

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2016, 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
Aaron Buckley, Fort Collins Bike Co-op
Luke Caldwell, Natural Resource Advisory Board
Sylvia Cranmer, Chair, Colorado State University
Todd Dangerfield, Downtown Development Authority
Chris Hunt, Poudre School District
Chris Johnson, Bike Fort Collins, Director
York, Transportation Board

AT LARGE MEMBERS PRESENT

Terri Marty, At Large Member
Patrick McCarty, Vice Chair, At Large Member

ABSENT

Annabelle Berklund, Transportation Board (alternate)
Cathy Busch-Kinkaid, At Large Member
Bruce Henderson, Parks and Recreation Board (alternate)
Mark Houdashelt, Air Quality Advisory Board
Edward Reifsnnyder, Land Conservation & Stewardship Board
Greg Wells, Senior Advisory Board

CITY OF FORT COLLINS STAFF PRESENT

Jamie Gaskill-Fox, Program Specialist for the City of Fort Collins FC Bikes Department
Nick Heimann, FC Bikes Program Specialist
Nancy Nichols, Safe Routes to School Coordinator (and Dot Dickerson, Bike Fort Collins)

GUESTS and CITIZENS PRESENT

Sandy Lemberg, Citizen
Kristi Savig, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was preceded with dinner provided by Chipotle (5:45 – 6:00), and called to order by Chair Silvia Cranmer at 6:02 p.m.

AGENDA REVIEW

The Chair acknowledged the information item presenters scheduled for the evening. Nancy Nichols will be talking about ensuring equity in Safe Routes to School education; Nick Heimann will update BAC on seasonal FC Bikes campaigns and Open Streets events; and Chris Johnson will be presenting Bike Fort Collins Initiatives.

It was noted that Kelly McDonnell (Bicycle Pedestrian Education Coalition) has moved out of town and will no longer be a Bicycle Advisory Committee member. Terri Marty was also appointed as a new At Large Member and is currently completing the On-Boarding process. Terri is a UC Health Trauma Surgeon who brings a good perspective on bike issues in our community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandy Lemberg (Citizen) proposed to discuss a list of items he had prepared for the meeting. The Chair asked that his comments be kept to the time limit in respect for the BAC meeting agenda timelines. The following comments/concerns were made to present BAC members*.

Sandy commented that the City should continue to promote cycling and bike safety. He questioned if and where organized bike rides have been publicized. Jamie Gaskill-Fox (FC Bikes) responded that the city has rides publicized through the FC Recreator and by e-mail. She will make sure that the e-mail list is updated to include Mr. Lemberg's address, for future notifications.

Mr. Lemberg urged the BAC to make recommendations for the following infrastructure fixes to the Transportation Board (TBoard) and City departments.

- Bike Lane Buffers on Elizabeth – He suggested that proposed bike lane curbs and post buffers be removed. Emphasize simple bike lane buffers like on Remington.
- Green pavement signs are not defined. He is confused by their purpose and inconsistencies.
- Would like to see curb cuts made to improve bicycle access from College Ave to front doors of downtown businesses.
- Road Conditions on College Ave. Can this committee make recommendations for repairs in this area? Concerns regarding lips on driveways in front of Ace Hardware.
- The Idaho Stop (i.e. treating a stop sign as a yield) is being practiced often by FC bicyclists. This type of stop should be adopted by the city.
- Bulb outs continue to be a problem. This form of barrier is an unsafe design that the BAC should address.

Chair Cranmer recommended that these types of issues/observations can be best addressed by documenting with pictures and/or posted to the Access Fort Collins Webpage (<https://clients.comcate.com/newrequest.php?id=150>). Jamie will obtain Sandy's e-mail address and arrange a time to guide him through the Access FC process.

*Note: some of these comments have been made and addressed by the BAC Chair at previous meetings.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

York (Transportation Board) pointed out a couple grammatical corrections to be made on page 8 of the draft September 26th minutes. Todd Dangerfield (Downtown Development Authority) motioned to approve the minutes with those changes. The motion was seconded and approved by BAC members present. Two (2) members abstained who were not present at the September meeting.

FOLLOW-UP FROM PRIOR MEETING/FUTURE BUSINESS

Three BAC letters, prepared by Chair Cranmer, were circulated to attending BAC members for review.

1. BAC letter of endorsement of the Transportation and Bicycle Safety Education Module, prepared by Chair for CSU's Jody Donovan, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Students. This letter for CSU is currently being reviewed and distributed to CSU by Jamie Gaskill-Fox (FC Bikes)
2. BAC letter of support for the Shields and W. Elizabeth Underpass, including the BACs design and implementation concerns, prepared by Chair Cranmer. The letter dated Oct. 24, 2016 was provided to the Transportation Board (TBoard) on October 19th and will be included with the TBoard's recommendations to CSU and City Council.
3. BAC letter of endorsement to accompany the cities' (FC Bikes) People for Bikes – Big Jump application. This third letter has been provided to Tessa Gregor, for inclusion with FC Bike's Big Jump application in late October.

