

Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes
November 28, 2012, 4 PM – 6 PM
Room 333 Minneapolis City Hall

Members Present: Richard Anderson, Lisa Bender, Joe Bernard, Billy Binder, Marin Byrne, Bill Dooley, Ethan Fawley, Paul Frenz, Robin Garwood, Janice Gepner, Bob Hain, Matthew Hendricks, Hōkan, Joshua Houdek, Nick Mason, Gina Mitteco, Shaun Murphy, Andrew Rankin, Rose Ryan, Greg Sautter, Ciara Schlichting, Jim Skoog, Sarah Stewart, Georgianna Yantos

Members Absent: Brian Funk (excused), Roy Hallanger, Gary Nelson, Jennifer Ringold (excused), Peter Wagenius

Others Present: Ginger Cannon, David Gepner, Chris Maida

Actions

1. **For 2013**, the Bicycle Advisory Committee will continue to meet according to the previously **approved schedule** (3 E Subcommittee on the 2nd Thursday of the month, Engineering Subcommittee on the 3rd Tuesday, full BAC on the 4th Wednesday) with the following exceptions: The May 21 Engineering Subcommittee Meeting will move to May 14, and the November and December meetings will all be moved a week earlier.
2. Whereas, a Bicycle Fix-It Station is a street fixture, installed in the public right-of-way, to provide the public with tools to perform basic bicycle repairs and maintenance; and
Whereas, a Bicycle Fix-It Station is not intended for the purpose of processing, storage, sales, display or other business activities; and
Whereas, the City should encourage and support neighborhoods, organizations and businesses to provide public bicycle amenities; and
Whereas, installing a Bicycle Fix-It Station is a public amenity that encourages bicycling and supports adopted City goals for health, transportation and Livable Communities,
Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC):
That the BAC recommends that the City of Minneapolis support **encroachment permits allowing** for the installation of **Bicycle Fix-It Stations** in the public right-of-way.
3. The Bicycle Advisory Committee supports including **speed limit flexibility** as a local option in the legislative agenda.
4. The Bicycle Advisory Committee supports a contiguous bike facility along **18th Ave NE and 26th Ave N**, connecting the North and Northside, including conversion of the BNSF Bridge, and the technical assistance and planning resources required.
5. The Bicycle Advisory Committee recommends that the Minneapolis City Council accept the \$50,000 Play Streets grant from the Partnership for a Healthier America to organize **four Open Streets events in 2013**. The BAC further recommends that the City formally cosponsor the 2013 Open Streets events, and commit to covering the infrastructure costs of

those events, including barricades, traffic direction, signage, waste and recycling service and permit fees.

6. The Bicycle Advisory Committee recommends adoption of the **Climate Action Plan** and supports adoption of a bicycle mode share goal of 15 percent for 2025. The BAC supports and recommends adoption of implementation steps identified in the Climate Action Plan to increase opportunities for bicycling in order to meet that goal.
7. The Bicycle Advisory Committee passed three resolutions relating to the reconstruction of **15th Ave S/S 4th St** near Cedar/Riverside:
 - A) The Bicycle Advisory Committee supports a dedicated bicycle lane on **15th Ave S** from S 4th St to S 6th St with a similar design as that recommended for S 4th St, and a mid block pedestrian crossing bump out. The BAC further recommends, in keeping with the adopted Access Minneapolis Design Guidelines for Streets and Sidewalks, that the parking lanes be reduced to seven feet wide and the driving lanes be reduced to nine feet wide, for a 7'-6'-9'-9'-6'-7' section. This change to the plans proposed will balance bicyclists' need for a dedicated bicycle lane with pedestrians' desire to narrow the roadway rather than widening it. It is also recommended that an appropriate bicycle facility connect this section of 15th Ave S to the Hiawatha Bike Trail.
 - B) The Bicycle Advisory Committee supports the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plaza planned for **16th Ave S** south of S 6th St.
 - C) The Bicycle Advisory Committee supports a dedicated bicycle lane on **S 4th St** between 15th Ave S and Riverside which would have a similar layout to that on Riverside: concrete bike lane and parking lane (with similar gutter pans), next to an asphalt road.
8. The Bicycle Advisory Committee resolves that Hennepin County and the city of Minneapolis should plan for and install a **signalized crossing at the Greenway entrance at Park Avenue** as soon as possible and to set a timetable for the installation of this signalized crossing. Since the newly installed bike lanes on Park are now on the right side of the street, crossings between the Greenway and the bike lanes are across three traffic lanes.
9. The Bicycle Advisory Committee **recommends that the city of Minneapolis fund** the North Minneapolis Greenway as our highest priority, and also create a \$500,000 Cycle Track Fund to fund projects such as 10th Ave SE/19th Ave S, 26th & 28th Sts, 7th & 8th Sts downtown, Blaisdell Ave S, the Loring Greenway connection, 1st Ave N, and W 36th St between Kings Hwy and Park Av.
10. The Bicycle Advisory Committee supports enhanced **funding for bicycle safety** and Safe Routes to Schools within the Public Works traffic capital fund, and dedicated funding for bicycle detection at activated traffic signals.

