

## Minutes June 23, 2011 Bike /Ped Task Force

**Vision:** For Asheville to be a community of connected pathways that is healthy, safe and accessible for people of all ages.

**Mission:** To educate the public about bicycle and pedestrian transportation. To advocate for the development and maintenance of safe, convenient and inter-connected facilities. To promote the benefits of walking and biking for individuals and community health.

**Present:** Kris Hinz, Tom Redinger, Grace Curry, Calette Cornwin Transition Asheville, Claudia Nix, Terri March, Don Kostelec, Lyuba Zuyeva, Jim Grode, Paul Endry.

Kris talked about the possibility of doing a blog for the task force to help with improving communication and saving us time at our meetings.

### Old Business:

- Task Force Goals for 2011
  - Survey update – Terri March We had 25 responses and they appear on the summary that Terri put together. They appear below in ranking order. 1. Connecting the missing links on facilities in the community. 2. Developing a wayfinding signage project. 3. Field verification of the sidewalk map. 4. Continuing the National Counting project 5. Do at least one safety audit on an area or corridor. 6. Complete a bike friendly application 7. Check the signage on the neighborhood bike loops. 8. Begin walk friendly application. 9. Develop and carry at least one ped education activity. 10.
  - These goals will last for the next 18 months.
  - Don would like to help with the bike friendly application. Need to document the information for all applications so we'll have the information and perhaps store on our web site so others can assess the information when needed. Kris talk with Lee Pirtle to see if something easy to use can be set up on web site.
  - Big picture goal getting at least a Bronze Rating in 2012.
  - Need to address connectivity and signage
  - Education- Kris and Lyuba will be doing the LCI training in July in Atlanta.

- Gary Jackson will be convening a staff committee to work on Bike Friendly status. We agree since we've got staff on board this needs to be a high priority so we can take advantage of this.

- Enforcement – needs some dedicate attention and need more dedicated work to improve our situations. Improving the documentation of their work and what they are doing.

- Task force update communication tools & resources

  - Blog, etc. internal

  - External communication – perhaps have a facebook page for getting information out to the community i.e. DOT Complete Street project and make comments and Google Groups.

- Walk friendly application and bronze rating in 2012 or 13

  - Documentation, projects

  - Documentation Project – Let's ID 10 or 15 benchmark areas we want to document each year. Then we can also just do the streamline counts rather than the whole thing. Perhaps doing it in the summer or seasonal counts and continue Sept to cast our nets.

  - Bike/walk assessments

    - List & strategy

    - Document archives

    - Lyuba mentioned the MPO is considering purchasing counters (Eco Counters) perhaps they can be used with counting project.

    - We need someone from TDA to partner with us.

- New Traffic engineer for city has hired Jeff Moore coming from NC DOT who is interested in all modes. Barb suggests that we write a letter to Anna Henderson to be sure we don't lose a contact with NC DOT on Beecham Curve. He will start July 11<sup>th</sup>. Maybe we should invite him to attend and do an engineering 101 for us. After his calendar is put on the board we will try to set up a meeting to discuss our Haywood Road safety audit.

- Setup project team to work on bike friendly community application

  - Establish project team (members, roles) A group of 3 or 6 people – Lyuba, Don, Terri, Claudia, Zac Altimer should be invited to participate, Kris, Barb – Jim would meet when there are questions on the Asheville greenways.

- Don, Lyuba Kris and Barb should meet review the previous application and discuss new one. They will meet on Thurs, July 7<sup>th</sup> for their initial meeting at the Wedge at 7pm.
- Tentative meeting schedule & milestone dates
- “next steps” prior to first project meeting
- NC DOT has completed chapters 1-4 of Complete Streets Policy and is to be open for comments. We would like to get comments from this group and they can attend the Complete Streets meeting July 7<sup>th</sup> 11am at the Interchange Bldg.

### **New Business:**

- ABPTF – interim leadership discussion. We may want to think about a rotating chair.
- Sunday Parkway project – Lyuba Zuveya Last year Atlanta held two last year. The first one held in Atlanta last summer got 6,000 people. Do we want to start thinking about putting on one of these event?. Highest cost is the police during their off duty time. We think the River District would be a good area and to do it in September perhaps 2012. Heady Fisher is the owner of Pink Dog down in the River District. Perhaps she can be drawn into putting this on.
- Bike Locker drawings – program discussion
  - Need/want to continue? We think it is a good idea just needs better executed. Terri suggested contacting Michael Sule to see which event would be best to do this.
  - How generate more interest/participation?

City brush & leaf collection program city staff wants our support - see information below. We agreed to support the new process and suggest it is a good opportunity to educate the public on recycling and composting to keep sidewalks & street clear of debris for walkers and bikers. We also suggest they make their pickup more timely than in the past.

### **Update:**

**Update on Emma sidewalk** We've over come another road block because the county will maintain the Emma sidewalk.

**Asheville Greenway Commission** –The Greenway master plan doesn't include all the things that are potential greenways. The concepts will be in a real document later this summer they will have a public hearing for potential new greenway segments. Smith Mill Creek is one. Will be adding things to the unplanned segment of the CIP. This will be on July 14 at 3:30PM

A block of South Lexington has just been resurfaced and will have an extension of the climbing lane. This is the section between Aston and Patton.

Don mentioned that the DOT has redesigned the walk time at Pritchard Park so the ped signal only gets about 50% of the walk time because the stop hand is coming up too soon. The utility cut on Riverside Dr. in front Silver Line has a cut a 4Ft. strip to do a utility cut in the pavement and runs parallel along the roadway which is very dangerous for bikes.

### **Changes made to City of Asheville brush and leaf collection program**

ASHEVILLE – In an effort to address community concerns, conserve costs and improve water quality, changes to the brush and leaf collection program were submitted as part of the budget which was adopted by City Council on May 24.

Beginning July 1, the frequency of brush and bagged leaf collection will change from once per month to twice per month.

Monday and Tuesday trash customers will have brush collected the first and third week of each month. Brush for Wednesday and Thursday trash customers will be collected the second and fourth week of the month.

Brush collection will continue to occur on a scheduled week and not a specific day. Residents should make sure brush is out for collection by 7 a.m. on the Monday of their collection week. Brush should be cut to four feet in length and six inches in diameter. Crews ask that residents do not mix trash, debris, garden waste, weeds, vines, construction materials, leaves or dirt with their brush or bagged leaves. For the safety of crews, thorny trimmings should be placed in a separate pile. Visit the city's blog <http://coablog.ashevillenc.gov/> in the coming week for a video outlining appropriate brush pile content and placement.

Another change will be the elimination of loose leaf collection by vacuum trucks. Beginning July 1, all leaves must be bagged for collection. The city will provide large leaf bags to residents on a first come first served basis; bags will be available at local fire stations in October. Director of Public Works Cathy Ball shares, "moving to bagged leaf collection only will both save money and help improve water quality since loose leaves often clog storm drains."

Revised brush and bagged leaves collection schedules will be mailed to residents within the next two weeks. New schedules can also be viewed and downloaded on the city's website at [www.ashevillenc.gov/sanitation](http://www.ashevillenc.gov/sanitation).

For further information contact the City of Asheville at 251-1122 or visit [www.ashevillenc.gov/sanitation](http://www.ashevillenc.gov/sanitation).

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