

**MEETING MINUTES of the
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**February 22, 2011
6:00 PM**

**Community Room
215 N. Mason
Fort Collins, CO 80521**

FOR REFERENCE:

Chair: Rick Price	970-310-5238
Vice Chair: Cathy Mathis	970-217-9480
Staff Liaison: Kathleen Bracke	970-224-6140
Staff Support: Dave "DK" Kemp	970-416-2411

BOARD/ ORGANIZATION MEMBERS PRESENT

Downtown Development Authority: Kathy Cardona

Fort Collins Bicycle Co-Op: Doug Cutter

Parks and Recreation Board: Dawn Theis

Poudre School District: John Holcombe

UniverCity Connections: Rick Reider

Colorado State University: David Hansen

Economic Advisory Board: Rick Price

Transportation Board: Shane Miller

AT LARGE MEMBERS PRESENT

At Large: Kim Sharpe

At Large: Dan Gould

At Large: Cathy Mathis

ABSENT

Senior Advisory Board: Bob Phillips

Bike Fort Collins: Jeff Morrell

Air Quality Board: Greg McMaster

Land Conservation & Steward Board: Paul Mills

Natural Resources Advisory Board: Clint Skutchan

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Citizen: Josh Kerson

Citizen: Elana Hurwitz

Citizen: Tim Anderson

City of Fort Collins:

Karen Cumbo, Director of Planning, Development, and Transportation

Dave "DK" Kemp, Bicycle Coordinator

Matte Wempe, Transportation Planner
Molly North, Assistant Bicycle Coordinator

Call to order

Meeting called to order at 6:08 PM.

Agenda review:

Chair Rick Price briefly reviewed the agenda.

Public Comments:

- 1) Citizen Josh Kerson gives an update on bringing awareness to approving electric bikes on trails.
 - a. I attended the Bicycle Summit in Denver and Betsy Jacobson shared statistics that showed that trails are being used for transportation. Fort Collins can use this data to fulfill goals to help people use trails.
 - b. State Statute 42-4-111 allows any city to adopt state law which allows electric bicycles to be used on the bike paths.
 - c. I have sent an invitation to all boards and commissions in Fort Collins for an electric bike demo day on March 26, 10am-12pm. Space is reserved for up to 200 people; Parks and Rec has approved a permit for Shelter 7 at City Park.

Approval of minutes:

Motion to approve by Kathy Cardona, Kim Sharpe seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

Action items:

I. Bicycle Safety Education Plan

DK –

This has been a really collaborative effort and we are excited to be in the final stages of drafting. We have made a few revisions since you last saw this plan.

As an overview:

- 1) Vision – short term is based on 2009 baseline data, long term is Vision Zero
- 2) Policy and Programmatic – includes recommendations for general, youth, adult, motorists, and law enforcement
- 3) Facilities – identifies infrastructure needs including bike boxes
- 4) High bicycle crash areas are identified
- 5) Evaluation and Monitoring
- 6) Implementation Action Plan – simplified to three goals
 - a. Concurrent with plan adoption
 - b. Keep Fort Collins Great funding
 - c. Primary Actions

Changes:

- 1) Revised the Vision
- 2) Refined the Programmatic Recommendations
- 3) Reorganized Implementation Action Plan

We are asking for the BAC to endorse this plan so we can take it to City Council to be approved and then implemented.

Kim Sharpe –

I have a question about the 25% decrease and 50% decrease, are there numbers that go along with that?

DK –

We have 2009 data to which we will compare the 2012 and 2013 data.

Kim –

Do you think it is important to state those numbers?

DK –

It is in the bicycle crash table.

Kim –

I would like to see the numbers explicitly defined in the vision.

John –

Do those numbers include adults or students or who?

DK –

This is overall data.

Rick Price –

On that note, perhaps we should define the audience in the vision because that is an important part of the goal.

Rick Reider –

Is 25% and 50% a goal or is it there a series of engineering practices that will be implemented which you think will reduce the number of crashes?

DK –

These crashes are mostly an education issue. Reductions of 25% and 50% are doable because there are only one or two types of crashes happening at these intersections. It is realistic to achieve these goals because we can target the age groups it is affecting as well as the specific types of crashes that are happening.

Doug Cutter –

We have a rising number of cyclists in the community so how will you normalize the number to account for this? Also, council will probably ask about reporting and crashes are underreported, especially for kids. There will be more riders and people aren't recording crashes. How will you account for those factors?

