

**Minneapolis BAC Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday, December 18, 2013**  
**4 PM – 6 PM**  
**Minneapolis City Hall – Room 333**

1. Member Introductions and Sign-in (4:00 – 4:05)
2. Approve BAC Agenda and Minutes (4:05 – 4:10, see attachment 1)
3. Washington Avenue Update, Ethan Fawley (4:10 – 4:20)
4. Minnehaha Avenue Update, Nick Mason (4:20 – 4:30)
5. 2014 BAC Schedule, Shaun Murphy (4:30 – 4:40, see attachment 2) - **ACTION**
6. 3 E's Subcommittee, Marin Byrne (4:40 – 5:05)
  - Bicycle Detours
7. Engineering Subcommittee, Paul Frenz (5:05 – 5:30, see attachment 3)
  - County Projects
  - Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis – **ACTION**
8. Green Lane Project Update, Shaun Murphy (5:30 – 5:35)
9. Announcements (5:35 – 5:45)

**Next BAC Meetings:**

Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>: Education, Encouragement & Enforcement Subcommittee

Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>: **Engineering Subcommittee (1 week ahead of normal schedule)**

Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>: Executive Committee

Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>: Whole Committee

**Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes**  
**Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 4 PM – 6 PM**  
**Room 333 Minneapolis City Hall**

**Members Present:** Richard Anderson, Joe Bernard, Billy Binder, Marin Byrne, Ginger Cannon (for Jennifer Ringold), Bill Dooley, Ethan Fawley, Paul Frenz, Robin Garwood, Janice Gepner, Bob Hain, Roy Hallanger, Matthew Hendricks, Hōkan, Joshua Houdek, Nick Mason, Shaun Murphy, Greg Sautter, Ciara Schlichting, Sarah Stewart

**Members Absent:** Lisa Bender, Brian Funk, Jessica Hill, Gina Mitteco (excused), Gary Nelson, Rose Ryan, Jennifer Ringold (excused), Jim Skoog, Peter Wagenius, Georgianna Yantos

**Others Present:** Simon Blenski, David Peterson

**Actions**

1. The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee approved the **2014 BAC Meeting Calendar** presented by Shaun Murphy and will revisit it after the new BAC members are appointed in June.
2. The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee approved a resolution that the City regulations on **bicycle lane closures** should include a provision that typical bike lane closures include a sign saying “Bicycles may use the full lane.”
3. It is hereby resolved that:  
The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee **supports enhanced bus service on Lake St and adding rail transit in the Midtown Greenway** if it is designed to minimize impacts to the bicycle and pedestrian trail and the aesthetics of the Greenway. It is important to have rail designed to enhance the quality of place and safety in the Greenway, including:
  - rail tracks embedded in grass if possible;
  - as much single-track rail as possible;
  - as few impacts on the width of the trail as possible;
  - as few negative impacts on greenspace as possible and opportunities to improve the greenspace;
  - smart station-area design to minimize or eliminate locations where pedestrians are required to cross the bicycle trail to access the station.
4. The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee appointed Matthew Hendricks as the BAC representative to review the city’s application to the **Green Lane Project**.

## Summaries of Discussions

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm and was chaired by Nick Mason. Following brief member introductions, the Agenda and November Minutes were accepted unanimously.

1. **Minnehaha Avenue Update** from Nick.

- Several BAC members expressed sadness that protected bike lanes on Minnehaha were not approved.
- Minnehaha will have the County's best bike lanes to date.
- Joint letter sent to the County from the BAC, Sierra Club, and Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition supporting the project and saying it was time to move forward.
- Lots of work went into the effort for protected bike lanes.
- The letter received positive feedback from some elected officials.
- Billy Binder did not agree with the letter; Bob Hain appreciated the letter.

2. **Washington Avenue Update** from Ethan Fawley.

