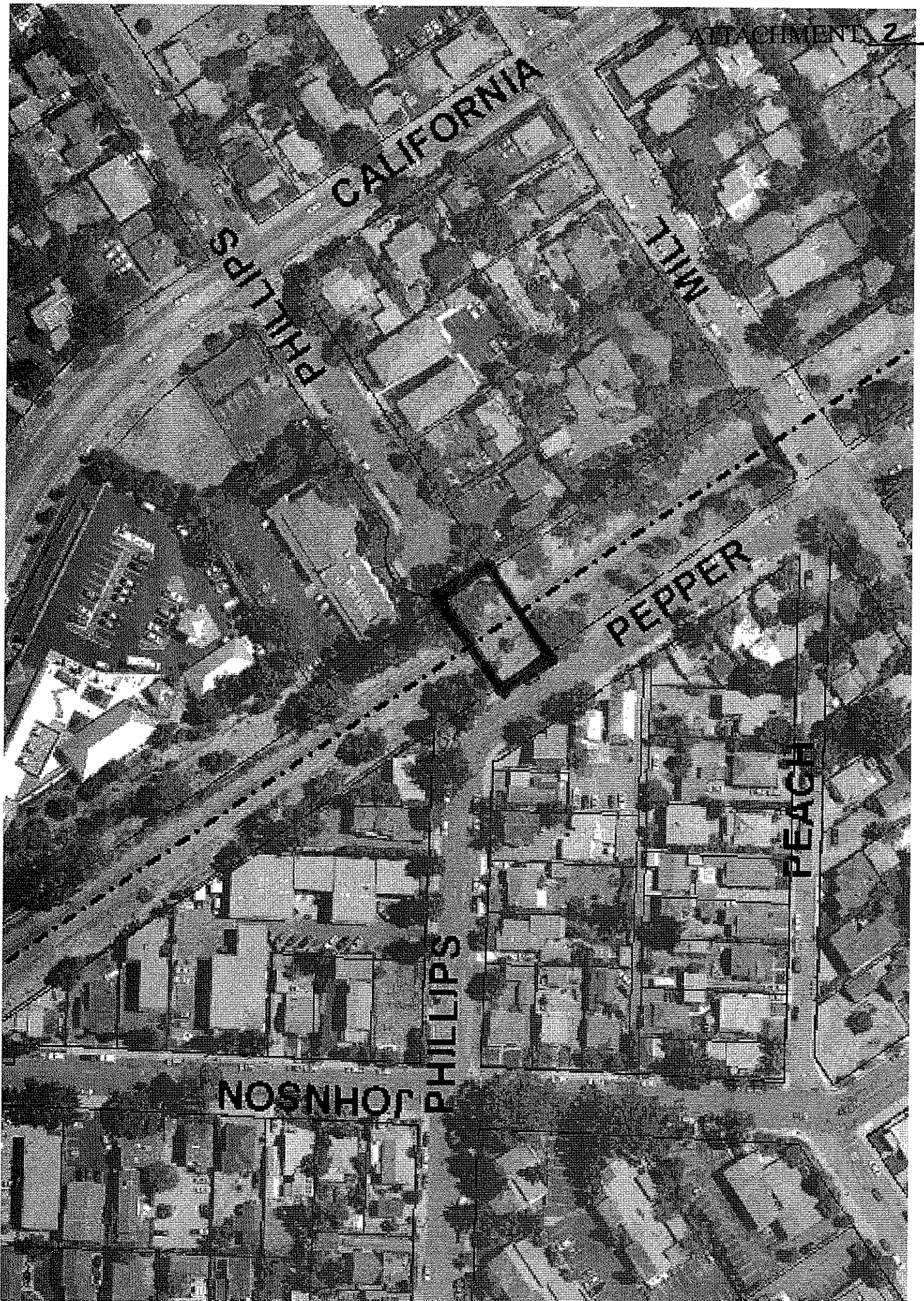
- **Unmet Bikeway Needs (Attachment 5)**

Staff reported that items #1 and #2 have been completed. **CM Colonell** noted his support of item #5 and provided maps of possible alignment with the RRST to Staff.

- **Mitchell Park Bicycle Parking**
Staff reported that a concrete pad is available for a future rack should one be donated.

- **Tentative agenda items for next meeting**
 - Bike Month update
 - Staff was asked to check the bike rack in front of the Nautical Bean.

