

Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes
April 25, 2012, 4 PM – 6 PM
Room 333 Minneapolis City Hall

Members Present: Nick Mason, Shaun Murphy, Paul Frenz, Mariin Byrne, Gina Mitteco, Brian Funk, Roy Hallanger, Andrew Rankin, Richard Anderson, Bill Dooley, Sarah Stewart, Georgianna Yantos, Joshua Houdek, Billy Binder, Jennifer Ringold, Matthew Hendricks, Lisa Bender, Joe Bernard, Ethan Fawley, Hōkan, Jim Skoog, Janice Gepner

Members Absent: Gary Nelson, Peter Wagenius, Hope Johnson, Robin Garwood (excused), Bob Hain (excused)

Others Present: Adam Mehl

Actions

1. The Bicycle Advisory Committee approved the Minneapolis portion of the Three Rivers Park District's **Intercity Regional Trail** Master Plan provided that:
 1. the Preferred Cross Sections for Cedar Avenue and 58 Street are utilized,
 2. where a separate trail and walk is not provided, that the shared trail be increased from 10 feet to 12 feet wherever possible,
 3. a realigned entrance to Old Cedar Avenue be provided to calm traffic, and
 4. where possible a buffer be provided between Old Cedar Avenue and the trail from the 5-8 Club to the Bloomington Avenue Bridge.
2. The Bicycle Advisory Committee voted to support the encroachment permits needed for the **ZAP Twin Cities Program**. (see Appendix I for the complete resolution.)
3. The Bicycle Advisory Committee approved a resolution to **applaud** the efforts of **Lunds, Target Corporation, and Brookfield Properties** to encourage bike riding and walking to work by providing indoor bike parking, showers and clothes storage for employees in their new construction and remodeling projects in downtown Minneapolis.
4. The Bicycle Advisory Committee recommended Georgianna Yantos as our representative on the **North Minneapolis Greenway Steering Committee**.
5. The Bicycle Advisory Committee passed a motion to **thank Rebecca Gomez** for her work on Safe Routes to Schools.

Summaries of Discussions

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm and chaired by Nick Mason. The Agenda was unanimously approved. The Minutes were amended to include Shaun Murphy as present and Joshua Houdek as absent(excused) and the last bullet in Appendix IB was deleted to fix a typo. The amended Minutes were unanimously approved (thanks Lisa).

1. Status Update on Reapplying to Serve on the BAC

Terms go through May 31, so the next full BAC meeting will be the last of this term.

- Shaun Murphy gave an update for members appointed by City Council Members.
 - The deadline for applying was Friday, April 13.
 - Everyone reapplied except for Ward 1 (Hope Johnson).
 - Applications were forwarded to City Council Members.

- He has heard back from 5 and will call the others as the deadline gets closer.
- Jennifer Ringold gave an update for the Park Board representatives.
 - The deadline for applying was Friday, April 20.
 - She will forward the applications to the Park Board Commissioners.
 - The Park Board President makes the decision.

2. **Engineering, Equity, and Evaluation Subcommittee**

Lisa Bender provided an update from the Subcommittee meeting last week.

- **Intercity Regional Trail – ACTION**
 - Paul Frenz reviewed the plan and recommended approval with a few changes.
 - Billy Binder requested a map to be able to see more detail.
 - The draft resolution was approved unanimously with one abstention from Billy, until he obtains more information.
- **MnDOT Upcoming Capital Projects**
 - Gina and 2 MnDOT Engineers came to the Subcommittee meeting regarding upcoming opportunities to implement the Bike Master Plan.

Projects discussed:

- University Avenue Mill and Overlay from Central Avenue to 27th Ave NE.
- Redecking Penn and Xerxes Avenue Bridges over Highway 62.
 - Bridges can be widened by 1 foot on each side and travel lanes can be reduced from 12 to 11 feet to widen sidewalks from 5 to 8 feet.
- Complete replacement of BNSF Railroad Bridge over Central Avenue.
- **Hennepin County Reconstruction Projects**

There are mainly 4 upcoming projects for Minneapolis with approved funding:

 - Washington Ave in 2013
 - Jennifer Lowry brought us the time table.
 - BAC Members suggested removing a lane of traffic for a cycle track.
 - Minnehaha Ave in 2014 from Godfrey Pkwy to Lake St.
 - This project is probably next after Washington Ave.
 - Redecking the west end of Franklin Ave Bridge in 2014 (heading south).
 - Nick said there is currently no good way to get off the Bridge.
 - 35W/Lake St access interchange in 2015.
- **2012 County Maintenance Projects**
 - Will bring back a draft resolution after next meeting.
 - Need to address other streets besides Park and Portland.
- Subcommittee meets on Tuesday, a week and a day before the full BAC meeting.

3. **Education, Encouragement, and Enforcement Subcommittee** update from Jim Skoog.

- **Dero ZAP – ACTION**
 - Poles have to be installed downtown for this program which provides incentives for bicycling to work.
 - The BAC voted to support the needed permits. The vote was unanimous except for absentions from Nick Mason, Jennifer Ringold, and Andrew Rankin.
- **Bike Walk Twin Cities Enforcement Training Follow-up**
 - There was an enforcement training event on April 18-19 sponsored by MnDOT and Bike Walk Twin Cities.

- Only one precinct attended.
 - Next event is on May 3-4.
 - Jim will reach out to Sergeant Nelson to increase attendance.
 - **U of M Commercial Driver Curriculum**
 - There is an event tomorrow, April 26.
 - A large percentage of crashes are large vehicle-related.
 - Curriculum developed by Nick and Roy with Bike Walk Ambassadors, using Metro Transit video.
 - The key safety points are knowing your vehicle, paying attention, and being alert for bicycles.
 - Next Subcommittee Meeting on May 17 will include a discussion of the **Economic Impact of Bicycling** and a discussion of **Bicycle Friendly Business Districts**
 - Billy Binder brought up that the new Target Corp building on Nicollet Mall will include lockers, showers and indoor bike parking.
 - Jim mentioned that Brookfield Properties, the owner of City Center, this week added indoor bike parking for all tenants.
 - Billy made a motion to applaud Target Corp, Brookfield Properties and Lunds for putting in facilities that encourage bicycling and walking to work by their employees. The motion was unanimously approved – **ACTION**
 - Andrew reported that Whole Foods has not yet made a decision about employee bicycle facilities.
 - Roy suggested organizing a downtown bike ride for CEO's.
 - The topic of bike friendly awards for businesses was discussed.
4. **Women's Bike Ride** suggested by Lisa Bender
- Ride would be hosted by Council Member Meg Tuthill.
 - Ride to upcoming projects, primarily for women members of BAC and City Council but open to anyone.
 - Sarah, Janice and Nick volunteered to help organize with Lisa and Meg.
5. **North Minneapolis Greenway Steering Committee** presented by Sarah Stewart.
- Health Dept got funding to research a street greenway conversion.
 - Putting together a steering committee with people from a variety of organizations, stake holders, and residents.
 - Committee will help plan community meetings, review plans, and provide input.
 - Lots of questions to research: which street? Extent? Connections?
 - Website for project: www.tecgreenways.org.
 - The BAC unanimously approved Georgianna Yantos as our representative – **ACTION**
6. Announcements
- Nick Mason: Upcoming 3E Subcommittee Meeting is May 17. Living Green Expo will have a big Bicycle Educational Experience. Instructors needed. Twin Cities Bike Walk Week coming June 2-10 and may include a bigwheel event downtown. May is Minnesota and National Bike Month. Sign up for the National Bike Challenge at the Minnesota Bicycle Alliance or League of American Bicyclists website.

