

## **Minutes December 5, 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:

Lyuba Zuyeva, Jonathan Derrick, Heather Hine, Joy Ponder, Tony Hauser, Claudia Nix, Don Kostolec, Barb Mee, Bekah Webb, Liz McLamb, Marc Hunt, Tom Redinger, Terri March, Til Dolhse, Jessie Shires

**New Business:**

**Request for support of letter regarding I-26 Connector Project - Presentation by Marc Hunt**

Explained working group (See [pdf file for draft of letter; working group listed as signers of the letter](#)) that has been meeting to discuss various issues related to I-26 and plans. There will be possible DOT hearing here in April or May with new draft of possible plans. Marc provided an explanation of DOT process with MPO and long term funding situation. Marc is attending this meeting to inform community members and to work on getting consensus.

Marc showed changes that committee is requesting of DOT: Connector across bridge from West Asheville to downtown, parallel to roadway; DOT suggested considering it, cantilevered off bridge if necessary; Connection south to Amboy; Connection of smith mill creek greenway with path to downtown; On portions of Hominy Creek Greenway that need to pass under the interstate, build bridges that allow appropriate amounts of space; Montford Greenway areas – connections to neighborhood; Haywood Road - Bridge over interstate– make sure it's a complete street with protected bike lanes and pedestrian areas; Connection to greenways below bridge

Task force voted to support letter and the work of the working group. There was a request for addition of encouragement for local connections to greenways and making connections across the expressway (pedestrian bridges, etc)

A suggestion was made by a committee member that the Task Force send a thank you letter to Kristina & Ricky at DOT for their work on this.

**Bike Friendly Community feedback + “Bike There 2016” campaign**

AVL “Primary Corridor” assessment, and sharing of draft maps and follow-up GIS mapping [Vicky Eastland at Land of Sky and Bekah Webb worked on maps of the “Bike There 2016” routes](#). Bekah suggested coming up with names for routes so they could more easily be referred to; Next step is to have people ride the routes in order to determine the best routes to use for 2016 access to Estate; Maps that were shared at the meeting are posted on the BPTF web site. It was suggested that Riverside Drive be added to map for consideration

Discussed again that the goal was to find locations to improve or make modifications or simple improvements before 2016 to these routes; looking for ways to get input and what other routes

are needed; Don suggested that the map and summary of effort should be presented to the multimodal commission;

Question was asked about considering different gates and access to the Estate for the event? Do we have established contact for the event? No, not at this point...

Action item: Liz will check with Ben Van Camp at Buncombe County Sports Commission;  
Bekah will check with Biltmore Sustainability Coordinator

Action item: Liz will request a time on the multimodal commission agenda

### **Asheville Police/Fire/Rescue – general announcements**

Jon Derrick - Wrapping up stats on pedestrian crash reduction plan for 2013; think there's been improvement; Will continue to enforce pedestrian crosswalk laws, etc.

Citizen's police academy registration taking place for spring semester, 12 weeks, 3 hours each week, info for citizens about police activities, ride along, etc.

**Buncombe Bike Ed** – Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> to make final decisions about next year's classes; will be on second Saturday of each month at UNCA Asheville; may host another LCI training if there's enough interest

### **Asheville/Buncombe – brief updates**

-- Bike Rack at Firestorm Café – there have been requests for bike racks downtown, and bikes sometimes block sidewalk at Firestorm; suggestion to install bike racks in fenced parking space outside Firestorm and Thirsty Monk; encourage customers to use it; suggestions from other TF members to consider another location as well, possibly parking spot on Haywood in front of Pub in West Asheville, or in front of the LAB; TF supported trying it out at proposed location at Firestorm

-- East of the Riverway Connections Plan – plan is moving forward, hoping for final draft in December, going to MM Commission, then to Council; will bring that plan to the next TF meeting or send it out before the meeting if comments are needed earlier

-- Green Lane Project Application – There is a Bikes Belong project to develop more separated bikeways and submitted a letter of intent to apply, application due by January 14<sup>th</sup>. Barb needs volunteer help to complete the application; first meeting will be Monday, December 16 at 5:30 at the Chocolate Lounge

-- Haywood Road Sidewalk and Bike Climbing Lane – Meeting held in West Asheville on November 21; Plans are for addition of sidewalk and climbing lane on uphill side; sharrows on the downhill side; Neighborhood support for it

-- Boards and Commission Vacancies

Lot of commissions and Boards with vacancies; more people that think about walking and biking, the better; need advocates on some of those Boards or Commissions

-- Proposed federal legislation regarding non-motorized users - Tony Hauser –encouraging local response to support vulnerable road users at the state level, similar to federal legislation; Tony will do more research on that

Follow up and encourage response and support; info on the League of American Bicyclists

Claudia motioned Task Force support the federal legislation and ask multi-modal commission to send on to council, asking council to adopt a resolution to support the federal bills

Questions came up regarding lighting for roads and pedestrian crosswalks  
Don and Janet will look for more info at TRB; may want to discuss this at next meeting

### **Multimodal Transportation Commission**

Annual report

Till is writing at annual report of the activities of this task force for multimodal commission to send to City Council – needs to be bulleted list;

Action item: Send suggestions items to include by December 15<sup>th</sup>

Membership structure of Task Force - to be discussed at Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting; may want to consider a somewhat more formal membership structure and voting process, for consistency in making recommendations to MM Commission

### **French Broad River MPO – brief updates?**

Lyuba had to leave before this point in agenda

### **Walk Friendly Community – 2013/14 application update**

- We got it! Asheville is a Silver Walk-Friendly Community!

### **Announcements/Events:**

- City of Asheville Board and Commission vacancies application deadline – January 8, 2014.
- Green Lane application deadline – January 14, 2014.
- **Next ABP Task Force meeting – Thursday, January 23 at 5:30pm.**