

Minneapolis BAC Minutes
September 28, 2011, 4 PM – 6 PM
Room 333 Minneapolis City Hall

Members Present: Matthew Hendricks, Robin Garwood, Georgianna Yantos, Sarah Stewart, Brain Funk, Shaun Murphy, Nick Mason, Billy Binder, Jim Skoog, Bill Dooley, Gary Nelson, Roy Hallanger, Greg Sautter, Richard Anderson, Paul Frenz, Hōkan, Joshua Houdek, Lisa Bender, Hope Johnson, Billy Binder, Ethan Fawley, Jennifer Ringold

Members Absent: Bob Hain, Andrew Rankin, Peter Wagenius, Tim Larson, Tom Leighton

Others Present: David Peterson, Don Pflaum, Steve Mosing

The meeting was chaired by Nick Mason. After member introductions, the Agenda was approved. The Agenda and Minutes were unanimously accepted. Nick announced that the new Metro District Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner will serve as MnDOT's representative going forward.

Decisions

1. We unanimously approved a resolution to recommend the Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Plan for adoption by the City Council.
2. We unanimously approved referring Washington Avenue resurfacing project back to the Engineering Subcommittee for a more detailed review of the engineering details of the project.
3. We unanimously approved a resolution that the City Council adopt the Minneapolis plan for the Central Avenue resurfacing project managed by MnDOT.
4. We unanimously supported a resolution to support bicycle lanes in the 25th/26th S-Curve.
5. We unanimously approved referral of the River First design project to the Engineering Subcommittee.
6. We unanimously approved referring options for encouraging or requiring mirrors on commercial vehicles to the 3E subcommittee review.
7. We unanimously moved to have the 3E subcommittee review the new bicycle restrictions at the U of M along with the new U of M Bike Plan and recommend any appropriate actions to the full committee.

Summaries of Discussions

1. Steve Mosing and Shaun Murphy from DPW presented a new **Turns Yield to Bike sign**. A new sign was installed on 15th Ave. SE. The sign had to be installed quickly but now they would like feedback on the new sign design. The group generally liked the new sign design. A before and after study using video will look at the signs' impact.
2. Steve Mosing gave a brief update about the **Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator** position. There were over 100 applications. They are currently setting up interview panel in the next week or two.
3. Shaun Murphy presented improvements to **15th Ave SE conflict zones** which were painted green. There is a lot of national interest in this and this approach is likely to be standardized nationally. The 15th Ave color was put in with thermoplastic which is more expensive than paint. The city will test the durability of this to see if it is worth investing

in instead of paint and is testing other paints on streets including Hennepin Avenue and 15th Street and Lyndale Avenue. MetroTransit has received good feedback from transit operators about the colored pavement.

4. Matthew Hendricks presented the **Engineering Subcommittee Report**

- a. **Implementation Plan.** The Engineering Subcommittee and staff presented a consensus version of the Implementation Plan. There is one outstanding staff comment, on item 3.7, which requires input from another city committee. The implementation plan was unanimously recommended for adoption by the city council.
- b. Coordinating with Maintenance Projects
 - i. **Washington Avenue S.** The Engineering Subcommittee unanimously recommended putting bicycle lanes on Washington Avenue S during an upcoming maintenance project. There are some upcoming city projects that would affect bike lanes – rush hour restricted parking and a pedestrian safety project at Seven Corners. The BAC unanimously approved referring the issue back to the Engineering Subcommittee for a more detailed review of the engineering details of the project.
 - ii. Other Mill/Overlay or Sealcoat Projects
- c. **Central Avenue NE Project**

MnDOT currently recommends putting sharrows on the length of the Central Avenue maintenance project. A City of Minneapolis study recommends a combination of bike lanes and sharrows. Bike Walk Twin Cities is funding a more in-depth study of the project. MnDOT staff is showing interest in providing bicycle lanes of some kind. The BAC unanimously recommended a resolution that the City Council adopt the Minneapolis plan for Central Avenue.
- d. **Signal Retiming Project**

The City is using CMAQ funding to **re-time all 800 traffic signals** in the City. They have broken the city into three sections. They are first doing downtown, then south and finally north. The north section was placed last to allow for reopening of the bridges in the area. Green waves for bicycles were not included in the study. There is no public process planned for the study but individuals or council members can take specific concerns to the staff.
- e. **25th/26th S-Curve Bike Lanes**

The Seward neighborhood brought forward the idea of putting bike lanes on this project, which is an I35W bridge collapse maintenance project. There is currently a double left turn lane from the Riverside exit from 94 that turns into one large lane, which needs to be replaced with two 11' lanes. This leaves 4' for a bicycle lane in the southbound direction. The BAC unanimously supported a motion to support bicycle lanes in the 25th/26th S-Curve.
- f. BAC Ranking of Projects

There is a list of projects in the bicycle master plan. The BAC has been tasked with prioritizing projects. Matthew Hendricks circulated a sign-in sheet for

people who are interested in working in a group focused on how to prioritize the projects.

- g. The next Engineering Subcommittee meeting is the third Tuesday of October.
 - h. The River First design project is open for public comment. The BAC referred review of the project to the Engineering Subcommittee.
5. Nick Mason presented the **Education, Enforcement and Encouragement (3Es) Subcommittee Report**
- a. Commercial vehicle update – the subcommittee is working on a project for education about commercial vehicles due to the four fatalities in four years involving commercial vehicle crashes with bicyclists. There will be an event near the Minneapolis Animal Control with a full size semi, a school bus and a MetroTransit bus. The BAC moved to have the 3E subcommittee review options for encouraging or requiring mirrors on commercial vehicles.
 - b. Fall 2011 Bike/Walk to Work Week is next week. Next Wednesday October 5 is Bike Walk to School Day. See bikewalkmove.org for events around the metro area. Next Wednesday there will be a tour of the new facilities in downtown, including Loring Park, advisory bike lanes on 15th Street, and Hiawatha trail connection. On Thursday, 5th Street NE, 22nd Street NE bicycle boulevards and other bike routes including 18th Avenue and 8th and 5th Avenue NE. The U of M Bike Walk Center is opening tomorrow from 12-2pm.
 - c. The BAC moved to have the 3E subcommittee review the new bicycle restrictions at the U of M along with the new U of M Bike Plan and recommend any appropriate actions to the full committee.

6. Pedicab Ordinance update

A pedicab operator has raised an issue with the proposed pedicab ordinance. The 3E subcommittee proposes to hold a special meeting tomorrow, September 29, 2011 from 4-6pm at Commuter Connection near US Bank in the skyway. The new ordinance requires a disc braking system on all pedicab vehicles – one company does not use this type of brake. There are also questions about the proposed 55” width maximum. The third issue is the proposal that all pedicabs, even those that give free rides, need to be licensed.

7. Bicycle Commute Update

Our commuting to work mode share dropped in 2010 and our ranking dropped from second to fourth nationally. We have a goal of getting to 6% by 2012. We have many new bicycle facilities opening in the next two years. We have to keep focused on how we are going to reach that “interested but concerned” group of potential cyclists.

8. Announcements

- a. Mpls Health and Human Services Updates
 - i. Adventure North Bike Walk Coffee is hiring a lead mechanic and a lead program manager.

- ii. Start youth mechanic training program for ages 16-24 in the Twin Cities. Oct. 15 is the deadline.
 - iii. The Health and Human Services Department is doing a campaign called Making it Better.
- b. Park Board is starting a design process for Webber Park, 3-5 studio tomorrow, Saturday is an open house.
- c. The Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition is hosting a Joy Ride on Sunday with two routes, including a family-friendly route.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Bender.
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