CM Anderson motioned, and was seconded by **CM Lenhardt** to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting **adjourned at 9:03 pm.**



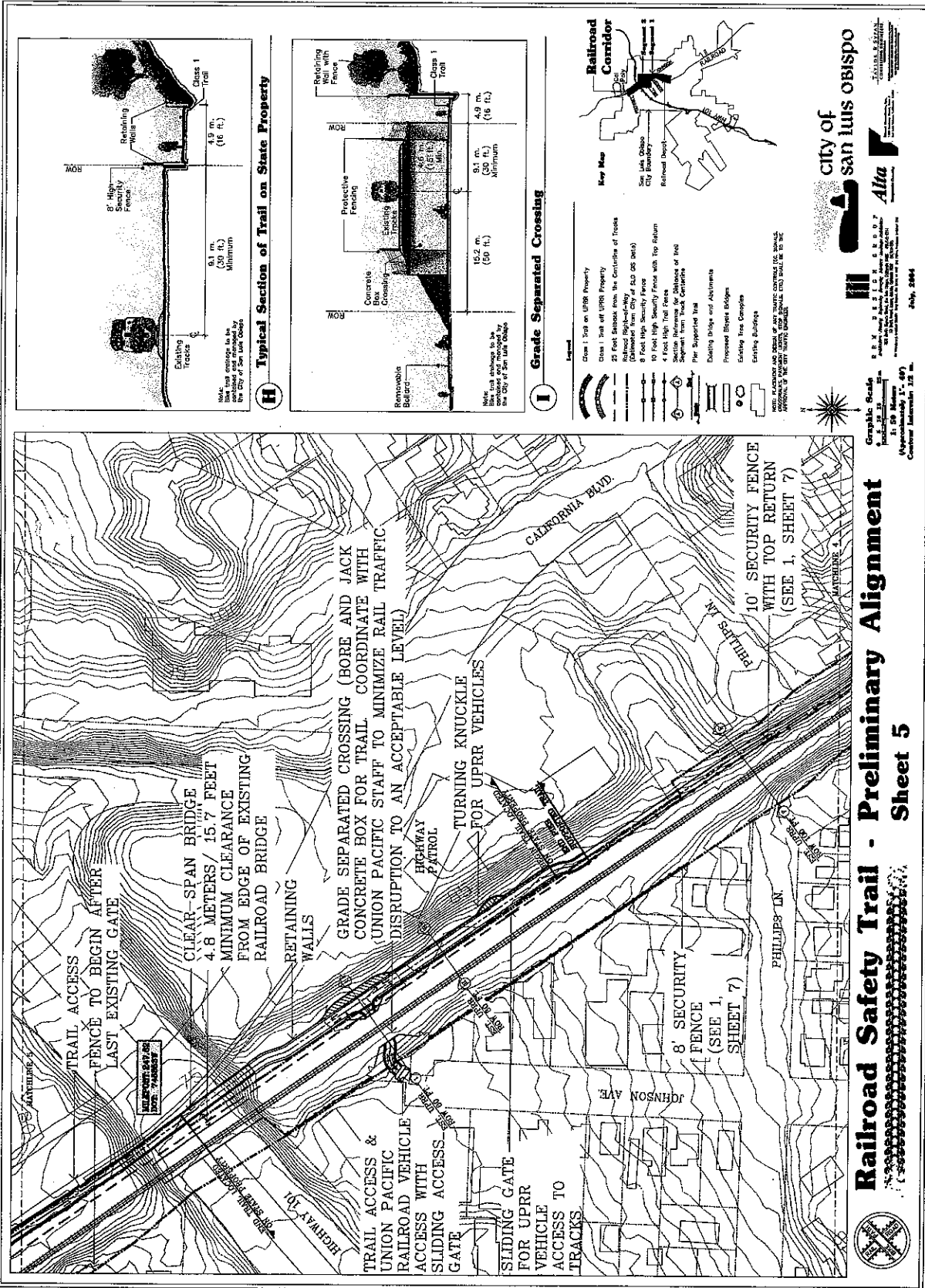
PHILLIPS
CALIFORNIA

MILL

PEPPER

PEACH

NOSHONOV
PHILLIPS



Railroad Safety Trail - Preliminary Alignment Sheet 5