BAC REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Transportation Board Report (York, FC Transportation Board)

York provided BAC members his highlights of the Wednesday, October 19th TBoard monthly meeting.

- Equity in Safe Routes to School (SRTS) (FYI, this was a presentation like this evenings information item) – SRTS is looking for ways to improve, maintain funding, and make sure all students are reached with this bike/pedestrian education program. The goal is to get 50% of students walking or cycling to school daily; including all members of the class regardless of abilities.
- Congestion Management – The TBoard mostly focused on motor vehicle impacts based on one time unplanned events and planned events. While travel miles over travel times (e.g. addressing idling and stoppage time) had decreased for a few years, we are now about at the highest level since before the decrease. York suggested the data would be even more meaningful if it included information on impacts to transit and bicyclists also.
- Shields & Elizabeth Underpass – A TBoard letter of support was submitted to City Council and CSU with the BAC letter (mentioned above under Follow-up Items) attached. Their recommendation was to move forward with the Shields Underpass project.

Board Member Reports/Comments

Luke Caldwell (Natural Resources Advisory Board) – The Advisory Board discussed the downtown plan at past meetings. With extent of sewer main repairs proposed, suggestions were made to increase area of streets for pedestrian and non-motor vehicle use.

Chris Hunt (Poudre School District) – Holding any comments for Nancy Nichols (Safe Routes to School) to mention in her information presentation.

Ragan Adams (Parks and Recreation Board) – nothing to report

Terri Marty – (At Large Member) – Chair Cranmer introduced Terri as the BAC's new At Large Member. Terri reported that UC Health is looking at injury patterns in PVH and MCR trauma charts. Previous years' data summaries have been reviewed and used as metadata by other cities (e.g. Denver).

YORK (Transportation Board) – Comment was made regarding this statement paraphrased in September 26th minutes relating to the C3FT enforcement technology: "Police Services have concerns with putting officers in dangerous situations while riding in areas where encroachment occurs most often". It was recommended that the BAC look further into this comment. "Think about how to safely use routes where police are afraid to patrol. What is a level of safety?"

York also attended the October 20th Annual Mayors Awards, hosted by the City of Fort Collins Commission on Disability. A worthwhile event to put on your calendar for 2017. He recommended BAC members make sure that anything done for bicycles is also done for other modes of transportation.

Aaron Buckley (Fort Collins Bike Co-op) – Remodeling roof and front of Bike Co-op.

Chris Johnson (Bike Fort Collins) – Kelly McDonnell has also left BFC. She leaves big shoes to fill. The organization is fortifying bike friendly businesses, and happy about Sunday Transport Services being provided with the 2017 Fort Collins budget.

Todd Dangerfield (Downtown Development Authority) – No related BAC issues to report. Todd pointed out that the Fort Collins Bicycle Friendly Driver course was featured in Bicycling Magazine at #17 in a list of ways "Bikes Make America More Awesome"!

Patrick McCarty (At Large Member) – A New Cycling Race like the Pro-Challenge race may be back in 2017. Committees are looking at this area as a possible venue.

Sylvia Cranmer (Chair, Colorado State University) – Sylvia attended the CSU Bike Share kick off. New stations have been placed at the Behavioral Sciences Building and south end of the Lory Student Center. She also did a ride tour of all the Bike Share (Zagster) stations. Sylvia shared the draft BAC Shields Underpass recommendation letter with CSU over past month. The campus also sponsored "Light Up the Night" during the month, which included a bike light give away for participants.

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Seasonal Campaigns Update (Nick Heimann, FC Bikes Program Specialist)

Nick Heimann of FC Bikes gave an update on FC Bikes' seasonal campaign work and evaluation of past 2016 events as they move forward into planning for 2017. Key points of his presentation included:

- Package what we are doing in successful branding campaigns moving forward in 2017.
- Review ride event goals including highlighting new city infrastructure and community ride opportunities.
- Usage of social media has led to increases in bike event followers.

The presentation ended with a few direct questions for BAC members to consider as FC Bikes moves into 2017 planning efforts.

Highlights of Nick's informational updates follow below:

Bike Winter Activities (~October - March)

- 2016/2017 focus on education, social media, and encouragement activities.
- Bike Winter Celebration highlights winning photos of photo contest. (2017 Celebration – Feb. 24th)
- Three Winter Wonderland rides are planned.
- Holiday Lights by Bike

Bike Spring (~April - June)

- Bike Share launch and Ride.
- Scavenger hunt was not as popular as City had hoped.

Bike Summer (~June - August)

- Fort Collins finished 8th in the National Bike Challenge (May 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016). Winners were determined based on participation and miles traveled per day.
- A BAC member asked if it would be possible to determine the number of FC businesses that were in the top 100 cities? Nick and/or Chris Johnson will check into these National Bike Challenge records.

