

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2015, 6:00 p.m.

Community Room
215 North Mason Street
Fort Collins, CO 80522

FOR REFERENCE:

Chair, Sylvia Cranmer	970-493-5277
Staff Liaison, Tessa Greegor	970-416-2471

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Ragan Adams, Parks and Recreation Board
Joy Childress, Colorado State University
Mark Houdashelt, Air Quality Advisory Board
Chris Hunt, Poudre School District
Ed Ossello, Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition
Edward Reifsnyder, Land Conservation & Stewardship Board
Lee Swanson, Downtown Development Authority
York, Transportation Board

AT LARGE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Busch-Kinkaid
Sylvia Cranmer, Chair

ABSENT

Lawrence Bontempo, Senior Advisory Board
Joe Halseth, Natural Resource Advisory Board
Gray Harrison, Fort Collins Bike Co-op
Bruce Henderson, Bike Fort Collins and Parks and Recreation Board
Chris Hutchinson, UniverCity Connections
Patrick McCarty (At Large Member)
Kelly McDonnell, Natural Resources Advisory Board
Greg Oakes, Transportation Board

CITY OF FORT COLLINS (FC) STAFF PRESENT

Cameron Gloss, Community Development and Neighborhood Services
Tessa Greegor, FC Bikes Program Manager
Nancy Nichols, Safe Routes to School
Paul Sizemore, FC Moves Program Manager

GUESTS and CITIZENS PRESENT

Kristi Savig, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was preceded with light dinner provided by Spoons (5:45 – 6:00)
The meeting was promptly called to order by Chair Cranmer at 6:01 p.m.
Introductions of members present were made

AGENDA REVIEW

No changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public participants this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May's (June 1st meeting) minutes were approved. Four (4) abstained since they were not at June 1st meeting.

FOLLOW-UP FROM PRIOR MEETING/FUTURE BUSINESS

Tessa Greegor discussed last month's BAC ride in place of the June meeting:

- 3 BAC members and 4 community members were present.
- The 8 mile ride included looking the Laurel Pilot Project (Laurel and Mason area), low-stress routes, and spot treatments near Heatheridge and Prospect.
- Ed Ossello appreciated opportunity to discuss projects in the field and voice comments

Chair Cranmer suggested another BAC ride in the fall to review current and future projects. These BAC rides should continue 2 times/year to gather field-related comments from BAC members, key board members, and community participants.

A question was posed of what will happen with Laurel Pilot Project delineators in winter. Members noted that street sweeping and plowing will continue around delineators.

Lee Swanson brought up a concern that merging with traffic through the Remington construction detours at Remington and Laurel was difficult. The suggestion to use signage for "all lanes merge" was considered.

Chair Cranmer again encouraged members to attend Transportation Board (T-Board) meetings.

ACTION ITEMS

None.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Downtown Plan (Cameron Gloss)

Cameron Gloss, Planning Manager for Community Development and Neighborhood Services, presented a summary of the Downtown Plan.

Highlights:

The process of updating the 26 year old Plan is underway. The development timeline for the 20 year Plan began in March 2015 and is anticipated to be complete in August 2016. Timeline phases include initiation, visioning, goals and strategies, plan document, and implementation.

The new plan includes boundary changes for the downtown area. Reduction of neighborhood areas are planned on the west and additions are planned for brewery areas on the north and Campus North and the Lincoln Center business community areas on the south.

Six working groups are weighing in on the Plan. Transportation and Parking being one of these; Energy and Environment is a new working group. Outreach is extensive, including stakeholder engagement, public events, online and mobile activities, and Broadcasts.

Phase 1: Initiation and Visioning - Emerging Priorities (by Group)

- Arts & Culture – affordability
- Downtown Management – options for homeless needs
- Energy & Environment – solar charging stations etc.
- Market & Economy – local FC retailers, affordability. Maintain a balance between regulation and development.
- Transportation & Parking – Adequate parking, MAX

- Urban Design – Design elements including height of buildings and downtown character

Events have included Walking Tours, Vision Events the included key path polling.

Those surveyed were asked to select the top 3 bikeways that are most appropriate for downtown (9 images/options were provided). Results included:

1. Protected with planters on sides
2. Bike lane with green paint
3. Protected lanes with delineators

Those surveyed were also asked to select the top 3 bike parking structures. Results included:

1. Large on street artistic bike racks
2. Sidewalk rack medium size
3. Sidewalk/plaza rack (large)

Upcoming events for further public input include:

- New West Fest – Aug 15-16, please visit Downtown Plan booth at Bike CoOp, 240 E. Mountain Ave
- Design Charrette - September 14-15, 8:30 am – 5 pm
- City Comforts Community Event - September 24, 6-8pm (recommended for bike related input)

Q&A:

Q. Is Old Town Neighborhood Development Plan part of this?

A. No, this is different plan. The Downtown Plan boundaries encompass more of the commercial property in the area. However, these interface areas will continue to be of concern/focus for both plans.

