

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
Minutes
February 15, 2018**

Present:

Billie Lofland	Terri March	Scott Dickens	Barb Mee
Thomas Wolfe	Luke Aitken	Donner Lohnes	Randy Warren
Till Dohse	Charles Menefee	Mike Sule	Tom Redinger

Introductions & Administrative Details:

- Till Dohse took the position as facilitator
- Charles Menefee took minutes
- The agenda was reviewed and agreed upon by the group

Priority Issues:

Mike Sule presented the news of Asheville on Bikes and Blue Ridge Bicycle Club's grant award. They plan to use the funding to invest in tactical urbanism approaches towards improving cycling infrastructure in Asheville, NC. Tactical Urbanism is an approach towards solving infrastructure problems that implement impermanent and cost effective techniques as a temporary solution to transportation issues. Temporary fixes can be studied to gather further information on the effectiveness of corridor changes. Three potential corridors in the South Slope have been determined as potential site locations through working with the City of Asheville Transportation Department. Asheville on Bikes and Blue Ridge Bicycle Club plans on contracting with Street Plans to facilitate the design and build of potential projects. The Asheville Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force supported the process and idea of tactical urbanism techniques for solving bicycle transportation issues. Mike Sule will be presenting about the project ideas at the City of Asheville Multimodal Committee Meeting in hopes to have it passed on to City Council. Mike Sule agreed to bring written statements to Task Force meetings to making the agreement process easy and clear.

Terri March explained the Multimodal Transportation Committee's idea to create effective collaboration with all transportation-oriented groups (MMTC, Greenways Committee, Transit Committee, and Asheville Bike/Ped Task Force). Presentations from each group will be given at the next Multimodal Committee Meeting (Wednesday, February 28, 2018 from 3-5pm). Presentations will display the groups' goals, processes, and potentially previous actions. Till Dohse, Terri March, and Scott Dickens agreed to work on the presentation and Till Dohse agreed to present it. Terri March requested to be sent any relevant photos for the presentation. Till Dohse decided to include Asheville Bike/Ped data collection

information. Barb Mee suggested that Walk Friendly and Bike Friendly Information be presented.

Open Discussion/Project Work:

Billie Lofland reported that the main effort of the Walk-Friendly Subcommittee is to reapply for its Silver Walk-Friendly status. It decided to reapply for Silver, rather than apply for Gold because it didn't think it could reach the Gold level. The application originally was due in March, but has been extended to August. Billie Lofland said that she had recommended not to even reapplying for Silver because so many sidewalk are in poor condition. Terri March presented that the Walk-Friendly status indicates the City's intent and planning efforts, not the current condition of the sidewalks. She also noted that many new sidewalks have been added throughout the City. Barb Mee noted that existing infrastructure and progress in infrastructural development is also highly considered.

Website updates: Scott Dickens stated the website changes are now in place. There is issue with certain links not working but Lee started to work on them shortly after the meeting. The home page now displays relevant information and the meeting time and location. More links will be added to a new page under General Information and News, these include the Annual Report, Open Streets and Strive not to Drive event pages as well as Local Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans. Terri March explained that the Open Streets and Strive not to Drive event pages must be fixed before links can be posted.

Annual Report: Scott Dickens completed and shared the annual report for 2017. Emails showed cooperation and agreement between the Asheville Bike/Ped Task Force and NCDOT Division 13 plans for the Merrimon Avenue have roadway widening project.

Regular Updates:

Barb Mee shared Joy Ponder's story and her maps that reveal crash data collected through fire station calls to the South Slope. The maps reveal locations that are problematic for automobiles and pedestrians. Cyclist's accidents aren't clearly stated in the map data, this was stated to be due to a simplified reporting of accident information.

Terri March presented the agenda for the next Multimodal Transit Committee Meeting on Wednesday February 28, 2018.

- Lucy Crown: Neighborhood Greenways Committee Presentation
- Barb Mee: Bike Share Feasibility Study Presentation

- Vaidila Satvika: NCDOT Sweeten Creek Project and Riverside Drive Greenway Presentations
- Mike Sule: Presentation on Asheville on Bikes/Blue Ridge Bicycle Club Tactical Urbanism plans

Randy Warren discussed the slow movement of Vision Zero. He stated that the program might move quicker on a state and local level if people are employed to directly work on the goals of the programs. There are hopes for further budgeting towards this program after the NCDOT retreat.

No new information from the FBRMPO.

Terri March stated that Asheville and Buncombe County have been working strategically connect Greenways from the RADTIP and further. These greenways may have to go under a redesign process due to the NCDOT I-26 expansion project.

Terri March explained that Buncombe Bike Education program is starting to plan for classes in the spring and summer months. They are now looking for a full-time position to teach and create presentations.

Barb Mee shared that the City of Asheville Transportation Department Bike Share Feasibility Study has finally gone through contract and is scheduled to start in late March. She also shared the COA's pedestrian and ADA plan may include the Greenway Master Plan in the update if funds are available. This would create a cohesive report and an efficient source of information regarding all pedestrian oriented plans. City Council approved the contract to install pedestrian signals at the Biltmore and Southside/South Charlotte intersection. Brendan is a new NCDOT Division 13 Bike/Ped planning engineer and plans to attend Task Force meetings.

Billie Lofland shared the work of the 5 Points Neighborhood Multimodal Committee to improve Broadway Avenue and its long-term delay in action.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2018 at the City's Public Works Building.