

**MEETING MINUTES OF
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**July 9, 2012
6:00 p.m.
Community Room
215 N. Mason St.
Fort Collins, CO 80521**

FOR REFERENCE:

Chair: Josh Kerson	970-818-6914
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

Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition: Kim Sharpe
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

AT LARGE PRESENT

Dan Gould

ABSENT

At Large: TBD
At Large: TBD
Air Quality Board: Michael Lynn
Bike Fort Collins: Sylvia Cranmer
Downtown Development Authority: Wynne Odell
Fort Collins Bicycle Co-op: Tim Anderson
Poudre School District: MacKenzie Mushel
Senior Advisory Board: Ellen Lirley
Transportation Board: Shane Miller
UniverCity Connections: TBD

CITY OF FORT COLLINS PRESENT

Kathleen Bracke, Director of Transportation Planning
Molly North, Interim Bicycle Coordinator
Aaron Iverson, Senior Transportation Planner
Nancy Nichols, Safe Routes to School Coordinator

CITIZENS PRESENT

Bill Heiseman
Garry Steen, Transportation Board Chairperson
Kate Jeracki, Note Taker

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with a quorum present by Chair Josh Kerson.

AGENDA REVIEW

Josh Kerson and Rick Price added a vote on the Parks and Recreation Board letter in support of an e-bikes study discussed at the May meeting under Action Items. Bruce Henderson also added voting on the letter in support of the Transportation Department's BFO offers drafted by Kathryn Grimes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rick Price requested that a copy of the e-bikes study letter be attached as part of the minutes for May 14, 2012. Josh Kerson asked that his contact number be updated.
Motion to approve as amended by Kathryn Grimes, seconded by Bruce Henderson. Minutes approved unanimously.

FOLLOWUP FROM PRIOR MEETINGS/FUTURE BUSINESS

Kathleen Bracke announced that this will be her last meeting, since she is leaving the City for a new position with Go Boulder. Aaron Iverson will become interim Transportation Planning Manager and Molly North will continue as staff liaison for the committee.

The committee took a short going-away cake break, and everyone wished Kathleen the best.

ACTION ITEMS

Kathryn Grimes presented a draft of a letter to the Transportation Board expressing the Bicycle Advisory Committee's approval and support for the Transportation Planning Department's Budgeting for Outcomes offers that support the plans and goals of the BAC.

Rick Price said he was opposed to sending a letter of support for the offers without the committee discussing them first. Joe Piesman pointed out that the committee discussed the BFO offers in May, and Kathleen Bracke said they have not changed since then and have been posted on the City's website for review. Price was also

concerned about sending the letter to the Transportation Board rather than directly to City Council. Garry Steen assured the committee that the Transportation Board would transmit the letter to Council.

Joe Piesman said the letter should highlight one specific item supported by the BAC, such as the offer for an FC Bikes Program Manager position, rather than just a blanket endorsement of all offers. Bruce Henderson agreed and suggested putting the highlights all upfront, since the letter will be competing with a lot of other information for the Council members' attention. Josh Kerson suggested using language that the BAC supports the offer because the city is fortunate to have FC Bikes and would hate to see the manager position empty.

Rick Price said he could support adding offer 106.2 — the FC Bikes Program Manager — to the letter, which already specifies support for 106.4 — achieving Bicycle Friendly Community Platinum Level — but no others until the committee has talked about them. Kathleen Bracke reminded the committee that all the bicycle-related offers were discussed at the May meeting.

Kim Sharpe moved that the Bicycle Advisory Committee send the letter in support of bicycle-related Budgeting for Outcomes offers as discussed at the May 14, 2012 meeting — with the changes discussed tonight — to the Transportation Board. Bruce Henderson seconded.

The motion passed on a vote of 7-1, with Rick Price opposed. He said he will draft a letter of dissent that he would like included as part of the minutes of this meeting.

Josh Kerson opened discussion of the Parks and Recreation Board's letter to City Council proposing a study of e-bike usage on selected trails. He said Shane Miller had drafted a letter from the BAC in support of the Parks and Recreation Board's request.

Bruce Henderson asked if it would make sense to send the results of the first round of the trail users' survey with the letter. Joe Piesman said the new data would be a way of opening up the e-bike discussion again. Kathleen said the Trails Master Plan would be visiting the Transportation Board, the Parks and Recreation Board and the BAC in August.

Dan Gould said that the study was not dependent on the data from the trail users' survey, and he didn't see why the BAC couldn't chime in now. Rick Price agreed, saying the e-bike study and trail users' survey were two different issues. He said he supported sending Miller's letter forward to the Transportation Board, adding that the BAC could make another request when the trail users' data is available.

Josh Kerson pointed out that the original Parks and Recreation request was simply for a study on selected trails, while Miller specifies the Power and Mason Trails. Joe Piesman said the letter from the BAC should name them.

Rick Price made a motion that the letter supporting a study of e-bikes on the Power and Mason Trails be sent to the Transportation Board to be forwarded to City Council. Motion was seconded by Joy Childress. Motion passed 7-1, with Kathryn Grimes opposed at the direction of the Land Conservation & Stewardship Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Safe Routes to School Update and Future Plans, Nancy Nichols

Nancy Nichols, who has just completed six months as the coordinator of the Safe Routes to School program, outlined some of the accomplishments and plans for the effort to get more kids walking or riding bikes to school. Fifty years ago, about 40 percent of students in the Poudre School District got to school under their own power; today, only 13 percent do, in part because of safety concerns about crossing major streets such as Harmony Road.

