

Minutes from April 25, 2013 meeting Asheville NC Bike /Pedestrian 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.

Introductions:

- All participants – brief intro
Tyler Radford, Chris Byers, Amber Summerow, Curtis Jones, Jonathan Derrick, Janet Barlow, Terri March, Grace Curry, Kristina Solberg, Barb Mee, Claudia Nix, Till Dohse, Bryan Mitchell, Kristine Oblock

Old Business:

- February ABPTF meeting minutes (were not distributed)??
- March minutes were distributed, reviewed, and approved

New Business:

Bike/Ped Task Force “Leadership 2.0” committee structure & matrix

Outline document review & “volunteers/nominees” – looking for volunteers in different areas; email Barb or Chris

Multi-modal transportation commission: Have been asked to recommend 3 Task Force representatives to this commission; NOTE: these must be Asheville city residents, officially appointed by the Council; will have to fill out an application and will see who’s appointed. Expect it to be a couple of hours a month for meetings, plus some time involvement in committees, etc. Claudia Nix, Terri March, and Till Dohse expressed interest in possibly being involved, concerned about time commitments and scheduling

Bike Friendly Community feedback + “Bike There 2016” campaign

Claudia reviewed some of the feedback and discussed issues with timing of getting bike lanes or other facilities on the primary routes

AVL “Primary Corridor” assessment w/ NCDOT Div 13; Concerns expressed that infrastructure timeline for DOT construction is much longer than time frame for 2016; unlikely to get bike lanes or sidewalks on DOT routes within that time. Officer Jones suggested that possible lane closures might help with bike travel during the weekend of events of Cyclocross 2016; something like that can really help to show that we’re trying to provide access; Can we address where people might be staying and how they might be traveling to the event venue and get info to DOT and police, etc. to get more info about what might be happening? May want to talk to Sgt Joe Johnson who does all of the special event planning for police about possibilities

Quality Bicycle Products “Field Trip” to MPLS

Distributor of bicycle equipment – have offered to host a field trip for city officials, cross-section of individuals (some from Asheville and some from Henderson County), airplane to

Minneapolis, train to town from airport, bike ride on shared ride bikes, looking at facilities, meeting with counterparts in Minneapolis; some officials aren't able to take part due to ethics issues because they can't accept gifts;

Walk Friendly Community – 2013/14 application update

Committee is working on the Walk Friendly Community application which is due June 15. Will focus on it in the next month and get something submitted for this round. Contact Janet (jmbarlow@accessforblind.org) for more information and/or if you want to help

Strive Not To Drive – general update – all should be on the www.strivenottodrive.org web site

Scheduled for May 12 – 18, Lots of activities planned; Bus fare for the week is 25 cents
Monday 5:30 leadership ride

Tuesday morning will be Asheville Rumbler Bike, Car and Bus Race, and city council members will take part; Jan Davis (car), Gordon Smith (bus) and Marc Hunt (bike); expecting media, etc.

Wed : Ride of Silence to honor individuals injured or killed while riding bikes; meeting at old health department at 25 Woodfin

Friday – Bike to Work Day, breakfast stations on Haywood Rd in West Asheville, River District, and Lexington under bridges for all commuters; Downtown after 5 with Bike Corral

Saturday – Green Building bike tour will ride through town visiting different locations

Sunday – Joy Ride for YMCA to raise money

Asheville Police/Fire/Rescue – general announcements

Upcoming events & activities

Did a ped decoy activity at Merriman and 240 in April; 14 manhours, 26 citations; goal is not to just write tickets, mainly want to educate public, both drivers and pedestrians

Will be doing another activity on Thursday, May 15 downtown; Being held every third Thursday in different areas of the city

A number of new crosswalks have been added; signals at Louisiana and Patton and crosswalks have been added + crosswalks at a number of other locations

June 8th – bike rodeo at Shiloh Community Center; officer suggested contacting SafeKidsWNC

Buncombe Bike Ed – general updates

Looking for new place to hold classes; need meeting room and large parking lot to practice in; several ideas were shared

French Broad MPO – updates (Lyuba Z. not in attendance)

Asheville/Buncombe – updates from Barb Mee

Complete Streets Workshop will be held in early June, focusing on implementing Complete Streets and the Asheville complete streets policy. There will be two events:

- June 3rd - Lenoir-Rhyne/Chamber of Commerce building 5:30 – 7:30; discussion for general public
- June 4th - Full day workshop for selected group of people

Contracting for sharrows for North Asheville on Flint St, Montford Ave, Haywood Street, Hiawassee St, Central Ave, Chestnut St Gracelyn Rd, Murdock Ave, and Woodfin St/Oak St

Wayfinding signs from UNC to downtown to West Asheville are being worked on in the sign shop

New pedestrian signals being planned for Louisiana and Haywood, Choctaw and McDowell, and Southside, Biltmore and S. Charlotte

Item from D. Kostelec: I-26 and Brevard Rd. intersection is not aligned to AVL Bicycle Master Plan? How about Complete Streets policy??

Plans were shown and Claudia encouraged bringing up the issue of a greenway under the interstate and connecting at this point during the construction; Biltmore may not be supporting this plan; Bike plan and Pedestrian plan both call for bike lanes and sidewalks for this roadway and bridge; *need to comment by May 18th to DOT*

Include in comments why is it important to have bike lanes included at interchanges even if they aren't on other part of roadway (yet)?

Updates from Grace:

Charlotte Street study presentation has been delayed and will be presented in June

Announcements/Events:

- Update the Task Force event calendar with meetings, etc.
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