

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting Minutes

October 26, 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

Joy Childress, Colorado State University
Todd Dangerfield, Downtown Development Authority
Joe Halseth, Natural Resource Advisory Board
Bruce Henderson, Bike Fort Collins and Parks and Recreation Board
Chris Hunt, Poudre School District
Kelly McDonnell, Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition
Ryan Nicholson, Fort Collins Bike Co-op

AT LARGE MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Busch-Kinkaid
Sylvia Cranmer, Chair

ABSENT

Chris Hutchinson, UniverCity Connections
Ragan Adams, Parks and Recreation Board
Lawrence Bontempo, Senior Advisory Board
Mark Houdashelt, Air Quality Advisory Board
Patrick McCarty (At Large Member)
Greg Oakes, Transportation Board
Edward Reifsnnyder, Land Conservation & Stewardship Board
Lee Swanson, Downtown Development Authority

CITY OF FORT COLLINS STAFF PRESENT

Tessa Greegor, FC Bikes Program Manager
Nancy Nichols, Safe Routes to School Coordinator
Paul Sizemore, FC Moves Program Manager

GUESTS and CITIZENS PRESENT

Aaron Fodge, CSU Alternative Transportation Manager
Chris Johnson, Bike Fort Collins, Director
Kristi Savig, Recorder
Will Hickey, Citizen
Sandy Lemberg, Citizen
Christina McClard, Citizen

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was preceded with dinner provided by Spoons (5:45 – 6:00), and called to order by Chair Cranmer at 6:05 p.m.

AGENDA REVIEW

The Chair provided a brief introduction for Chris Johnson (new Director for Bike Fort Collins) and Aaron Fodge (CSU Alternative Transportation Manager) and what they would be presenting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chair asked if any of the three guests/citizens present had any comments.

Sandy Lemberg (Citizen) asked to address the BAC. – Comments/questions included:

- What is the purpose of Remington concrete bulb outs and traffic control structures? The City is not being responsive to the “biking community’s” input.
- The new traffic control (4-way stop signs) on both Pitkin and Elizabeth are causing traffic flow (backup) issues. In his opinion the traffic flowed better with a light or 2-way stop and yield.
- Sandy went on to question whether the BAC is linked with City Planning and infrastructure decisions. He reiterated comments made during the August meeting that the City should be concentrating more on how to best accommodate cyclists. In his opinion, consistent bike lanes with normal features should be established throughout the city. The Laurel street barriers and new features are often confusing to him as a rider.
- Will state law require bike lanes on new street construction? Specifically in question were the re-paving areas on College Avenue and areas of College Ave. where “Bicycles Prohibited” signs are in place.
 - o Tessa Greeger (FC Bikes) addressed this concern: referencing that the state has a Complete Streets policy, but there are certain situations in which they would not be required to provide dedicated bike lanes. They address bike lane needs in their planning process like the city.
 - o She added that the Midtown in Motion Transportation Study (Prospect to Harmony) explored various alternatives for providing bicycle facilities along or adjacent to College Ave. The plan is to have multiuse paths, rather than bike lanes in the roadway, in addition to better utilization of the frontage roads as bike/ped friendly streets. Implementation of the Plan will occur as stretches of College Ave (and other roadways) are redeveloped. The city would ultimately address gaps of implementation (those areas not redeveloped) with city funds.
 - o Tessa re-emphasized that the Midtown in Motion Plan did not address the Laurel to Prospect area of College Ave. Ryan Nicholson (FC Bike Co-op) understood the stretch of College around campus was not wide enough to accommodate bike lanes.
 - o College Ave is a state highway. Any decisions made must be made in collaboration with CDOT. The “Bicycles Prohibited” signs on College were posted by CDOT. Paul Sizemore (FC Moves) added that it would be at the discretion of CDOT whether or not these signs would be removed before or after new multiuse paths are created.
- Ryan asked about Bicycle Master Plan prioritization of bike facilities and development. Tessa responded that long-term plan recommends protected bike lanes on College Ave (through downtown), and that an extensive prioritization process was conducted for the 2020 low-stress network plan.
- Sandy also asked why MAX was not better accommodating bikes. Chair Cranmer and Joy Childress (CSU) responded since they were on the planning committee for MAX and understood the design compromises made by Transfort and the limit of 4 bikes per MAX bus. Of those BAC participants present, they expressed that “Other than during peak hours, it is not difficult to bring bikes on MAX, or to have sufficient rack space. Sandy commented following the discussion that he would try to experience taking his bike on MAX first hand.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ryan Nicholson asked that minor clarifications be made to the guest member present on October 5th and to his Bike Co-op status report comment. A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes with these changes. Three (3) members abstained since they were not at October 5th meeting.