DK –

You're right. We don't have a record of all crashes. It is part of the education outreach, we will be telling people about the crash reporting online. We also need to get accurate counts to determine how many riders are out there. 3 years ago cyclists were counted as vehicles... so now we are starting to collect good data so we can determine changes in cyclist numbers.

Matt –

Joe Olson asked us about how we will normalize as well, and we have a few ideas – we will record the number of bicycle trips, the number of bicycle safety education presentations, and Safe Routes to School participation, etc. Also, there is a crash rate for top intersections. Perhaps we can use the rate rather than the raw number.

DK –

Studies have shown that a rising number of cyclists helps to reduce crashes. This is another approach to improving safety.

Rick –

Nationally 83% of crashes do not involve cars. Are you only including bike-car accidents?

DK –

The data is taken from Police Services so the crashes are at intersections and mostly include car-bike interactions.

Rick –

(Shared an example of a bicycle accident where a cyclist fell and incurred injuries because of roadwork that did not have signage. There was a police report filed.) Was that crash included in this crash data? What is the criteria for data to be included in the crash report? The point is we need to educate kids about how to be safe in traffic as well as how to ride safely in general.

DK –

Perhaps we can get data from the emergency room to compare data and ensure that we are collecting complete data.

Dan –

I think we should focus on the plan and focus on the systems that are already in place. We are getting too deep into the details.

Rick -
Any other comments?

Dan -
The idea of Vision Zero may stimulate a negative connotation. Zero crashes is also unrealistic.

DK -
Let me explain Vision Zero. Sweden developed Vision Zero and it is being adopted internationally. We looked all over to find best practices about how to decrease crashes and this seems to be the best model for us. It also gives a message that will percolate into the community and which will show Fort Collins that bicycle safety is a priority. We are simply creating a system that does it's best to eradicate unnecessary crashes.

Cathy Mathis -
Do you still want us to send to any edits to the document?

DK -
Yes please.

Rick -
IF there are no other questions, I'd like us to focus on the principal recommendations. Where did you get the number 11,000 students?

Matt -
That is approximately half of the kids in the district. We are following a recommendation from City Council. Last year we doubled our Safe Routes to School program to 4,500 students. From a resourcing standpoint, it will be difficult to double the number of students again this year.

Rick -
It will be important to prioritize the students who will receive education. This year we have more instructors.

DK -
League Cycling Instructors met two weeks ago to invigorate a group of people who will help educate. These people are having the conversation about how to narrow down the focus about how and who we want to educate. BPEC has also been very important to the bicycle and pedestrian education in our community. We are discussing how we can marry these groups for community education.

Rick-
We are now reaching 4500 students with funding from CDOT. Hawaii focuses on 4th graders. Texas is focused on 4th grade curriculum. Portland and Boulder focus on 4th and 5th graders. Also, if you take programs to 8th graders, younger students will

emulate their behaviors. There are about 4000 4th graders in our area. That could be the core of our youth program. The future of BPEC and BAC in this education outreach is undetermined and I would like to see it defined.

Dawn –

Are you suggesting that we focus all of the financial resources on 4th and 5th graders? Or can we focus on 4th and 5th graders while also generally educating K-8?

Matt –

We do want to ask this group for direction about our audience; who should we educate?

Rick –

The question that we need to move forward with is: where are we going to spend out resources? Does the plan need to address how that will happen? Should Transportation Planning ask the community for input about how to spend their funds via BPEC and the Bike Co-op?

DK –

We will determine which age group to focus on and perhaps the curriculum which is being developed will direct us.

Kim –

There are already a variety of efforts in the community and BPEC is the organic group which helps educators collaborate and not double up on efforts.

Doug –

11,000 is the only metric in the Action Plan Items, so maybe we need to make that number more vague because we don't have a plan about how to proceed with the youth education.

DK –

Maybe we can edit it to say “work within community, collaborate to focus on students...”

Doug –

This plan says what we want to do, not how we want to do it. The one page summary doesn't need to include detailed action items.

Rick –

The plan is not prioritized. The number 11,000 is important to draw attention to the importance of that action item. It is important to focus on students.

Dan –

Perhaps that information is more important for the introduction paragraph. We could say something like, "Implementation strategies will be determined by stakeholders who have more intimate knowledge of plan."

Dave -

I agree that council is looking for something tangible.

Rick -

We all understand that I think we should address students - they have parents who have families, they have siblings, etc. They have the most influence and the most impact from our financial and time investment.

Kim -

In the interest of time, let's rearrange the recommendations so that "general" is at the end and "youth" are first. That will help focus on the students as a priority.

Rick -

BAC is in accord that we will move youth to the top of the recommendations and we will leave 11,000 defined in the action plan item. Would anyone like to ask council for more funding?

