

**MEETING MINUTES OF
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**December 10, 2012
6:00 p.m.
Community Room
215 N. Mason St.
Fort Collins, CO 80521**

FOR REFERENCE:

Chair: Sylvia Cranmer
Staff Liaison: Molly North

970-493-5277
970-224-6112

BOARD/CITY ORGANIZATION MEMBERS PRESENT

Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition: Kim Sharpe
Bike Fort Collins: Sylvia Cranmer
Colorado State University: Fred Haberecht
Fort Collins Bicycle Co-op: Tim Anderson
Land Conservation & Stewardship Board: Kathryn Grimes
Natural Resources Advisory Board: Joe Piesman
Parks and Recreation Board: Bruce Henderson
Transportation Board: Shane Miller

AT LARGE PRESENT

Dee Colombini
Mike Hinterberg

ABSENT

At Large: Dan Gould
Air Quality Board: Michael Lynn
Downtown Development Authority: Wynne Odell
Economic Advisory Commission: Jim Clark
Fort Collins Bicycle Retailers Alliance: TBD
Poudre School District: MacKenzie Mushel
Senior Advisory Board: Ellen Lirley
UniverCity Connections: TBD

CITY OF FORT COLLINS PRESENT

Molly North, Interim Bicycle Coordinator
Aaron Iverson, Interim Transportation Planning Director

CITIZENS PRESENT

Garry Steen, Transportation Board Chairperson
Scott Weeks, Citizen
Kate Jeracki, Note Taker

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. with a quorum present by Chair Sylvia Cranmer.

AGENDA REVIEW

No changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Joe Piesman moved to approve the minutes from November 5, 2012, as presented. Tim Anderson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FOLLOW UP FROM PRIOR MEETING/FUTURE BUSINESS

Aaron Iverson said the two grant requests for Safe Routes to School discussed last month — \$23,000 for programming and education and \$290,000 for improvements near Tavelli Elementary in partnership with the Poudre School District — had been submitted on Friday, December 7. He said staff was really excited about the chances for approval, which should be announced in February or March.

Sylvia Cranmer said she will send the letter of recommendation for the Regional Bike Plan from the BAC to the Transportation Board and copy Committee members.

Molly North reported that an overpass on I-25, south of where the Poudre river goes under the highway, has been included in CDOT's construction plan for 2014, assuming all the floodplain permits can be secured. It will be designed in 2013.

North also said Joe Olson is willing to come back to the BAC in January or February to give an update on traffic safety and new technologies.

The Trails Master Plan team will be presenting to the BAC in January, according to North, who will be presenting about the Trails Master Plan at tomorrow's City Council meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

UniverCity Connections Renewal

Fred Haberecht discussed how the Colorado State University trail system is evolving as part of the overall transit plan for the campus. Haberecht is a member of UniverCity Connections' Bike Culture Group, a subgroup of the Transportation Group, as well as a landscape architect and planner for CSU.

He said the Mason Corridor BRT can be leveraged into the start of a greater intermodal project. The issues under consideration are first/last mile – while the Max service serves north/south travel, CSU should take steps to enhance east/west routes; infrastructure; ridership experience; how to integrate CSU with the community; and the potential for a circulator route that would include Old Town and the “Beer-muda Triangle” of breweries. He added that the effort is pushing forward what has been going on for the past three years, and the university has been talking about improving alternative forms of transportation, including bikes and buses, since at least 2004.

The university is also exploring ways to integrate bike facilities with the MAX system, such as providing secure bike storage on the edge of campus so people can get off the MAX, pick up their bikes to ride around campus, then lock them up at the end of the day when they ride MAX home. Another idea is secure parking at the Natural Resources Research Campus with direct access to the College Avenue overpass so riders can take MAX to campus. Haberecht said lots of research needs to be done before such plans can be implemented, and not all the ideas have funding.

The committee discussed the limited space now available on the MAX buses for bikes. Molly North said the current iteration calls for room for four bikes onboard each bus; if the spaces are full, another bus will be along in 10 minutes. Sylvia Cranmer said that in Aspen at one time there was a dedicated Bike Bus that could carry 14 bikes on racks inside and 19 passengers. Shane Miller added that this is where an automated bike share system would help provide the flexibility needed to make bike commuting convenient enough for more people to use it every day.

Haberecht distributed a campus bike map and talked about the various infrastructure projects currently under way or recently completed, such as adding dedicated bike and pedestrian paths as part of projects to upgrade parking lots on campus and increasing available bike parking. The university is also putting Ram logos on dedicated bike lanes on campus to help distinguish them for both drivers and bicyclists.

The goal is to make the car/bike/pedestrian/transit interface safer, such as better integrating the route into the Moby Arena parking lot from Shields and Elizabeth into the bike network. Tim Anderson asked if it would be possible to close the campus to cars entirely. Haberecht said no, but given projections that the enrollment will grow to 35,000 by 2025, the push is to migrate

parking spaces to structures rather than surface parking lots to keep on-campus driving to a minimum.