FOLLOW-UP FROM PRIOR MEETING/FUTURE BUSINESS

The Chair surveyed the current meeting attendees on their preference for the November meeting date given possible Thanksgiving week conflicts. It was decided that the planned meeting for November 23, was preferred.

The Chair also made a formal invite, survey of availability, and decision to have a holiday gathering of BAC members and their significant others on December 14th. The exact time and place of the gathering will be emailed. If the board feels a December meeting is necessary, a Monday meeting date will be scheduled.

Cathy Busch-Kincaid (Member at Large) asked about the Wayfinding Plan stakeholder meeting on October 12th. Tessa Greigor mentioned that the final draft of the system map, prioritized routes, and signing was reviewed. Overall, the Plan received positive feedback on selected naming and routes. The one-street naming approach was preferred. The final system plan will be shared with BAC in the near future.

ACTION ITEMS

None.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

CSU Bicycle Planning Update (Aaron Fodge, CSU Alternative Transportation Manager)

Aaron Fodge gave an overview of CSU's continued efforts to brand the campus as a Bicycle Friendly University to both students and employees.

His presentation included an overview of how bicycle use is evolving on Campus.

- 80% of CSU employees live in Fort Collins
- Bike Friendly Fort Collins is a selling point to employees as well as students.
- Vehicle corridors are being replaced with bike/pedestrian pathways.
- Vehicle parking is shifting to perimeter areas of campus.
- Over 700 million dollars has been invested in new buildings on Campus, which has included bike parking, commuter showers, etc.

Aaron also shared a short CSU Construction Promotional Video with members present. The video highlighted the growing student body and campus buildings added in the past few years as well as those planned for the future (e.g. CSU Stadium).

CSU is committed to sustainability and developing a full network of transportation options. Aaron especially appreciates the preservation of corridors throughout campus for pedestrians and bicycles.

Key points of the CSU Bike Master Plan (PowerPoint slides):

- Corridor preservation
- Primary Mode of Transportation Surveys (Students & Employees)
- Bikes and transit have opened campus up to FC community (Esp. MAX)
- Trails on campus are included in recently published City maps

- Separated pathways for bikes and pedestrians
- Contraflow bike lanes (e.g. East Drive)
- Buffered bike lanes (e.g. Plum and Meridian), Ram Dude pavement sharrows
- Dismount zones
- Sufficient bike rack spaces, 15K now and anticipating 18K spaces when done
- Less roadways and reshaping of campus illuminated unnecessary enforcement
- Ram Guards better controlling right-of-way issues
- Rambassadors provide educational messages and support count studies
- Events (e.g. We Ride, RAM Welcome)
- Travel training for employees, including Kaiser Grant for engaging employees over 50 years old to choose bike transportation
- The Spoke bike shop, over 300 students visited the first week of fall term
- Permanent Traffic Counters have been installed. On and off campus, six counters have been installed so far. Aaron went on to explain the value of these data counts in telling a story about commuter traffic, as well as supporting planning efforts. All CSU count data is available to the city if needed.

