

Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes
Wednesday, July 26, 2017, 4 PM – 6 PM
Room 333 Minneapolis City Hall

Members Present: Richard Anderson, Carrie Christensen, Bill Dooley, Wes Durham, Matthew Dyrdaahl, Steve Elmer, Paul Frenz, Janice Gepner, Matthew Hendricks, Chris Linde, Hilary Lovelace, Nick Mason, Nathan Pentz, Ann Postera, Juana Sandoval, Greg Sautter, Scott Snelling, Peter Wagenius, Georgianna Yantos

Members Absent: Mackenzie Turner Barga, Jenny Bordon, Robin Garwood, Joshua Houdek (excused), Jordan Kocak, Tyler Pederson (excused), Ciara Schlichting (excused), Elissa Schuffman, Sarah Stewart (excused)

Others Present: Lisa Bender, Millicent Flowers, Julie Louge

Actions

1. The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee recommends that Public Works make the following **process improvements for detour/construction practices**:
 - Improve complaint reporting about detours via 311. Require signage as part of street construction projects that require pedestrian and/or bicycle detours directing people with complaints to 311.
 - Research best practices for detours of pedestrian and bicycle facilities, including situations under which the closure of pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities is prohibited. Modify existing practices based on research.
 - Define requirements for provision of temporary pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities when the closure of permanent pedestrian and/or bicycle facilities is unavoidable due to private or public sector construction projects.
 - Align fees charged for closing vehicular travel lanes, bicycle facilities, and sidewalks to be congruent with our complete streets policy. (Currently, the closure fee is lower for bicycle and pedestrian facilities than for vehicular travel lanes, providing an incentive for private construction to close bicycle and pedestrian rather than travel lanes).
 - Add pedestrian and/or bicycle construction detours to complete streets checklist for street projects.

2. The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee elected Scott Snelling as **Engineering Subcommittee Chair**.

Summaries of Discussions

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm and was chaired by Nick Mason. The Agenda and June Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. **Comprehensive Plan** presented by Council Member Lisa Bender

- CM Bender hoped to provide an informal update, get input from us and answer our questions.
- The City Comprehensive Plan is required every 10 years.
- It must be approved by adjacent communities and the Met Council.
- It is a legal document guiding land use, zoning, growth, and transportation.
- CM Bender encouraged us to consider land use since it affects bicycling and bicycle infrastructure.
- The City Council adopted the following 3 resolutions:
 - To start the planning process, they restated the City's goals.
 - They adopted a timeline and process for community engagement.
 - They set 14 goals for the Comprehensive Plan update.
- Plan will be approved early in the next City Council Term and is due in 2018.
- Nick M thanked Juana for being the BAC representative on the update.
- Nick asked how this update can lead into a Bike Master Plan update, which is also needed.
- The Comprehensive Plan update is meant to be general; Access Minneapolis will be more detailed.
- Wes D said that CPED is merging the results from the various research teams.
- In response to a question from Scott S, Wes shared that Complete Streets language is being included in the update.
- Nick was concerned about including an important international study on land use and parking that won't be wrapped up until early 2018.
- Wes said that plan should be available in online interactive form as well as a pdf.
- Nick said we'd like to stay involved and we will want to comment on the draft when it's available.

2. **5E Subcommittee** Report presented by Hilary Lovelace – ***ACTION***

- **Non-motorized Transportation Pilot Program**
 - Simon Blenski presented to the Subcommittee an evaluation of innovative bicycle treatments funded as part of the the Non-motorized Transportation Pilot Program.
 - Report is available online at: [Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program](#)
 - There was discussion about the conclusion in the report that a single sign posting a 25 MPH speed limit was not effective in reducing speeds.
 - Conclusion should not be “don't reduced speed limits,” since it is well known that reducing speeds improves safety, but rather that more comprehensive approaches are needed to reduce vehicle speeds.
 - Reducing vehicle travel lane widths to make room for bike lanes was successful.
 - We don't know yet what the other cities in the study have concluded.
 - Peter W said that if increased bicycling in the City can be linked to this funding, we should include that in the report, to show that the Pilot Program succeeded in its goal of increasing bicycling through infrastructure.
- **Greenways Study** presented by Matthew Dyrda

- Public Works is creating a document to guide Greenway discussion.
 - Document will define a Greenway and outline city policy.
 - Matthew D said Erin will present the study to the BAC again.
 - Passionate groups are using “Greenway” as a label for corridors they want approved.
 - Matthew H said he hopes the Study includes issues around closing streets to cars.
 - A Greenway could be anything from a trail to a bicycle boulevard.
- **Detours Work Group Recommendations – ACTION**
 - Working Group met 3 or 4 times. PAC Resolution presented to Subcommittee.
 - In response to a question from Juana, we learned that the work group did not consider transit.
 - Discussion on whether it should be more costly to close bus routes, including routes school buses use.
 - Matthew D said that the City is hiring consultants to check whether contractors are following city guidelines.
 - Nick made a motion to accept the Subcommittee resolution.
 - The resolution passed unanimously.
 - **“E” Reviews**
 - Evaluation will be discussed next month.
 - Discussion of Education postponed until September.

3. **Engineering Subcommittee Chair – ACTION**

- Ciara Schlichting is resigning from the BAC, so we need to fill the Ward 1 seat and need a new Engineering Subcommittee Chair.
- Nick will let us know about a happy hour to thank Ciara.
- Nick nominated Scott S to be the new Engineering Subcommittee Chair.
- Scott’s nomination was approved unanimously.
- Let Nick or Scott know if you are interested in being Subcommittee Vice Chair.
- Hilary passed around postcards to sign for Ciara.

4. **Engineering Subcommittee Report presented by Scott Snelling**

- **North Loop Pedestrian and Paving Project**
 - Project was presented to the Subcommittee by Forrest Hardy.
 - Project includes 3rd St N between 5th Av N and 9th Ave N plus some adjacent blocks.
 - The street will be paved with brick and include pedestrian bumpouts.
 - There is currently a bike lane on 5th Av N even though not on Master Plan.

5. **Ethics (continued) presented by Matthew Dyrdaahl**

- Online Ethics Course must be taken every 4 years.
- Some people still need to take the course. Matthew D will resend them the link.

6. **Annual BAC Bike Ride**

- Nick M suggested the ride include Greenways such as Milwaukee Ave.
- Ride will be concluded with a happy hour.
- Nick and Matthew D will work on a 5-10 mile route.
- Reminder to keep next month's Agenda as short as possible.

7. **Announcement**

- Nick thanked volunteers for a great Behind the Big Wheel event. It worked to be in a residential neighborhood. There was a chalked "no zone" in the driver's blind spot, so the person in the driver's seat could see people "disappear" when they walked into the "no zone." Good to have one/year in an Open Streets event.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Gepner