CSU is also collecting data on how people are using bikes on and around the campus, to predict the effect new student housing projects such as The Grove and the redevelopment of Aggie Village, which will add a significant number of beds. The Laurel Village project that is replacing the Lory Apartments will have bike parking for 80 percent occupancy, for example. Haberecht said the bike racks on campus are full and that there are possibly 15,000 bikes on campus at any given time, but they need to figure out exactly how many people are really riding to campus and where they are coming from.

Shane Miller said there are three things worth pursuing in integrating bicycles into the overall transportation system. First, eliminate obstacles to multimodal usage – for example, there’s not enough bike parking where you need it. Second, there should be extra capacity throughout the city to encourage riders to use the transit system, which would have an impact on parking. A secure bike parking space costs about \$200, while a parking structure costs about \$20,000 per space to build. The lack of bike capacity on MAX is a restriction on the convenience of bicyclists using the system, he added. Third, non-automobile vehicles other than two-wheeled bikes such as trikes and electric-assist bikes, should also be accommodated by the trails and infrastructure.

Haberecht agreed that CSU has an under-capacity of trails, and is trying to address the question in new student housing developments. Safe crossings to and from campus are especially important. In response to a question from Mike Hinterberg, Haberecht said there has not yet been any visioning done around parking for or alternative transportation to the proposed on-campus stadium near Lake and Prospect streets.

REPORTS

1. Staff Reports

Molly North said that Fort Collins, Loveland, Windsor, Estes Park, and Larimer County submitted a bid to host a leg of USA Pro Challenge; the announcement of host cities should be made any day now.

Winter Bike to Work Day is Wednesday. The Bike Winter campaign includes four events – a winter biking workshop, a Bike Lunch Talk, a Light up the Night bike light giveaway, and Bike to Work Day.

Shared Lane Marking have been installed west of Lemay, from Elizabeth to Stover. Two of the SLM on Mountain Avenue started to peel up, so the City worked with the manufacturer on replacements.

The City budget was approved; most of the offers from Transportation Planning were approved and fully funded, but the Active Modes Planner and Bike Library automated system offers were not funded. However, North said the BFO offer started a conversation about what an automated bike share system could look like. The Bike Library will continue as it is for now.

The city will submit its application for the Platinum Bike Friendly designation from the League of American Bicyclists in February. North asked for the Committee's help in getting the word out about all the work that has been done since the community earned the Gold designation in 2008. She suggested circulating the updated Bike Plan to members' boards and commissions; she will also send a draft letter that the boards could send in support of the application.

2. Board Member Reports/Comments

Kim Sharpe reported that BPEC's strategic plan for the coming year is completed and it emphasizes how to educate people how to bike, walk, and drive safely.

Kathryn Grimes said the Land Conservation and Stewardship Board is talking about acquiring properties and new bike trails. She may be able to reveal more details next month.

Sylvia Cranmer said Bike Fort Collins's fundraising campaign for the Bike Library ends next Saturday at New Belgium Brewery with an ugly sweater party, tickets \$15 online or \$20 at the door. Molly North added that the Bike Library will be receiving \$80,000 in funding from the City for 2013-14, a reduction from the \$120,000 requested, so the fundraising is to fill that gap. They have also applied for grants to enhance and expand the Bike Library as it is.

Since this is the last meeting of the year, Sylvia Cranmer asked each member to give his or her bike-related wishes for the new year.

Kathryn Grimes would like to see more space on MAX buses for bikes, as well as corrected signage on trails in natural areas.

Dee Columbini would like infrastructure improvements that would make it safer to cross College Avenue between Prospect and Drake.

Tim Anderson would like to have discussions with City Council about a bike park, and a development plan for a permanent location for the Bike Coop.

Mike Hinterberg would like to see a safe crossing for the Power Trail on Harmony Road. (Aaron Iverson said the Parks Department has a GOCO grant for an underpass north of Trilby Road.)

Shane Miller said the city needs an automated bike vending system to be the last-mile service for Transfort so that a multimodal transit system can become a reality sooner rather than later. Development should happen with CSU and the City to make the system seamless.

Joe Piesman wants to see the regional bike plan implemented so he can ride from Bellvue to Windsor and maybe even to Platteville by the time he retires.

Sylvia Cranmer would also like to see increased capacity for bikes on buses.

Fred Haberecht would like more data – how many people are using bikes and what are they using them for — to support a pitch for more funding for infrastructure. He said CSU fills 20 percent more bike rack capacity than it had four years ago, but needs more details.

NEW BUSINESS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Since this is Shane Miller's last meeting, he thanked the Committee for all their work and for having a coherent vision to move transportation forward in Fort Collins. He also asked for email input for his summary to present to the Transportation Board in January. Sylvia Cranmer thanked Miller for his contributions, saying she has always been impressed with his understanding of and sophisticated approach to the issues, and his generosity in sharing his knowledge. The Committee will miss his input.

Fred Haberecht said this is also his last meeting, since Joy Childress will be returning from maternity leave in January.

Next meeting: January 14 at 215 N. Mason St. Community Room, 6 p.m.

ADJOURN

Kathryn Grimes moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by Joe Piesman, passed unanimously.