- County board approved re-design of Washington Avenue that includes protected bike lanes and increased sidewalk area and green space.
- This is an important step forward, represents significant progress, and reflects lots of advocacy work.
- Decision supported by Minneapolis, Minnetonka and Edina Councilors and was applauded by the Downtown Council.
- Approved plan is most similar to "Option 3A:" a 6 lane road with long right turn lanes westbound and bumpouts reducing crossing distance, possible green space where shorter turn lanes needed, a protected bike lane adjacent to the roadway with a 2 foot buffer, and a green "furniture" zone adjacent to a sidewalk area that is 25-33% larger than today.
- PAC representative would have liked more and said he wasn't kept up to date.
- Scheduled for 2015 as long as city provides municipal consent.
- Includes section of Washington Ave from 5<sup>th</sup> Av S to Hennepin; section from 5<sup>th</sup> Ave to 35W may be added soon.
- Hōkan said that we still have to make sure it's done right.
- Joe Bernard said that CPED would like to see a formal project for the North Loop section.
- Paper and markers were passed around so people could thank County staff.

3. **2014 BAC Schedule** presented by Shaun Murphy – ***ACTION***

- Shaun presented a chart of all BAC meeting dates for 2014.
- All meetings a week earlier in November and December to avoid Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- A few other meetings moved to keep sequence when the month starts on a Wed. November meeting date changed to avoid Veterans Day.
- BAC membership may change in June; calendar can be revised then or at any point.
- Robin moved that we approve the suggested calendar and revisit it when the new BAC year starts in June.
- The motion was unanimously approved.

4. **3 E Subcommittee Update: Bicycle Detours** presented by Marin Byrne – ***ACTION***

- Simon Blenski and Doug Maday explained to the Subcommittee that lane closures are handled on a case by case basis.
- Bicycle detours have not been heavily used in the past.
- Contractors apply for permits to close bike lanes and sidewalks. They pay \$1/linear foot/day for bike lanes and \$0.25/linear foot/day for sidewalks. Organizations like Xcel and CenterPoint Energy don't apply for permits but have a "franchise agreement".
- There has not been a charge for bike ramp closures but that will change because of the Bryant Avenue ramp.
- Report all concerns by calling 3-1-1 or telling Doug or Simon.
- There have been no standard regulations on closing bike lanes. City is developing instructions and a copy of a first draft was passed around.
- Discussion of how bike lane closures are perceived. Do cars need to be reminded to share the road? Should bike lane closure signs be paired with "Share the Road" signs?
- There was discussion on whether the city could charge more for extended closures.
- Extended closure of Hiawatha near downtown discussed. Facility controlled by Met Transit. To complain about that, contact the Project Manager, Dan Soler.
- Bob Hain made a motion that typical bike lane closures should include a sign saying "Bicycles may use the full lane."
- The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Engineering Subcommittee** Report from Paul Frenz.

- **Hennepin County Projects**
  - Rose Ryan discussed County 2014 repaving projects, highlighting two that involve bicycle infrastructure: Franklin Ave from 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Av and 46<sup>th</sup> St from Lyndale to Cedar.
  - Franklin Ave project includes intersection with Minnehaha and Cedar.
  - There are advisory bike lanes on 46<sup>th</sup> St west of this project.
  - Important to stay informed as County's plans develop.
- **Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis – *ACTION***
  - Midtown Greenway Coalition prepared a resolution and Ethan presented one that is similar to theirs but a little simpler.
  - Goal is to minimize impacts of Midtown Corridor transit on bike and pedestrian trails.
  - Recommendation that rail tracks are embedded in grass to make them quieter and more attractive. Greenway should remain green.
  - Discussion on how specific to make our recommendations.
  - Joe Bernard passed around a proposal for additional opportunities for "green."
  - Greg Sautter pointed out that the Greenway is an historic district as an industrial transportation corridor.
  - Metro transit leaning toward light rail but Greenway Coalition prefers streetcar.
  - We should make sure it's clear that we also support enhanced bus on Lake St.
  - Transit on Greenway helps bicycling if more use makes Greenway safer.
  - The resolution was slightly modified and passed unanimously with abstentions from Joe Bernard and Ginger Cannon.

