



County of Orange

Public Facilities & Resources Department

John W. Sibley, Director

January 8, 1998

Mr. Jim Barnes
City of Huntington Beach
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

SUBJECT: Proposed Class I bikeway along the Wintersburg Channel

Dear Mr. Barnes:

This is in response to your verbal request for information on regional bikeway planning in the vicinity of the proposed Shea Homes project, on the north side of the East Garden Grove-Wintersburg Channel. The Commuter Bikeways Strategic Plan (CBSP) for Orange County depicts a proposed regional Class I (paved off-road) bikeway along the Slater Storm Channel, that continues along the Wintersburg Channel and connects to the off-road bikeway along the west side of Pacific Coast Highway (PCH). Currently a portion of this route exists along the Slater Storm Channel.

Although the CBSP depicts the bikeway along the entire length of the Wintersburg Channel through the Bolsa Chica area, land use planning for the wetlands requires the removal of the westerly portion of the levees berming the channel, and the relocation of the proposed Class I bikeway route to the northern perimeter of Bolsa Chica, as depicted in the enclosed exhibit from the Land Use Plan. The green highlighted segment in this exhibit identifies an error. Per Ron Tippetts of the County's Planning and Development Services Department, this segment should have been identified as part of the regional Class I bikeway route.

Regarding the City's proposal to continue the Class I bikeway northerly along the Wintersburg Channel to Graham Street: the County supports this. It would provide an excellent bikeway connection between the City's road system and the off-road wetlands perimeter route. (We suggest referring to this entire route---between Graham Street and PCH---as the "Bolsa Chica Bikeway".)

I hope this has helped to answer your questions. Should you need additional information, please call Sherri Miller of my staff at 834-3137.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Dickman".

Jeff Dickman
Chief, HBP/Trail Planning & Implementation

SM:sm