11. Whereas, the Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) will provide an environmentally friendly and cost effective mobility option in the Twin Cities region; and
Whereas, the locally preferred alternative (LPA), in the City of Minneapolis primarily utilizes Hennepin County Railroad Authority (HCRA) Right-of-Way (ROW); and
Whereas, high quality bicycle facilities already exist within HCRA ROW; and
Whereas, the **Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) Draft Environmental Impact Statement** (SW LRT DEIS) identifies that existing bicycle facilities can coexist with Southwest Light Rail in HCRRAROW; and
Whereas, providing bicycle connections to Southwest Light Rail stations is key in integrating regional mobility,
Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC):
That the BAC **supports City of Minneapolis Bicycle and Pedestrian Staff Comments** on the SW LRT DEIS **with the following additions:**
At Royalston Ave, the BAC supports an enhanced bicycle connection between the Cedar Lake Trail and the LRT station; and
At Van White Boulevard, the BAC supports a bicycle connection between the Luce Line Trail, located southeast of the LRT station, and the LRT station; and
At Penn Ave, the BAC supports a bicycle connection between Bryn Mawr Meadows area and the LRT station; and
At Lake Street, the BAC supports a bicycle connection between the existing trail and the LRT station; and
At all stations, the BAC supports station designs that accommodate bicycles and provide bicycle amenities; and
The BAC encourages Hennepin County and the Metropolitan Council to study pedestrian and bicycle at grade freight rail crossings along the corridor to identify improvements or new crossings that may be necessary.

Summaries of Discussions

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm and initially chaired by Ciara Schlichting. Nick Mason took over as chair starting from the discussion of 18th Av NE/26th Ave N Greenway. Following introductions, the Agenda was revised to include the addition of an Open Streets Action Item from Robin Garwood and a discussion of the 18th Av NE/26th Ave N Greenway led by Council Member Kevin Reich. The revised Agenda and the Minutes from the October 24 meeting were unanimously approved.

1. **2013 BAC Meeting Schedule** presented by Shaun Murphy – **ACTION**
 - Full BAC and Subcommittees will continue to meet according to the previously approved schedule: 3 E Subcommittee on the 2nd Thursday of the month, Engineering Subcommittee on the 3rd Tuesday, full BAC on the 4th Wednesday.
 - Exceptions due to holidays and the vagaries of the calendar:
 - The May 21 Engineering Subcommittee Meeting will move to May 14.
 - The November and December meetings will all be moved a week earlier.
 - The proposed calendar for 2013 was adopted unanimously.

2. **Education, Encouragement, and Enforcement Subcommittee Report** led by Andrew Rankin – **ACTIONS**

- **Pedal Car Ordinance.** The second revision of an ordinance on pedal cars (Pedal Pubs) as recommended by Business Licensing will be an action item in January.
- **Fix-It Station – ACTION**
 - Birchwood Café would like to add a fix-it station on the boulevard in front of their business. They were denied an encroachment permit and will appeal.
 - The Subcommittee passed a resolution supporting encroachment permits for fix-it stations. The full BAC unanimously approved the resolution.
- **Complete Streets Policy** update from Sarah Stewart.
 - There will be a full day workshop to formalize city policy and implementation on this issue on Dec 11.
 - Approximately 30 people will attend, representing many city departments, and including several BAC members.
 - Workshop will be facilitated by 2 national experts.
 - Smaller group will follow up on recommendations. Goal is to have a draft document by early winter.
- **Bike-Related Legislative Items** presented by Shaun Murphy.
 - City preparing legislative items to submit to its lobbyists.
 - Key bike-related items were supporting more flexibility on lane widths and supporting funding for bicycle infrastructure.
 - Other issues include clarifying that motorists must yield to bikes in green lanes, prohibiting parking in bike lanes, and allowing cities flexibility on speed limits.
 - Our representative is Pierre Woulet and Shaun suggested he come to a BAC meeting.
 - Changing speed limits is controversial. Current wording from IGR enables changes that make streets safer for bicyclists and pedestrians but doesn't mention speed limits specifically.
 - Greg Sautter pointed out that this vague language is good for bicyclists.
 - Billy Binder made a motion that the BAC support including speed limit flexibility as a local option in the legislative agenda. The motion passed unanimously with abstentions from Gina Mitteco, Lisa Bender and Rose Ryan. – **ACTION**

3. **18th Ave NE/26th Ave N Greenway** Vision led by Council Member Kevin Reich – **ACTION**