CSU Transportation Services Collaboration with City

- CSU provided 1.5 million to Mason Corridor
- CSU students ride Transfort/MAX for free
- Low-Stress Network Support – including opening up campus routes (starting with signage)
- Playing a role in CSU and FC Bike Plans and other City planning.
 - o Online Collaboration
 - o ASCSU (student government) is highly engaged when it comes to planning
 - o We Ride – Annual Bicycle Orientation for CSU Students during RAM Welcome. Two hour block that includes education and bike tours etc.
 - o CSU is also a member of the NoCo Bike and Ped Collaborative

Aaron concluded with a personal invite for BAC members to attend the Campus Bike Advisory Committee meetings on the second Thursday of each month, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Contact Aaron Fodge (aaron.fodge@colostate.edu) for more information or meeting location.

Discussion points:

Ryan Nicholson commented on the safety hazard of students riding through campus without a bike light. Joy Childress (CSU) mentioned that lights are available for purchase during campus orientation and also distributed to those cyclists cited with a ticket on campus. Frog bike lights are often handed out during campus events. Ryan suggested handing out or selling efficient bike lights during bike registration process. He also wanted to encourage educating students to actually use lights. Aaron stated that providing lights to all students at CSU's cost would be ~10% of his Transportation Services budget. In relation to safety, Aaron would also like to see better helmet use.

Todd Dangerfield (DDA) emphasized educating students up front on bike safety. Aaron restated CSU's efforts through the We Ride (RAM Welcome event), Bike to Breakfast, etc. opportunities to educate students.

Q&A

Q. How do the installed counters work?

A. Ground mounted sensors can distinguish bikes from pedestrians. These do not display to bikes/people passing by.

Q. Kelly McDonnell (Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition) asked if CSU was considering covered bike parking.

A. Yes, but with 15,000 bike spaces to accommodate, where to put these and how they would meet building planning standards need to be addressed.

A. Currently campus policy does not allow indoor parking (security, space, and damage issues).

Q. Sandy Lemberg (Citizen Guest) asked for clarification on the Pitkin Route presented in the slides.

A. Aaron showed aerial view of the Pitkin roundabout at center of campus. In the future this area will not require dismount. He also briefly outlined proposed improvements for the Pitkin crossing at Shields, and Shields and Springfield.

Q. Kelly also asked about bike parking around the stadium. On game day, where are bikes going to park?

A. Aaron sees this as a challenge to address in the future. Different options for valet bike parking and rack usage will need to be planned for.

Q. How much do you see CSU using Bike Share on campus?

A. CSU is working in collaboration with the City in Fort Collins bike share planning. Zipcars are working and showing this concept is desired by students. Aaron wants to see bike share be a big part of campus development. They are currently focusing on transportation to campus on MAX and bike share bringing students into campus.

Bike Fort Collins (New Director Chris Johnson)

Bruce Henderson (Bike Fort Collins and Parks and Recreation Board) introduced Chris Johnson. Bike Fort Collins (Bike FC) is a non-profit organization. Hiring a director will enable Bike Fort Collins to do great things.

Chris shared how his experience with development, promotion, and execution of events and bike programs across multiple community organizations will be an asset to the position. He went on to share his goals and objectives for Bike Fort Collins. These are summarized below.

Regional and collaborative focus.

- Resource Share
- Process Share

Using Bike FC to connect user needs with existing plans and resources.

- Promotion of events
- Mobilizing people and initiatives (The recent Town Hall meeting is an example of this approach.)

Looking at ways of communicating opportunities and initiatives

- Active involvement on local bike committees
- Volunteer for specific projects

Organizing events such as Your Group Ride Live

- Outreach
- Engaging participants civically (development/volunteering/advocacy)
- Bringing entertainment and social participants to draw attendees

Bike FC and Your Group Ride (YGR) Town Hall Meeting Update

(Note: After the deaths of 2 local cyclists this summer, Bike Fort Collins and Your Group Ride held a Town Hall meeting on August 6 to discuss bicycle safety.) Chris stressed the following initiatives:

- Need for better bicycle education for drivers
- New Belgium Pilot Training, November 2015 (Bicycle Friendly Driver Program through FC Bikes, and Bike Fort Collins)
- Signage issues are being discussed with County. They are receptive to Bike FC's identification of areas needing signage for safer cycling.