The collaborative effort between the school district, City departments, bike and pedestrian organizations, businesses and health organizations has targeted 2015 as the goal to once again have 40 percent to 50 percent of students walking or biking to school.

Nichols said the Strap-and-Snap helmet education program reaches 75 percent of all PSD third graders.

Bruce Henderson asked what kind of reporting is done to measure the success of the Safe Routes program. Nichols said there is no separate reporting, but the program analyzes data collected by other departments. According to Kim Sharpe, one measure the Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition's Safe Kids initiative is looking at is emergency room admissions by age. Joe Piesman asked how good the statistics are per capita. Kathleen Bracke said accident analyses are routinely performed by Traffic Operations and Police Services, and results are posted on the Traffic Ops website, searchable by age, location, time of day, mode of transportation and type of crash.

Rick Price suggested more bicycle education is needed more frequently in schools, from kindergarten through third grade at least, and existing programs need more coordination to work better.

Kim Sharpe pointed out that that is exactly what the BPEC does, bringing people together in an effort to collaborate on teaching bicycle safety.

2. Harmony Enhanced Travel Corridor Plan Update, Aaron Iverson

Aaron Iverson reported on the Harmony Road Enhanced Travel Corridor Alternatives Analysis. The Mason Corridor with its MAX Bus Rapid Transit system is the first of the City's six enhanced corridor plans to be implemented; Harmony Road, between I-25 and Shields Street east to west and Horsetooth to Kechter roads north to south, is to be next.

The purpose of any planned improvements is to enhance both mobility and safety. The alternatives are evaluated for how well each meets travel, land

use, economic health and environmental stewardship goals, in the areas of improved multi-modal mobility, accessibility, safety and sustainability. Josh Kerson asked why the corridor didn't extend all the way to Horsetooth Reservoir. Iverson said the corridor is part of the regional connector to Windsor and Timnath, which is part of the challenge for the Fort Collins Street Department. Harmony was a state highway until 2005 when the City traded it to CDOT in return for the state taking jurisdiction over Carpenter Road (Highway 392). This makes it unlike any other street in Fort Collins, with two intersections – Timberline and Lemay – having some of the highest crash rates in the City.

Iverson said the Transportation Department has been mapping existing conditions in the corridor since January, and held a public open house in May. Staff is now in the first stage of alternatives development, using a growth and travel demand model for the year 2035 based on current land use plans. Current conditions make it tough going for pedestrians or bicyclists using Harmony Road. Committee members agreed, saying many parts are just not safe for anyone not in a car.

Kim Sharpe pointed out it is particularly difficult because there are no streets parallel to Harmony Road that bikers can use as alternatives. Kathryn Grimes said there should be more sidewalks removed from the street, like those on the north side of Harmony east of College Avenue. Dan Gould would like to see more dedicated transitways for pedestrians and multi-modal transportation options.

Aaron Iverson said an online survey received 250 responses, with 70 percent concerned about congestion on Harmony Road and more than 50 percent willing to fund improvements for bicycles as well as road safety improvements. An underpass taking the Power Trail across Harmony Road at Timberline is on the Transportation Master Plan. There is no timeline for implementation, he added, but it is included in BFO offers for 2013-14. Recommended alternatives should be finalized by Spring 2013. Iverson said he would be discussing them with the BAC as they develop.

3. Green Streets Update, Aaron Iverson

Aaron Iverson explained that Green Streets incorporate alternative designs that support active modes of travel, including walking and biking, as well as an integrated system of stormwater management and aesthetic elements.

The City is working in four areas to implement Green Streets projects:

1. Streetscape/landscape standards in the land use code;
2. More flexible street classifications;
3. Low-impact stormwater development standards;
4. A demonstration project that would reshape Stuart Street between Shields Street and Taft Hill Road using Green Street concepts.

Josh Kerson said any effort to green up the streets should include getting trucks spewing black diesel fumes off the roads. Kathryn Grimes agreed with taking steps to reduce emissions. Joe Piesman said one beautiful north-south

and one east-west route built to green standards would show how it could be done, and people would love to use them.

Iverson said City Council is to consider the initiative at a work session in August. If the BFO offer is funded, staff will begin work on concept drawings, with public meetings in September through November ahead of a December Council adoption hearing.

REPORTS

1. Staff Reports/BFO Process Update

Molly North said there were record numbers of participants at all three Bike Week events in June. She was especially happy that the number of first-time participants in Bike to Work Day had increased.

Kathleen Bracke thanked everyone for their hard work on behalf of bicycle transportation in Fort Collins over the years, and said she would be in touch to share notes from Boulder.

2. Board Member Reports/Comments

Josh Kerson reported that he had completed Ride the Rockies on his electric bike, and announced that this will be his last meeting as well. He is moving to Bellingham, Washington, at the end of the month to open a new e-bike shop and factory. Sylvia Cranmer will take over as chair of the committee.

NEW BUSINESS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Trails Master Plan and results of user survey.

Next meeting Aug. 13 at 215 N. Mason St. Community Room, 6 p.m.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. by Chair Josh Kerson.