Doug -

There is a Safe Routes to School position that could be a big-ticket item. We could ask Council to help fund a split position between PSD and the City.

Rick -

The City cannot do this all alone. We need PSD buy-in and CSU buy-in. I am suggesting that we ask for \$30,000 for a part-time position in PSD for a bicycle coordinator in 2011.

Kim -

That is already stated in action item G.

John Holcombe -

That is already in here and council will not approve funding for a new position for which there is not curriculum.

Rick -

Okay, we won't ask for more funding at this point. I would entertain a motion to approve the Plan.

Kim -

I move to approve this plan and recommend that it go forward to City Council. I would call attention to the focus on youth and the partnership recommended to hire a Safe Routes to School coordinator.

Cathy Mathis –

Are we sending this to council or to Transportation Board?

Matt –

This Plan will go to Gary who will pass it around to Transportation Board members who will send it to council with their blessing. This needs to happen tomorrow.

Rick –

I hear that Kim moves to recommend this plan enthusiastically ...

We have collaborated with community members who have demonstrated a level of commitment that is encouraging for the implementation of this plan. Dave Seconds. Motion is passed Unanimously.

II. BAC membership update

DK –

We have reached the two year mark. Each of you have committed at least 3 hours per month and have helped to make a better community. We are asking you to stay for two more years!! I have talked with most of you about your wishes. Boards and Commissions are allowed to appoint the same person or a new person for the next two-year commitment. I'll work with you on an individual basis to see if you would like to stay or if we need to find new members.

Current Boards and Commissions represented:

Natural Resources Advisory Board

Land Conservation Stewardship Board

Senior Advisory Board

Parks and Recreation Board

Transportation Board

Colorado State University

Downtown Development Authority

Bike Co-op

Bike Fort Collins

UniverCity Connections

Poudre School District

Economic Advisory Commission

3 At-large citizens

Recommendations to include for next term:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Education Coalition

Bicycle Retailers Alliance

Rick –

The Bicycle Retailers Alliance doesn't exist yet, so we will have to see if they form before we approve their seat on this Committee. Let's wait for the two recommended additions before we determine any additional members.

III. FC Bikes/Transportation Planning 2011 Work Plans

DK –

Any concerns regarding the Transportation Planning scope of work for 2011?

Rick –

If you would like to hear about any of these in detail, let's get it on a future agenda.

DK –

If you would like, I can discuss the FC Bikes Work Plan. Basically, it is the Bicycle Safety Education Plan as well as regional outreach.

Rick –

I worry about your workload and your ability to fulfill this work plan.

DK –

About three years ago I started sitting on a variety of committees in the community to help get them started and to empower individuals to pool resources (financial, time, ideas, etc) so they can sustain and build leaders for their own objectives. I am helping people to collaborate to help their own efforts.

Rick –

If there is no more conversation, I would like us to keep in mind that we need to make suggestions and be more involved with the process.

IV. Staff Reports

DK –

Molly North is the Assistant Bicycle Coordinator and she has been doing a fantastic job helping with everything this year. She is stepping in whenever possible. I'd like her to share the most recent development that was confirmed yesterday.

Molly –

I have set up a Bicycle Safety Presentation at New Belgium Brewery on April 25. We will invite employees and their families from New Belgium, Odell, Equinox, Funkwerks and Fort Collins Brewery. The maximum capacity for their all-staff room is 100; we are hoping to fill it for this hour-long presentation about bicycle safety.

DK –

I met with Sherriff Smith and they are excited about the cycling community. They want to start a cycling team. They want to help support city and county efforts in cycling events. They have been an important part of the writing process of the Bicycle Safety Education Plan.

Dave –

Ten members of the CSU BAC worked together to complete and submit an application for Bicycle Friendly University and we should hear back the week of March 8. Also, a new round of construction will start in May. Meridian, from Laurel to University/South will be closed to automobiles for up to two years. A bike lane will be designated on the West side of the street to maintain a north/south bicycle and pedestrian connection.

DK –

We need to pick a new chairperson and vice chairperson at the April Meeting.

V. Share the Road

Rick –

I recommend that we drop Share the Road. I haven't had time to work on this for six months. Unanimous.

Kim –

We are putting together presentation kits for bicycle safety presentations focused on kids, seniors, and businesses. These kits are not for trainings, they are for safety presentations. I am working with Molly to streamline the scheduling process. BPEC is meeting next week and all members are encouraged to attend the City Council meeting next week.

Rick –

Are there any future agenda items?

Any other business?

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.