Cameron also mentioned that the Climate Action Plan will also be implemented in next 20 years. The Downtown Plan goals will align with the Climate Plan as much as possible.

Q. Is the Downtown Artery a self-sustaining business?

A. Yes

Tavelli Multiuse Path (Nancy Nichols)

Nancy Nichols of the city's Safe Routes to School Program provided a thorough update of the Tavelli Multiuse Path project.

Highlights:

Safe Routes to School received a \$244,000 grant from CDOT to support a multiuse path leading north to Tavelli Elementary school. This award included \$70,000 from a Poudre School District matching fund.

The paths will be adjacent to N. Lemay/Lindenmeier Road north to Country Club Road. Fort Collins Safe Routes is focusing on the City-owned areas, not the potential County path areas north of Country Club Road. The primary purpose of the multiuse path is to provide a transport option other than by vehicle to southern Tavelli district children and their families.

Existing conditions in this area include dirt paths adjacent to N. Lemay/Lindenmeier Road and a pedestrian bridge over a water canal. The entry and exit drives for Tavelli vehicle drop off are also dangerous areas for both vehicles and pedestrians.

Pre and post surveys are required by CDOT under the conditions of the grant. Nancy provided a handout highlighting the May 2015 pre-survey recently conducted. Given that approximately 80 Tavelli families returned surveys (~13% of school's population), the majority modes of travel currently used are bus or family vehicles. Zero families surveyed noted they accessed the school using bicycles. With the goal of Safe Routes to School being 50% of children (K-12 grades) biking or walking to school, this survey result for Tavelli further clarified the goals and objectives of the Tavelli Multiuse Path project.

The pre survey also brought out other parent concerns as they related to children walking or biking to/from school. This included the speed of traffic along the route and need for crossing guards at Tavelli intersections and crossings (see page 9 of Survey results).

The ~.75 mile path on the east side of N. Lemay/Lindenmeier will be 9 feet wide, with a 3 foot wide buffer with street. The path will be closer to 10 feet wide as it gets closer to school. The path on the west side of N. Lemay/Lindenmeier will be 6 feet wide. A crossing over N. Lemay/Lindenmeier will be marked with a

rapid flashing beacon and School Zone signage. Nancy mentioned that bringing crossing guards back to Tavelli area would likely be necessary as the number of children using the path increases. Education regarding biking pools and parent guided groups would also encourage biking/walking to school using the paths.

The design is almost complete and construction could begin any time. The launch date for path completion is before bad weather arrives (October/November 2015). The grant money to support this is available till the end of 2016, should construction delays push completion into 2016.

Nancy also shared Safe Routes Rotation Education Schedule (2015, 2016, 2017). She mentioned that the city is giving ~\$100,000 per year for other Safe Routes improvements.

Discussion:

Trout, Leshner, Weber, Blevins, Bauder, Dunn schools have high percentages of bike riders. Ragan Adams suggested that mapping these successful schools' district boundaries might bring out interesting dynamics of how/why these goals are being met. Chair Cranmer suggested looking further into (demographic) makeup of volume of elementary children in connecting Tavelli neighborhoods.

The mode of school arrival versus the distance from the school typically shows a correlation to more walkers/bikers.

A proposed canal bike trail may also join with and benefit the Tavelli Multiuse Path.

Q & A:

Q. Lincoln middle school is bordered by field as well as W. Vine Dr. with no sidewalk. Could we consider making an easement like this for Vine?

A. Nancy mentioned that the Parks department has spur trail (\$300K) on 2017 agenda. This area is also part of the "low stress" bike routes.

Fort Collins Bicycle Wayfinding System Plan (Tessa Gregor)

Tessa presented the background of the key aspects of the Bicycle Wayfinding System Plan at the June 1st meeting. The 6 month development of the Plan should be complete in September 2015. Phase I of the Plan included priority mapping and signage design.

A large-scale version of the recently drafted Wayfinding System map was posted for BAC's review. Tessa highlighted the 5 priority routes, and other proposed wayfinding routes.

Tessa also presented several graphic examples of proposed Wayfinding System signage.

Signs and Pavement markings will be used for continued guidance to clarify wayfinding (routes):

1. FC Bikes Concept (FC Bikes logo)
2. FC Cruiser Concept (blue and green colors)
3. Classic Bikeway Concept (simple)

A brief break was taken for BAC participants to view large mock-ups of the three proposed sign designs and vote for favorites as well as make comments. Tessa will bring results of opinions to the August BAC meeting.

