

**MEETING MINUTES OF  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**May 14, 2012  
6:00 p.m.**

**Conference Room A&B  
281 N. College Ave.  
Fort Collins, CO 80521**

**FOR REFERENCE:**

Chair: Josh Kerson	970-217-9480
Vice Chair: Sylvia Cranmer	970-493-5277
Staff Liaison: Kathleen Bracke	970-224-6140
Staff Support: Molly North	970-224-6112

**BOARD/CITY ORGANIZATION MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Air Quality Board:** Michael Lynn  
**Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition:** Kim Sharpe  
**Bike Fort Collins:** Sylvia Cranmer  
**Colorado State University:** Joy Childress  
**Economic Advisory Commission:** Rick Price  
**Fort Collins Bicycle Retailers Alliance:** Josh Kerson  
**Land Conservation & Stewardship Board:** Kathryn Grimes  
**Natural Resources Advisory Board:** Joe Piesman  
**Parks and Recreation Board:** Bruce Henderson  
**Senior Advisory Board:** Ellen Lirley  
**Transportation Board:** Shane Miller

**AT LARGE PRESENT**

Dan Gould

**ABSENT**

**At Large:** TBD

**At Large:** TBD

**Downtown Development Authority:** Kathy Cardona

**Fort Collins Bicycle Co-op:** Tim Anderson

**Poudre School District:** MacKenzie Mushel

**UniverCity Connections:** TBD

**CITY OF FORT COLLINS**

Kathleen Bracke, Director of Transportation Planning  
Amy Lewin, Transportation Planner  
Molly North, Interim Bicycle Coordinator

**PUBLIC**

Dottie Spivak  
Chris Vogelsang, Bike Library Consultant  
Gary Steen, Transportation Board Chairperson  
Kate Jeracki, Note Taker

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. with a quorum present by Chair Josh Kerson. The committee welcomed new member Ellen Lirley of the Senior Advisory Board.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Motion to approve by Kathryn Grimes, seconded by Joe Piesman. Minutes approved unanimously.*

**FOLLOWUP FROM PRIOR MEETINGS/FUTURE BUSINESS**

Kathryn Grimes thanked Molly North for answering the Committee's questions raised at the last meeting via email. The other members agreed.

**ACTION ITEMS**

None.

Rick Price left the meeting at this point and did not return.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Bike Library Update, Amy Lewin**

Amy Lewin reported on the continuing Bike Library Alternatives Analysis. Screening criteria have been developed and a technical screening has been performed on the identified alternatives. In addition, two draft Budgeting for Outcomes offers for 2013-14 have been submitted.

The first offer is to maintain the existing program that serves downtown, CSU and the hotels, implementing a fee structure to replace the grant funding that ends in 2012. The second BFO offer is to enhance the existing program with automated kiosks with the goal of transitioning through several phases to a completely automated system.

Lewin presented a grid comparing the pros and cons of continuing the Bike Library as it exists; expanding the existing service with more locations, more bikes and longer hours; implementing a hybrid system with automated stations added to the existing staffed locations; and moving to a completely automated system. The criteria compared were System Performance, User Experience, System Management, Community Values, and Cost and Sustainable Funding Options.

She said the Transportation Department is asking the City for \$120,000 to continue the library “as is” in both 2013 and 2014.

The expanded option would cost \$300,000 to \$350,000 in annual operating costs, \$100,000 in capital expenditures.

The hybrid system would cost \$520,000 annually to operate plus \$800,000 in capital expenditures. Lewin said these amounts would require the program to find sponsors and partners to make it financially sustainable.

The completely automated system would cost \$400,000 annually, with \$800,000 in capital costs. Again, sponsorships and partnerships would be crucial.

The existing Bike Library is geared toward visitors making longer and round trips. An automated system would be an alternative to car trips for locals and commuters, facilitating more one-way trips and completing the last mile of a public transit trip.

Shane Miller said many technological advances implemented in other cities, such as GPS location and Smartphone pay systems, are making it more efficient and economical to integrate automated bike-share systems throughout the public transit system.

Kathryn Grimes said not everyone wants or can afford a Smartphone, and she doesn't want to make Fort Collins a place where it takes a lot of money to bicycle. She added that the concept of a free library, where anyone can check out a bike when they need it, makes the program very appealing.

Molly North said socioeconomic factors are part of the analysis and under any system implemented in the city, bikes would be available to whoever needs them. Kathleen Bracke added cash at point of sale could be an option.

Sylvia Cranmer said she would like to see usage metrics on existing automated systems in Denver and Boulder and suggested the City pilot the new program for a year before making an \$800,000 investment. Amy Lewin said she would send the committee additional data that has been collected. Cranmer also asked Lewin to send a copy of her presentation to all the committee members.

