

BAC Annual Report
February 2011 to June 2012
(prepared August 2012)

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee was reorganized in 2010, and the new committee met for the first time in January, 2011. Since that time, the committee has established itself as a highly effective group, with two active subcommittees meeting monthly. One subcommittee considers *Engineering, Equity and Evaluation* and *Enforcement* issues, and the other considers *Education and Encouragement* issues. With the help of City Public Works staff – most notably the City’s hardworking and incredibly effective new Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator and supporting staff – we have made broad policy recommendations and dug into the details of specific infrastructure projects and proposed ordinances. Here is a list of just *some* of the successes we’ve had over the last eighteen months:

Policy Initiatives:

- Helped improve the Minneapolis Bicycle Plan and Bicycle Facility Map, and made recommendations that were adopted as the Bicycle Plan Implementation Plan
- Successfully advocated for the City to hire a full-time Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, and participated in the hiring process
- Supported a set of comprehensive bicycle parking guidelines for City worksites
- Made detailed recommendations regarding the City’s ordinance on Pedicabs, many of which were incorporated into the final ordinance language
- Voted to support the bill proposed by State Representative Phyllis Kahn to provide matching funds for a Bicycle Light Safety Pilot Program
- Supported state-level legislation on a Vulnerable User Law, Safe Routes to Schools, Mississippi River Trail State Bikeway, Electric-Assist Pedicabs, Minnesota’s SHIP Program and maintenance of federal funding
- Advocated for the City to grant encroachment permits for the Twin Cities ZAP bicycle-counter system
- Supported the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board’s RiverFIRST initiative
- Commented on the University of Minnesota’s Bike Master Plan
- Advised the City Council and other agencies on bike-related issues
- Recommended that the City pursue implementing a Bicycle Friendly Business District pilot project
- Encouraged the City to apply for a \$50,000 “Play Streets” grant from the Partnership for a Healthier America to strengthen Open Streets in Minneapolis

2012 Policy Priorities for the BAC:

Building on the recommendations of the Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Plan, the BAC is still working on three major policy initiatives in 2012:

- 1) Better City support for Open Streets events
- 2) A clear policy to allow Greenway-style facilities by closing existing low-volume streets to vehicular traffic
- 3) A Minneapolis Complete Streets Policy

New Bicycle Facilities advocated by the BAC that have been installed:

- 25th and 26th Avenues South from Riverside to the Midtown Greenway (Fall 2011)
- Bike lanes and shared-lane markings on Washington Avenue South from 12th Ave S to Cedar Avenue (Fall 2011)
- Bike lanes and shared-lane markings on a substantial section of Central Avenue Northeast (Summer 2012)

New Bicycle Facilities supported by the BAC that are underway or being considered:

- The new Intercity Regional Trail (between Lake Nokomis and the Bloomington Bridge over Highway 62)
- Installation of new on-street bicycle facilities as part of the City's resurfacing program, including:
 - Cedar Lake Road from W Chestnut Ave to Glenwood Ave
 - 1st St S from Hennepin Ave S to 3rd Ave S
 - Harmon Place from Spruce Place to 10th St S
 - Vineland Place from Bryant Ave to Hennepin Ave S
 - Johnson St NE from Broadway to 10th St SE
 - 2-way cycle-track on 36th St E and W, from Chicago Ave to Lake Calhoun
 - 60th St E from Nicollet to Chicago
- Bike lanes on Franklin Avenue to the west of Minnehaha Avenue
- Improved bicycle facilities on the Lowry Avenue Bridge, including on-street bike lanes and innovative 'slip ramps' onto the sidewalks
- A signed bicycle route on Morgan Ave SW, as part of the Penn Ave SW reconstruction project
- Bike lanes on the Upton/Sheridan corridor in Linden Hills

Improvements to bicycle facilities supported by the BAC that are underway or being considered:

- Park and Portland Avenue bike lanes to be moved to the right hand side, BAC supports making them parking protected by going from a 3-lane to a 2-lane road.
- 11th Ave S bike lanes from 8th St E to 24th St E to be widened and improved
- 11th St N bike lanes from LaSalle to 3rd Ave S to be widened and improved

Events the BAC has partnered on:

- Bike Walk Twin Cities Law Enforcement training events
- "Behind the Big Wheel"
- U of M Commercial Driver Trainings