

Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force

Minutes, August 18, 2022

Introductions & Administrative Details

- Sign in and brief introduction of all attendees Till Dohse, Patricia Katz, Claudia Nix, Terri March, Colin Kinton, Randy Warren Scott Dickens
- Do we have someone taking minutes: Scott
- Approve July Minutes approved, no comments.
- Changes to Agenda OK?

Old Business

- September Bike-Ped Counts (Sep 13th-17th). (Till) help email list from, UNCA, Blue Ridge, City, others Use Anna's comments on value of data.
- Getting Leadership team for the Walk Friendly application Help from Dan Gelinne, City of Asheville staff.

New Business

- September 15 Greenway Opening
- New facilitator needed starting in October. Terri suggests that we have a rotating facilitator until the city is able to step us. Anna or city staff needs to setup meeting. Colin says city transit meetings are having the same issues. Randy discussed City committees and Multi Model meeting "task force" issues. Terri suggests that reset agenda to support Anna in her position as staff and her needs. Set issues to be discussed as to other entities that should be asked to attend (fire, police)
- Reschedule September Meeting (Cancel)
- Swannanoa greenway is back, (indicating NCDOT has found some money)
- Vision Zero webinar, Claudia attended, Hoboken has had zero traffic fatalities for 4 years. Focused on reducing conflicts between cars and pedestrians block parking within 25 feet of intersections. Give early green light to pedestrians, add curb extensions. Increased clearance times on red and yellow lights. Funding? Dogwood provided matching funds. Getting appropriate data to support Vision Zero.
- Website Renewal costs: total of \$310.54. For 3 years hosting \$268.20, expires 8/28/2025; 2 years domain registration \$42.34, expires 5/25/2024
- Not just bike street maintenance but also sidewalk maintenance

Regular Updates (brief updates/announcements and input from Task Force)

- General City and County updates
- Multimodal Commission: Randy: Biltmore bike lane evolving, public space streets vs sidewalks
- City update from Anna Sexton attached below.

Announcements/Events

- Next Bike/Ped Task Force meeting is October 20th
- Bike lane maintenance in Oct
- Agenda Items for next month?
- Guests you want to invite to future meetings?

Keep sending/posting images for the [Task Force website](#) and [Facebook page](#). [Scott Dickens](#) is the point of contact

TO: Asheville Bicycle/Pedestrian Task Force
FROM: Anna Sexton, Urban Planner
DATE: August 18, 2022
SUBJECT: Staff update to BPTF

SUMMARY STATEMENT: This memo serves as a written staff update on existing bicycle and pedestrian-related projects in lieu of staff attendance at the BPTF's August 2022 virtual meeting.

Close the GAP: The GAP Plan is still planned to go to Council for adoption on September 27th. Right now, the City is identifying spending trends from the past 5 years of capital projects where accessibility deficiencies have been addressed and estimating how much the City will spend on ADA-related improvements based on the CIP. Staff is meeting next week to discuss where to focus this year's ADA curb ramp improvements.

College Patton Bike Lanes: The City's project consultants, Traffic Planning & Design, have completed a field review of the project area to verify all roadway widths, existing pavement markings, existing curb and gutter widths, stormwater inlet conditions etc. They have also revised the plans based on that field review and the comments the City provided (which include feedback we received from the public). We are currently drafting a bid document and hope to release a bid for implementation within the next month or so.

NRADTIP Wilma Dykeman Greenway: Staff is negotiating with the selected firm on the scope of work.

Haywood Road: This is project #HL-0003 in the STIP. NCDOT will be resurfacing Haywood Road and will be making some bicycle and pedestrian improvements during the resurfacing project. NCDOT is aiming for a public meeting during the first or second week of October. It will be structured as an informational drop-in session where NCDOT will be gathering input on what people want to see where. Project is anticipated to let in late spring 2023 / early summer 2023.

Biltmore Avenue re-striping and bike lanes: This project will now be a two-phased project where NCDOT's resurfacing this fall will include the addition of new loading zones and the expansion of existing loading zones. The City is also working with NCDOT to evaluate the potential for lowering the speed limit on Biltmore between Aston and Hilliard to encourage slower vehicle speeds. The second phase of this project will involve the addition of bike lanes which will likely occur next year.

The intent of pressing pause on bike lane installation is to be responsive to the immediate stakeholder concerns, including the compressed engagement timeframe. Some kind of additional public engagement will take place after the loading zone install and evaluation, and we are still determining what this will look like. This phased approach also offers an opportunity to see if better bicycle infrastructure options exist.

AVL Unpaved: This project continues to move forward. The City is in the process of planning some more engagement opportunities with the East End Valley Street and Oakhurst neighborhoods to address their specific concerns related to the [Mountainside / Memorial Stadium / Beaucatcher Mountain site](#). Concerns have been raised about the density of proposed trails, anticipated parking demand, and Transportation staff are working with the City's Community and Public Engagement Department to develop and roll out more formal public engagement which will include a city-wide survey.

Amboy Bridge pedestrian improvements: NCDOT has completed the design plans and is currently working on a let date for the project. The existing two-foot sidewalk along the bridge will be expanded to a five-foot sidewalk and will tie into the sidewalk/greenway at Lyman Street. NCDOT anticipates a 1-2 month construction timeline will require elaborate traffic control and closing one lane of the bridge. The City is currently working with NCDOT to maintain a pedestrian access route through the construction zone while one bridge lane is closed. The City's desire to provide current and consistent updates to the public about lane closures is on NCDOT's radar, and we will be working with them closely to do so.

French Broad River West Greenway: The greenway is unofficially open. The contractor is making some final changes, but the greenway is already seeing a high volume of use. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for Thursday September 15th at 4:30 p.m., and official invitations are forthcoming.