Joe Piesman asked about the personnel costs involved and if the department would be adding someone to coordinate an automated system, which would be a major undertaking. Kathleen Bracke said that the Bike Library would continue to be operated by a local nonprofit in partnership with the City.

She said the department has not asked for a dedicated Bike Library coordinator but has requested an additional Transportation Planner to work on pedestrian and bicycling issues. The department staff has been cut from six planners in 2006 to three currently. Funding for capital improvements outlined in the comprehensive Bicycle Plan exists under the Building on Basics initiative, and the department's BFO includes specifics on how it should be used, including Bicycle Safety Town, bike parking and other projects, and staff is needed to implement them.

Joe Piesman said it would be a good idea to open the new system in fall 2014, to coincide with the return of CSU and the opening of the MAX bus system on the Mason Corridor.

The complete alternative analysis report will be presented at the Transportation Open House on May 30, where the Jefferson Street intersection improvements will also be presented. Additional public meetings are set for June 6 and June 13 at the Harmony Library, and an online tool showing all the BFO offers will be live from June 6 to 15.

Lewin said the input from the BAC and the public will be incorporated into the final BFO offer, and the department will continue to pursue funding for the existing Bike Library and partners and sponsors for the automated option.

## **2. BFO Offers**

Josh Kerson would like the BAC to write a letter of support to the Transportation Board for the BFO offers. Kathryn Grimes volunteered to help put it together. Joe Piesman suggested it should be specific, highlighting how it helps accomplish the goals of Plan Fort Collins, the Transportation Master Plan, Bicycle Plan, and Bicycle Safety Education Plan. Dan Gould suggested it

be categorized according to the BAC workplan. Bruce Henderson urged committee members to attend the public meetings – and City Council meetings – to express support for bike sharing in Fort Collins.

## **2. Trails Master Plan, Molly North**

Molly North explained that the Trails Master Plan is a collaborative planning effort between the Transportation, Planning, Natural Areas and Sustainability departments. The goal is to assess how the City's trails are used to set design and connectivity standards to meet the needs of all users.

To this end, the City is participating in the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project over the next several weeks. During trail counts, volunteers will tally usage, based on type, gender and direction. During intercept surveys, volunteers will intercept people on the trails, both bikers and pedestrians, to ask 10 standard questions and an additional question about e-bikes on trails. The national organization will be responsible for compiling and analyzing the data collected and returning the results to the City.

Shane Miller was concerned that asking about ebikes in this setting would be a question in search of a problem and would elicit uninformed responses. Josh Kerson felt it was good to keep the issue alive and he was glad the question was included. Molly North said the responses would not be used to formulate action, just to gather more data.

Bruce Henderson said the Parks and Recreation Board had originally proposed a trial period for e-bikes on certain trails. He distributed a copy of a letter sent to City Council in 2011 asking to allow the study to proceed.

Dan Gould thought it would be a good thing to revisit the issue, since the one time the BAC could vote on it, a quorum was not present. He would like to endorse the Parks and Recreation Board idea in regards to the issue; Shane Miller agreed.

Josh Kerson asked if the BAC would like to write a letter to the Parks and Recreation Board in support of a three-year trial of e-bikes on selected trails. Bruce Henderson said it would be appreciated. Several committee members said they would have to consult with their Boards before offering support. Shane Miller asked that the issue appear on the June agenda.

Kathleen Bracke said the Transportation Planning Department has an ongoing collaboration with the Park Planning Department to update the Trails Master Plan, and the issue is scheduled to come before City Council in a work session in December.

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Staff Reports**

Kathleen Bracke recapped the public transportation meeting on May 30, 4 to 7 p.m. at 215 N. Mason. The Jefferson Street intersection issue is going to City Council on June 5, and the staff's recommendation is to improve the signalized intersection rather than construct a roundabout.

Molly North said she has received two applications for the two at-large vacancies on the BAC. She has been making presentations and attending events on behalf of the Bicycle Ambassador Program in both Fort Collins and Loveland, and has received many applications from people who want to become Ambassadors. She distributed copies of the new issue of Ride Magazine.

### **2. Board Member Reports/Comments**

Sylvia Cranmer asked for volunteers to help Bike Fort Collins and the Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition staff a booth in Masonville for the McKee Medical Center Community Classic Bike Tour on May 20.

## **NEW BUSINESS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Letter of support for the Fort Collins Bike Library to the Transportation Board.

Letter of support to the Transportation Board for a trial period for e-bikes on select City trails.

Next meeting will be June 11 at 215 N. Mason St. Community Room, 6 p.m.

## **ADIJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. by Chair Josh Kerson.