- Paul Frenz: an upcoming construction project may destroy a portion of the Cedar Lake Bike Trail. This will be discussed at the next Engineering Subcommittee meeting.
- Billy Binder: People are welcome to attend the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition Northside Community Meeting to discuss bicycling on May 3 at Victory 44 Restaurant.
- Joshua Houdek: Living Green Expo event, Sierra Club presentation on Sat at 4 pm, called "Great Transit Trips to Greenspace." They will be rolling out a map with 16 parks you can access by transit, including bicycle trips.
- Joe Bernard: Public hearing between CLIC Executive Committee and City Planning Commission on May 24 in City Hall room 319. All new CLIC proposals for the next 5 years will be discussed. Come to add public testimony.
- Ethan Fawley: Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition again hosting an Open Streets event on Lyndale Ave S from 22nd St S to 42nd St S on Sunday, June 10 from 10 am until 4 or 5 pm. To volunteer to help, contact Ethan or go online to www.openstreetsmpls.org
- Shaun Murphy: sadly announced Rebecca Gomez is leaving next Friday. She was involved in Safe Routes, teaching kids and teachers, and as Office Manager. He is looking for an intern to temporarily take over some of her roles for at least a few months.
- Lisa made a motion to thank Rebecca Gomez for her work on Safe Routes to Schools and the motion passed unanimously – ***ACTION***

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Gepner.
send comments to [janice.gepner\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:janice.gepner[at]gmail.com)

APPENDIX I: Full Text of ZAP Resolution

Supporting Encroachment Permits for the ZAP Twin Cities Program

Whereas, the Transportation Management Organization, working with Minneapolis green business Dero Bike Rack Company, has secured Non-motorized Transportation Pilot and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant funding for an innovative program called ZAP, which will automatically count participating bicyclists and make this count information available to employers; and

Whereas, ZAP readers at nine locations on the perimeter of downtown will be able to count the vast majority of bicyclists entering and leaving downtown; and

Whereas, these ZAP readers require encroachment permits in order to be placed on nine new poles; and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will have significant benefits to downtown employees who commute by bike, including enabling their employers to provide robust incentives as part of their wellness policies that will mean tangible rewards for biking to work; and,

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will also have great value for downtown employers, creating a free and easy-to-manage wellness initiative based on objective data (rather than self-reporting), reducing traffic congestion, improving employee health and productivity, and likely helping to reduce health care premiums for participating employers; and

Whereas, a ZAP cordon around downtown will obviate the need for individual employers and downtown building managers to install counter infrastructure on their own property and at their own expense; and

Whereas, the Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Plan, which was passed unanimously by the City Council, calls on the City to “support workplace bicycle commuting;” and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will meet several City goals and strategies, including “Livable Communities – Our built and natural environment adds character to our city, enhances our health and enriches our lives;” and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will have a significant impact on increasing the health of downtown employees by encouraging active commuting, and will directly impact the *Healthy Weight* Sustainability Indicator; and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will have clear environmental benefits, positively impacting the *Air Quality, Climate Change, Bicycling and Transportation Alternatives* Sustainability Indicators; and

Whereas, ZAP Twin Cities will directly benefit the City of Minneapolis by providing access to bicycle counts at nine locations that can augment the annual bicycle counts and provide needed information on weather, seasonal, and other external impacts on bicycling; and

Whereas, ZAP readers have already been installed on-street on the University of Minnesota campus, and have had no adverse effects; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances Title 5, Chapter 95.13, authorizes the City to deny encroachment permits that would “endanger the health, safety or welfare of the public or would cause hardship or damage to nearby property owners,” and the nine ZAP readers would clearly cause none of these adverse impacts; and

Whereas, the nine ZAP readers will be no more obtrusive than many other items that have been granted encroachment permits, including wireless internet nodes, cameras, banners and more, and ZAP readers would provide more public benefit than much of this already-allowed use; and

Whereas, aesthetic concerns about the ZAP readers do not outweigh the many benefits of the ZAP initiative, and even from an aesthetic perspective the ZAP Twin Cities initiative is positive, as a nine-location cordon around downtown will likely *reduce* the total number of readers installed throughout downtown; and

Therefore, Be it Resolved by the Bicycle Advisory Committee

That the Bicycle Advisory Committee strongly urges the Minneapolis Public Works Department to grant the necessary encroachment permit for nine new poles and ZAP readers.

Be it Further Resolved that, if a permit is denied by the Public Works Department, the Bicycle Advisory Committee urges the Transportation and Public Works Committee and full City Council to grant an appeal of such denial.