

## **Minutes June 13, 2013**

### **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
- Special guest – Ms. Lauren Blackburn, NCDOT Raleigh HQ

#### **New Business:**

- Bike Friendly Community feedback + “Bike There 2016” campaign
  - “5 E’s” program areas – brief overview (Engineering, Evaluation/Planning, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement)
  - AVL “Primary Corridor” assessment – community discussion forums to create recommendations for NCDOT Div. 13
  - 2016 US National Cyclocross championship race @ Biltmore Estate (Jan. 2016)
  - Quality Bicycle Products “Best Practices Workshop” in MPLS
- Buncombe Bike Ed – general updates
- Asheville Police/Fire/Rescue – general announcements
- Strive Not To Drive – event update, statistics, summary
- Walk Friendly Community – 2013/14 application update
  - June 15 deadline is approaching.
- Asheville/Buncombe – updates from Barb Mee
- NCDOT (updates from Lauren)
  - State-wide bike PR program (bumper sticker, PSA’s, etc.) in the works. Evaluation metrics are pending (crash reduction, “perception” change?)
    - “WATCH FOR ME NC” is the name of the campaign
    - Community partnership details coming in ~Jan. 2014
  - Working to develop a state-wide traffic survey + bike & pedestrian count system/scheme
    - Less dependent on volunteer support?
    - Deployed to each of the DOT highway divisions, intended to analyze & quantify all modes of traffic in many scenarios (matrix study)
  - Collecting GIS data (will support Greenway, bike lane, and other data reports)
  - We have great crash data for NC; need to use the info to help drive project assignments with the Safety division
  - New video solution for children’s bike safety (note: online & download-able)
    - Now will AVL and the local LCI community get this information out to the general public:
      - Partner with local elementary schools, churches, etc.?

- Safe Routes To School – looking to hire regional coordinators, 3-year assignment contractor via NC Dep’t of Health
- Legislation, policy & funding – last 2 months have been pretty dismal! HB817 was edited heavily in state Senate committee, affected funding for TIP & state/federal funds matching thru FY2015. Local planners need to act quickly (~6 weeks) to finalize project recommendations that could be prioritized before the deadline.
- NC House Budget approved recently will take away Regional Planning Funding?? However, Municipal Planning Funding programs are still intact
- NC State Bicycle Committee – de-funded in CY2011 but no official notice? Lauren to investigate status & advise.
- Lauren & NC Bike Commuter’s Guide – will check with NCDOT Communications Dep’t to see if we can make state-wide (check w/ Kathy Molin, now in Raleigh NC)
- NC State Bicycle Summit – Carrboro NC, Oct 18/19/20??
  - AVL Task Force could present “Best Practices Workshop” summary in MPLS (K. Hinz to submit proposal)

**Announcements/Events:**

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