- There has long been a plan to unite 18th Av NE and 26th Av N across the river.
- Progress made in sections as money available.
- Phase 1: 18th Ave NE implemented as a CLIC project in 2010.
- Phase 2 is section from Monroe St NE to Johnson St NE which is scheduled for 2017.
- "Hidden" bike facility added when work done on Quarry. Now being improved: stretch from Highway 88 almost to Johnson St.
- Hope to convert rail bridge for bikes and pedestrians. Not used by rail much.
- We can help by helping to lobby for financial and professional resources.
- Ciara made a motion that we support a contiguous bike facility along 18th Ave NE and 26th Ave N, connecting the North and Northside, including conversion of the BNSF bridge and the technical assistance and planning resources required. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. **Open Streets** resolution presented by Robin Garwood – ***ACTION***
- City was awarded a \$50,000 Play Streets grant from the Partnership for a Healthier America towards organizing four Open Streets events in 2013.
 - Grant must be formally accepted by the city.
 - City should agree to co-sponsor Open Streets events by providing needed logistics.
 - To be considered at December 4 Public Works Transportation Committee meeting.
 - Possible locations for Open Streets events:
 - Will probably continue at Lyndale Ave and Lowry Ave N
 - Possible NE options: Central (MnDOT road), Johnson St NE, 13th Ave
 - South Minneapolis: tons of options including Cedar, Bloomington, Chicago, E Lake, Minnehaha, Franklin.
 - Previous events were great for business so that argues for choosing a commercial corridor.
 - Robin made a motion that the BAC recommend the grant be accepted and that the city agree to formally cosponsor four Open Streets events in 2013. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **Engineering Subcommittee** Report from Lisa Bender – ***ACTIONS***
- Lisa's resolution to support the city **Climate Action Plan** passed unanimously with little discussion. – ***ACTION***
 - City and County staff presented lists of **repaving projects** scheduled for **2013**. These projects will be discussed at next month's Engineering Subcommittee meeting, so attend if you're interested.
 - Reconstruction of **15th Ave S** from S 4th St to S 6th St:
 - Resolution presented is slightly different from the one discussed at the Subcommittee meeting to make it consistent with pedestrian recommendations.
 - The proposed resolution to support a dedicated bicycle lane was passed unanimously with one abstention from Joe Bernard. – ***ACTION***
 - **Bicycle/Pedestrian Plaza at 6th Ave S** south of 6th St
 - 6th Ave S south of 6th St is a small dead end heavily used by pedestrians to access the station.
 - Proposed plaza would remove 10 parking spaces.
 - Greg Sautter said to check language in right-of-way.
 - The resolution supporting the planned plaza passed unanimously with an abstention from Joe B. – ***ACTION***
 - The resolution to support a dedicated bicycle lane on **S 4th St** between 15th Ave S and Riverside with a similar layout to Riverside was passed unanimously with an abstention from Joe B. – ***ACTION***
 - Paul Frenz explained the motion to support a **signalized crossing at the intersection of Park Avenue and the Midtown Greenway**.
 - During morning rush hour it could be impossible to cross the intersection.
 - The County is considering a signalizing crossing but hasn't said when.
 - The proposed resolution supporting a signalized crossing as soon as possible was passed unanimously. – ***ACTION***
 - **Cycle Tracks/Capital Improvement Program Recommendations**

- Criteria and process for selecting streets for cycle tracks is in progress but recommendations needed now to be included in CLIC for 2018.
- Draft cycle track map distributed and will be discussed at next month's subcommittee meeting.
- Branding of cycle tracks discussed: "cycle tracks," "multi-use trails," "bicycle express ways." How do we express they are for protection, comfort, safety?
- Proposed motion to recommend funding the North Minneapolis Greenway and a \$500,000 Cycle Track Fund was passed unanimously with an abstention from Gina Mitteco. – ***ACTION***
- **Funding for Bicycle Safety – *ACTION***
 - City staff proposed a resolution that we support city funding dedicated for bike safety programs and infrastructure.
 - The Pedestrian Advisory Committee passed a similar resolution.
 - The proposed resolution was passed unanimously.
- **Southwest LRT Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SW LRT DEIS) – *ACTION***
 - Andrew reviewed the SW LRT DEIS and proposed a resolution.
 - The DEIS provides for train and bicycle coexistence, keeping the same standard of trail.
 - The main concern is providing bicycle and pedestrian access to stations.
 - Shaun Murphy provided a list of bike/pedestrian related comments from Public Works staff, including CPED.
 - Ginger Cannon said Park Board comments will be on the web tomorrow.
 - Concern that there are not many pedestrian rail crossings, so neighborhoods become divided.
 - Proposed resolution was passed unanimously with an abstention from Rose Ryan.

6. Announcements

- Shaun reported that the Sabo Bridge will be closed twice for work on Xcel transmissions lines.
- Shaun announced that the Hiawatha LRT trail will tentatively open this Friday.
- Ginger reported that, if it passes tonight, the Park Board will be looking for BAC and PAC representatives on a community advisory committee looking at trails near Dean Pkwy and the west side of Cedar Lake. Let Shaun know if you are interested.
- Billy reported that the charette planning group is meeting on Friday.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Gepner.