

## Bike/Ped Task Force Minutes 10/28/04

Present: Tom Redinger, John Chmelik, Elizabeth Teague, MPO Transportation Planner, Terri March, Liina Laufer, Warren Wilson College, Kristopher Hinz, Monica Koerschner, Michael Koerschner, Blake Esselstyn, Urban Planner 2 for City of Asheville, Tim Putnam, UNCA Intern, Jeff Frasier Asheville High student, Joseph Viola, Margaret Viola, Paul Endry, Cathy Hohenstein, Vicki Rowe-Currence, James Latimore, Anthony Butzek, City Transportation Engineer, Tony Hauser, Claudia Nix

This was one of the largest meetings we've had in awhile. It was great to see everyone. Our next meeting will have to be Thurs, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> to avoid Thanksgiving.

Our guest speaker was Anthony Butzek, Transportation Engineer for Asheville. He explained the new traffic plans for downtown especially those around the city/county plaza. They include pedestrian friendly and bicycle friendly designs. Eventually the pull in parking is planned to be changed to back in but the city council was unsure about making too many changes all at once.

Claudia brought the public service announcement about sharing the roadway with bicycles for all to see. Several folks have seen the PSA already or have had friends who have seen it. It was suggested that we contact Target as well as Wal-mart for grant funding for next spring. An application has already been made with Pepsi Cola.

Elizabeth brought us up to date on the Long Range Transportation Plans which are done every 25 years. The Task Force does have a representative on this committee. There will be a public workshop December 2 at Public Works Office on Charlotte St. She encourages all to attend. December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the deadline for the planning grant. It is a matching funds grant so we will have to come up with money if we are accepted.

The Strive Not to Drive group has begun their planning and welcomes participants to help plan. The next meeting will be Friday, Nov. 19 at 8:30 AM in west Asheville at the West End Bakery. UNCA will be hosting the film festival for SNTD. In the past we have had the Golden Spoke & Golden Sneaker or Wheel award. We need to begin thinking about who we want to nominate for the award.

Terri March reported on Walk to School Day which took part Oct 6<sup>th</sup>. We had good participation although the committee was not as involved with each school. We are encouraging the schools to now do it on their own. Asheville High had a great turn out again. The Merrimon Avenue Corridor assessment will be done on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 1PM. We are looking for many volunteers to get as much as possible done that day. Our results will go to the city and be incorporated into the pedestrian plan and the bike plan.

Tim Putnam reported on UNCA's plan for another bike to school day that they will tie in with SNTD – bike day. They hope to work with our Task Force and SNTD committee.

Liina Laufer reported on efforts at Warren Wilson to make the campus more bike friendly. They are doing a lot already to be energy aware.

We welcome participation for the schools and are glad to have representatives with us.

Monica brought a copy of the incident report form. She is looking for more input from the committee. She, Elizabeth and Claudia plan to have a meeting with the police department to strengthen up a working agreement with them and get their assistance on data.

There was discussion on other grants we can apply for such as one from DAQ. We will invite their new employee to meet with us.