Q&A:

Q. Can we put FC Bikeways signage into the County areas of routes?

A. FC Bikes is collaborating with regional stakeholders to support a regional wayfinding/signage system that is seamless for the user.

2015 USA Pro Challenge Education Update - (Tessa Greegor)

On August 19 – 5:30 – 8:30, FC bikes will host the Pro Challenge Kickoff Festival. The festival will feature education and outreach during the week of the Pro Challenge Race. The city is partnering with Summitview church to use their parking lot south of the Spring Creek trail near Rolland Moore Park. This will be a family friendly free event including: YGR Live (Your Group Ride - Race recaps), food trucks, a family bike rodeo, and bike, helmet and light giveaways.

Tessa shared a glimpse of the developed poster and promotional materials for the festival. Chair Cranmer suggested that the “USA Pro Challenge” text be enlarged on the Poster, to make better connection.

Let Tessa Greegor know if your group would like to have booth or participate in the Festival. The Pro Challenge organization is also looking for additional volunteers, check their website.

www.fcgov.com/bicycling/usapc.php Information Web page has been developed. This page features USA Pro Challenge information and events leading up to the race. The Pro Challenge website and this informational page are also linked from the FC Bikes home page.

Q. Is the Festival the only community event?

A. No, on Saturday, August 22, 5:30 – 7:30 downtown, the Women Pro Cyclists will also have a Q&A event, and downtown festival. Rides

Q. Is there a way to connect bikers with community members?

A. Not an aspect of the pro biking culture at this time.

On race day, FC Bikes Bicycle Ambassadors will be on the race course talking to people and handing out bicycle-related information and swag.

STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tessa Greegor (FC Bikes) - 10,000 new bike maps were printed in June (several handed out for June bike to work day). These cost ~\$2,800 to print. Some updates/corrections to the map will be made before the next print in the fall.

MEMBER REPORTS

York (Transportation Board) - Arts in Public Places has placed a new tree sculpture (containing bicycles) near the Spring Creek Trail, west of Center Drive. Another art piece will be placed in the round-about at Shields and Vine.

Chris Hunt (PSD)– shared his experiences traveling in bike cities. This included news from Seattle regarding bike cops handing out lots of tickets as well as info about Vancouver B.C. He also shared info about a friend’s visit to Copenhagen (re: green pavement trail signs).

Lee Swanson (DDA) – Old Town Square (stage area) should be finished the end of September.

Ragan Adams – provided a written summary page of Parks and Recreation activities.

Cathy Busch-Kinkaid (Member at Large) - Addressed the Kechter overpass bicycle fatality, June 2015. The Coloradoan covered the issue quite well, including some safety suggestions by Bruce Henderson (Bike Fort Collins and Parks and Recreation Board). The City and County both are responsible for Kechter Road. FC west of I-25, County east of I-25, and CDOT in the middle with I-25 overpass.

Cathy asked the BAC if this safety issue would be an opportunity to explore bicycle safety options together with Larimer County.

- The problem is there is no safe I-25 overpass for bikers. CDOT’s ownership and responsibility.
- Traffic counter on bridge is now present
- The Streets Department is evaluating opportunities to widen shoulders on West side owned by city.

Chair Cranmer answered, no, we are responsible for advising the “Transportation Board” committee, or making suggestions for City Traffic Engineers etc. to address. We can go as individuals to express concerns or opinions... but we cannot express opinions on the BAC’s behalf.

Comments included:

- Individual traffic accidents are not specifically the BAC's responsibility to address.
- BAC is an advisory council – Ragan felt we should be an advocate for safety in general.

Chair Cranmer asked that this discussion and specific Kechter overpass issues be tabled for next meeting. Cathy will speak with Bruce Henderson further, on what he suggests for the BAC on this issue.

Joe Childress (CSU Parking and Transportation Services)

The WeRide Event will be a part of the Fall RAM Welcome, August 23rd, 12:00 – 2:00pm

- Tents will be set up for bike education, bike registration, Group Ride, etc.
- CSU discussions regarding stadium development are already including biking interface issues.

Mark Houdashelt (Air Quality Advisory Board) – Mark is working with others on the Downtown Plan and Energy Efficiency Plan. He noted that the Energy Plan has little emphasis on bicycling. BAC members were encouraged to provide comments on the Energy Plan before September 22nd.

NEW BUSINESS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

BAC ride should be scheduled in Fall to review current and future projects. These BAC rides should continue 2 times/year to gather field-related comments from BAC members, key board members, and community participants.

Chair Cranmer asked that the Kechter (I-25 overpass) issue be tabled for next meeting.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. unanimously approved.

The next BAC regular meeting is Monday, August 24, 2015.