

Meeting Notes September 26, 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.

Attending: Liz McLamb, Terri March, Barb Mee, Jon Derrick, Grace Curry, Till Dohse, Tom Reddinger, Michael Biggs, Mike Squires, Donner Lohnes, Tristan Winkler, Claudia Nix

New Business:

Bike Friendly Community feedback + “Bike There 2016” campaign; AVL “Primary Corridor” assessment – community discussion forums: summary overview & next steps; Follow-up GIS mapping and feasibility/bike-ability verifications will be needed; solicit volunteer support in July/Aug

Bike There campaign developing routes from the central city outward. Intern will be mapping the potential routes that are using existing infrastructure to get to town using more minor streets rather than the major arterials. People will be testing out those routes and helping to finalize and figure out where improvements are needed.

Discussion of the Multimodal Transportation commission and makeup of the commission; Three reps from Task Force are Don Kostolec, Terri March and Till Dohse.

NC DOT held I-26 meeting today to discuss bicycle and pedestrian facilities related to reconstruction of the highway

Bike Ed – Terri – Series of cycling classes on 2nd Saturday, rotating between Traffic Skills 101 (6 hour class) and Commuter class (2 hour class); AOB may be applying for a grant that would provide more marketing materials; Classes held at Western North Carolina Alliance; Email BuncombeBikeEd@gmail.com for info on upcoming classes

Asheville Police/Fire/Rescue – not much on bike ped issues this past month; been swamped with motor vehicle fatalities
Terri asked for consideration of enforcement of ped crossings at the roundabout at College and Oak

Walk Friendly Community – 2013/14 application update – Still haven’t heard anything from application that was submitted in June

Asheville/Buncombe updates -

Updates from Till & Terri about Multimodal Transportation Commission meeting

– discussion of different options with the I-26/Asheville Connector, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities;

- Haywood Road Form-based code; video on city web site about the process; opportunities and barriers there
- Discussion of bylaws and process
- Consultant for citywide multimodal plan will be announced in December and will go to council for moving forward on plan process in January; plan development will take about a year
- Next meeting will discuss Riverway transportation plan, Charlotte Street plan, discussion of Sunday Transit service, and plan for rolling out next phases of comprehensive transportation plan; hoping to move forward on plan to be presented to council at January retreat
- UNCA has submitted application for Reed Creek Greenway process.
- Multimodal Transportation Commission meetings are public meetings, held 4th Wednesday but will be combined for November/December; don't have date immediately available; City Clerk has list of points of contacts of all commissions; Commission co-chairs are Jim Grode and Bruce Emory

Updates from Barb Mee

- Barb shared info about the East of the Riverway planning grant, which includes Town Branch and Clingman Forest, in the design process; consultants are working on recommendations for other transportation improvements and connections; meeting to be held at Wesley Grant Center on October 24
- City is also working on Beaucatcher Greenway
- River Arts District project is moving forward; consultant to be selected
- Partnering with NC DOT on signals at Walnut and Broadway
- Have just completed some design review for pedestrian signals at Haywood and Louisiana, Choctaw and McDowell, and Biltmore, Southside and South Charlotte
- NC DOT will be having workshops about I-26; just recently had a meeting on I-26 (19-23) north toward Woodfin
- UNCA managed pedestrian and bicycle counts and about 20 locations were counted in September; no results yet for this year
- Terri reported that national SRTS has a tally sheet on transportation and Buncombe County Schools is going to work on that to get baseline data; Terri is also working on developments in SRTS at Isaac Dickson School since it's been moved to Randolph Center
- Barb is working with cyclist and city signal shop on loops at certain locations that work for bicyclists
- Sidewalk projects are going forward. They are being constructed on Overlook Road, Hendersonville Rd sidewalks to Long Shoals, and Shiloh Road community center to Hendersonville.

French Broad River MPO – Request for public comment on TIP out right now

Bike Suitability Map & Neighborhood Bike Loops – Claudia

- need updates to current map, and consider redoing the map and showing roadways with sharrows, how to designate sharrows and how do they affect suitability? For the map, first done in 1998 and updated in 2008, quarter mile segments were rated by different people in terms of suitability to come up with the ratings on the current map.
- Have there been major changes in suitability? Does it need complete updating? Maybe not at this point, but knowing where there are sharrows or bike lanes, it may be more likely to be green

on map. Would help casual cyclists who probably prefer to know where there are bike lanes and sharrows.

-Neighborhood bike loops - had 4 or 5 recreational loops with signs; Claudia is looking for people to ride the loops and see if those loops are still well-marked and note where there are problems; contact Claudia if you're able to do that.

-Consider Strava as a way to gather data on people riding in different road segments in the area

Traffic calming policy – Janet asked that we consider providing a letter supporting the revised policy and expressing concerns about the 1000 cars a day or speeds more than 5 mph over speed limit, possibly consider suggesting a sliding scale of sorts; Liz will draft a letter with help from Janet

Adjourn

Next meeting: October 24, 2013

Announcements/Events: