

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force  
Minutes  
August 17, 2017**

**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 & Administrative Details**

- Do we have someone taking minutes? Janet
- Facilitator for tonight – Till

Tom Redinger, Lucy Crown, Claudia Nix, Randy Warren, Meg Pigman, Terri March, Till Dohse, Billie Lofland, Scott Dickens, Janet Barlow, Barb Mee, Anna Alsobrook, Lucy Crown,

Minutes from last minute – Ok'd, no changes

**Guest**

**Lucy Crown, City of Asheville Greenways Coordinator,** Beaucatcher update and RADTIP Southern Section update

Available to discuss items of concern to task force

Currently planned greenways:

- Town Branch Greenway, Bacoates Branch Greenway (formerly Clingman Greenway), French Broad River West, Beaucatcher Greenway
- First 3 about 4 million \$\$ project each;
- Council is asking for prioritization info
- Meetings at end of July prioritized southern section of RADTIP first, with French Broad River West, others much further behind [also included Livingston Street, and southern section road project]
- Will go back to public in October to prioritize “shovel-ready” greenway projects

Looking at changes to Beaucatcher to build lower and upper section according to plans, leaving a natural surface trail on city property; as Phase 1 until overlook park is ready to construct;

Also looking at changes to Town Branch Greenway to make it a natural surface trail; Green Opportunities is interested in working on that project as part of their training program; Also working with Friends of Connect Buncombe on funding, etc.

Discussion of recommendations from meetings to Council on Tuesday

- Phase 1, Concept 1 is shovel-ready and had a lot of support for that reason; separated bike lane, comments, etc. will be reported to Council on Tuesday;
- Concept 2 bike lanes on sides of road
- Concept 3 has wide greenway on river side – was not favored

Concerns expressed about bikes on sidewalks and sharing the sidewalk with pedestrians, and need to clarify ‘rules’ to bicyclists. Currently legal to ride on sidewalks throughout Asheville.

There are rules about skateboards on streets and sidewalks downtown? But it’s problematic

### **Open Discussion/Project Work**

- Ped/Bike Counts – September 12, 13, 14, 16; Till will schedule a training session at the beginning of September; consider adding sites for surveys, along Hendersonville Road since sidewalks added? Counts are on Buncombe CHIP site, also on city web site;
- Website update – Scott provided some suggestions developed by intern; will move old stuff into history; create a safety tab and move many links under that section; delete some such as other city stuff; other local resources such as parks and greenways foundation will be moved to another section; [contact members of congress?]; look of site generally ok
- Report from the Walk-Friendly Working Group – suspended until October

### **Regular Updates**

- Asheville Police/Fire/Rescue - Watch for Me training at the beginning of the month, 7 from Asheville and officers from other nearby jurisdictions; billboards are up; “watch and see” enforcement will take place; downtown; Meg will check about doing a table at Open Streets, and get back in touch with Terri
- Multimodal Commission – Barb reported on bike share and on transit road study report; was presentation about South Slope visioning process with design workshop planned in October; lots of info and discussion of RADTIP; I-26 comments being taken to NCDOT; discussion of draft UDO that would increase requirement to install sidewalks and parking for new developments
  - Next meeting will include a Vision Zero presentation and presentation/discussion of Comp Plan [MMTC is being asked to prioritize some specific areas]; draft comp plan on the AVL site under projects, citywide, near the bottom of list. MMTC will vote on statement of support for greenway/bikeway system
- French Broad River MPO – no updates
- Asheville/Buncombe –
  - Report from NCDOT-City staff safety working group:
    - Fairview Road project moving forward slowly

- Billie asked about crosswalks, and requests from 5 Points Neighborhood on Broadway and Barb will ask about them
  - I-26 working group update – no update
  - City notes – Scope for Bike Share Feasibility Study is moving forward; consultant selected and will be about 6 month process; looking for steering committee volunteers – Claudia, Randy, and Scott volunteered
  - Vision Zero plans being worked on; Vaidila may bring info to bike ped task force soon
  - Sharrows being installed soon on Montford, Woodfin, and other connecting locations
- Open Streets – September 17, 1-5 pm; meeting this Wednesday, [August 23 check date], 11 - 12:30 for more planning, [openstreetsasheville.com](http://openstreetsasheville.com) Need more volunteers for the bike rodeo
- Buncombe Bike Ed update - See site at [cyclesmartbuncombe.com](http://cyclesmartbuncombe.com); encourage people to sign up for classes;
- Buncombe County –Terri's intern is also pulling out crash data by zip code, race and age for CHIP

Comments and concerns expressed about NC DOT not providing bike lanes and putting rumble strips on roadways

Question about Bike-Walk NC – November 3-4, Wilmington

### **Announcements/Events**

- Next Bike/Ped Task Force meeting – Thursday, September 21, at 5:30 pm
- Guests you want to invite to future meetings?