Chris finished with the open ended question for Fort Collins Bike Advisory Committee members: What do you expect from Bike Fort Collins? He would love to connect with any member with something to say.
chrisjohnson@bikefortcollins.org

Q&A and Comments

Q. Chair Cranmer asked if there was any coordination with the City (Fort Collins) on the “Town Hall” signage discussions with the County.

A. Bruce Henderson mentioned that only signage that meets Manual Uniform Traffic Control Standards is being considered.

A. Chris added that this issue presents an opportunity for county and municipalities to head in a direction of consistent signage and concepts.

The Chair also commented on the lack of cohesive messaging and redundancy in functions across various cycling agencies and organizations in the area.

A. Chris restated that Bike FC has an opportunity to serve in a leader role to delegate and track all these issues and activities. As Director of Bike FC, Chris sees this as his role.

The Chair volunteered her experience and guidance to help out with this process.

Todd Dangerfield praised the selection of Chris Johnson for this new full time position. With the continued growth of Northern Colorado, having Chris’ experience (Pro Challenge) with multi municipalities etc. will be an asset for cohesive leadership in the area.

STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bike Safety Week – October 26 – 30 (Fort Collins Police Services and FC Bikes)

- Prioritized enforcement and education over the course of the week to promote safe cycling. Enforcement will focus on motorists and bicyclists. Field education will be included, focusing on new ordinances, bike safety, etc.

Bike Winter Activities to be announced (see <http://www.fcgov.com/bikewinter/>)

- Light up the Night events
- Winter Bike to Work Day
- Classes
- January and February Events

MEMBER REPORTS

Bruce Henderson (Parks and Recreation Board) – The Board is working on their own version of a Wayfinding Plan.

Joe Halseth (Natural Resource Advisory Board) – Did not have any specific board report. See additional comment made about meeting etiquette below.

Chris Hunt (Poudre School District) – No news

Joy Childress (CSU) – CSU is working on creating a bike education video that will be required for incoming students to watch. CSU is also anxious to obtain their bike friendly university rating, especially given all the growth and efforts made in this area over the past few years (e.g. Aaron Fodge’s report above).

Cathy Busch-Kinkaid (Member at Large) - Cathy voiced that her fellow biking constituents are asking about bike corridors between FC and Loveland. An update from FC Bikes and the BAC is needed. Tessa suggested this would be good topic for November.

Ryan Nicholson (Fort Collins Bike Co-op) - The Co-op has reopened in its new location. Tell your friends. Ryan also mentioned earlier in the meeting that a safer easier access to the new north college Co-op location can be made by passing Legacy Park and taking the Hickory Street trail north. At least until the construction and North College bike paths are finished.

Sylvia Cranmer (Chair and Member at Large) – The chair wanted to be sure all members received the City Council’s invite to the Annual Boards and Commissions Appreciation Dinner on Wednesday, October 28th, at the Lincoln Center.

Todd Dangerfield (Downtown Development Authority) - Old Town Square is back to full service. The October 23rd grand opening was a great success. Come see the new pop jets before they are turned off for the winter.

Kelly McDonnell (Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition) – The Coalition is working primarily on bike safety and getting the message out.

ADDITIONAL MEMBER COMMENTS

Joe Halseth suggested that the BAC should revisit Roberts Rule of Order, especially in respect to public comments, and meeting courtesy (e.g. raising hand to speak). He felt that public comments should be reviewed before the meeting, and time allotted should not exceed 2 minutes.

Chair Cranmer agreed that the committee’s use of parliamentary procedures should be revisited and decided upon procedures stated consistently to meeting guests and members.

Todd mentioned the DAA’s call for “Big Ideas” for Public comments at beginning of DDA meetings.

NEW BUSINESS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Tessa will arrange an update in November on the corridor trails between Fort Collins and Loveland.

Chair Cranmer wanted to note that if the board felt a December meeting was necessary, that a meeting could be scheduled in addition to the December 14th holiday social gathering.

ADJOURN

The motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. was unanimously approved.

The next BAC regular meeting is Monday, November 23, 2015.