6. **Green Lane Project Update** from Shaun Murphy – *ACTION*

- Public Works is applying to be one of 6 cities in the US to join the project.
- 6 cities are already part of the Green Lane Project.
- Being involved in the project mostly provides educational resources and facilitates sharing ideas, expertise and resources with the other cities.
- As part of the application, 4 projects with likely funding in the next year must be identified. Probably included: 36<sup>th</sup> St W near Lake Calhoun, Broadway St NE between Industrial and Stinson, 26<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Sts between Portland and Hiawatha and 26<sup>th</sup> Ave N between Theodore Wirth Pkwy and Broadway and between Lyndale and the river.
- Shaun asked for a BAC representative to look over the application.
- The County was asked to provide written support for the application.
- Matthew Hendricks was unanimously selected as the BAC representative to read the application.

7. **Transportation Alternatives Program** presented by Shaun.

- The Met Council just released a solicitation for this program.
- Shaun is currently working on something to bring to the Engineering Subcommittee in January.
- Let Shaun know if you have bicycle project suggestions for the program.
- He will be looking at the Bike Master Plan and BAC suggestions for CIP for ideas.
- Quick time frame. Suggestions to City Council in January.
- They will be funding bike, pedestrian and Safe Routes projects for 2017 for \$100,000 to \$1 million. Also Safe Routes solicitation for 2015-2016.
- Total of \$6 million available from the federal Transportation Bill.

8. **Announcements**

- Robin Garwood: “Northside” and “Greenway.”
- Shaun has been able to hire three additional permanent staff: Simon Blenski as bicycle planner, Forrest Hardy as bicycle/pedestrian planner for youth and seniors, and Mackenzie Turner as pedestrian planner.
- Robin reported that the state budget has several capital improvement projects for Minneapolis that are good for bicycling, including a Hiawatha lighting project, Minnehaha reconstruction in 2015 between 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> St E, as well as others.
- Robin said that next year the city will provide \$75,000 for in-kind work for 6 Open Streets events (up from \$50,000 this year).
- Robin mentioned Mayor Rybak’s “Unauguration” taking place after the BAC meeting at First Avenue. Roy Hallanger pointed out it’s a fundraiser for Step Up.
- Ethan Fawley listed the streets being considered for 2014 Open Streets events. They include the following: Nicollet Mall downtown as part of Bike-to-Work Day, Franklin Av from Portland to Seward Coop, Chicago Av south of Lake St, Nicollet Av south of Lake St, maybe Lyndale Av S, N Minneapolis Greenway route, Lowry Av N, Hennepin Av downtown, Central Av NE near Surdyks. The decision will be made by the Bike Coalition and the City in late January/early February.

- Matthew Hendricks: an Open Streets event on the N Minneapolis Greenway route would greatly help support outreach and increase awareness.
- Paul Frenz: Portland Av from 60<sup>th</sup> St to 62 still on Hennepin County BAC agenda.
- Billy Binder: County project on 46<sup>th</sup> St from Hiawatha Golf Course to 35W has great potential for protected bike lanes. Also, Rose's job is now posted.
- Ethan: the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition is working with the city on Twin Cities Bike Week which will likely be around May 5 – 9 and include a Bike-to-School Day.
- Joshua Houdek: encouraged members to call 3-1-1 regarding snow removal, detours (such as the Hiawatha trail) and lighting issues (such as 19<sup>th</sup> Ave bridge). He has found the city to be responsive.
- Nick: reminded everyone to get in touch with their appointing representative so they can be reappointed to the BAC. Appointments get launched in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Gepner.

## Proposed Resolution

It is hereby resolved that:

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee supports adding rail transit in the Midtown Greenway if it is designed to minimize impacts to the bicycle and pedestrian trail and the aesthetics of the Greenway. It is important to have rail designed to enhance the quality of place in the Greenway, including:

- rail tracks embedded in grass;
- as much single-track rail as possible;
- as few impacts on the width of the trail as possible;
- as few impacts on greenspace as possible;
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