Bike Autumn (~September - November)

- Fall photos already coming in as part of seasonal photo contest. Easy hash tag method established to allow bikers to quickly send images into city. Winners will receive foam-core mounted photos.
- Fall Foliage Rides had best participation on 2nd day (October 7th) when weather was better. Distance ranged from 4-8 miles. A wide variety of participants, including families joined in.
- The 2016 season also included an Art Bike Tour.
- Light Up the Night, co-sponsored with CSU.

Another element of seasonal events is to include main Bike Events throughout the year. Nick provided the following overview of 2016 event participation:

- Winter Bike to Work Day 2015 – (2100 participants, 30 free breakfast stations, 20% participants were new to the event).
- Summer Bike to Work Day 2016 (record 5100 participants, 20% participants were new to the event*).
- Open Streets – Corbett One mile route in SE Fort Collins, programming well received and appreciated by southern community members (3600 participants, several new returning partners for event).
- Open Streets – Linden and Redwood 1.75-mile route from Old Town Square to Willow. Largest event for Open Streets thus far (over 8200 participants, Create Places and New Belgium were partners).
 - o Look and feel of this event was different than other open streets. Placement and partners involved created welcoming hub space (e.g. bands, murals) highlighting arts and culture.
 - o Placing picnic tables in place of vehicles in old town provided a calming space throughout the entire event route.

*Online surveys associated with these main bike events provide opportunities to ask questions. Chair Cranmer suggested asking “How many participants are new to FC”?

Nick posed a few questions for BAC. Input received will be used to support a future planning retreat for FC Bikes staff.

1. Should we plan to repeat Open Street event routes? If so which ones?
 - FC Bikes is considering repeating the West Elizabeth event.
 - o Chris Hunt (Poudre School District) recommended repeating given the successful participation of students in this area.
 - o Another comment included repeating street events every other year. Highlight areas that have been improved over the time-frame since last event in this area.
 - Todd Dangerfield appreciated the south end of town being considered and recommended possible route in southwest Fort Collins.
 - York and other members backed the idea to repeat one event and support new 2017 events exploring other regions of town.
2. Are there other routes to consider?
 - Todd likes nature of exploring new parts of town. Chris Johnson echoed the opportunity of exploring new areas.
 - Would the city consider repeating the West Elizabeth area; however, running the event north to south through slightly different region of the area? Nick mentioned loops versus linear routes are alternate options.

3. What are the BAC's thoughts on special activities or promotional gear for upcoming 10th anniversary of Winter Bike to Work Day (2nd Wed in December) and Summer Bike to Work Day (4th wed in June) 2017.

Suggestions included:

- Cool poster as swag, Stickers
- Hoodies and other bicycling related accessories
- Neck gaiters ("buffs") branded for event

Ensuring Equity in Safe Routes to School (Nancy Nichols, Safe Routes to School Coordinator and Dot Dickerson, Bike Fort Collins)

Nancy and Dot provided a thorough overview of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, and shared much of their presentation from the 2016 SRTS National Conference in Columbus Ohio (April 2016). The national presentation emphasized the "Ensuring Equity in Safe Routes to School". A summary of the information presented follows below. BAC member questions were addressed intermittently throughout.

The Safe Routes to School Program started with a grant in 2007. Nancy has been coordinator for over 5 years. Fort Collins' goal is to get at least 50% of local K-12 students biking or walking to school on a regular basis. Benefits of program includes improving kids' health, less emissions, and less traffic congestion. Largely funded by grants and small operating budget; the new 2017 Budgeting For Outcome offer ("All kids needs safe routes to school") will provide additional core programming for the future.

The program emphasizes Five E's (similar to the BAC guiding principles): Education, Encouragement Activities, Engineering, Enforcement, and Evaluation activities. A sixth E (Equity) will be included in 2016. BAC members present were provided with a 2-page summary of 2015 activities and the another 1-page summary of the proposed 3-year (2015, 2016, 2017) Fort Collins school rotation schedule for SRTS bike-pedestrian safety education

2016 SRTS National Conference presentation repeated for BAC this evening.

The presentation began with a quick look at Fort Collins to summarize the population, race, median household income, education, under poverty levels (19%), city area, miles of streets, miles of trails, etc., and the number of K-12 schools. Awarded distinctions were mentioned including the "first public high school designated as a Bicycle Friendly Business.

Of the 25,000 students attending Fort Collins public schools, it is estimated that 20-25% are biking/walking to school. Over 14,000 kids and 2,000 adults are reached annually through education and encouragement. All this is done with an annual budget for core education/encouragement programming of approximately \$110,000.

Major Partners

- City department/programs
- Bike Fort Collins (SRTS Instructional Team including 20-30 adult volunteers providing education; 17 instructors are certified by the League of American Bicyclists)
- Poudre School District
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Education Coalition

Bike Fort Collins is working with SRTS, collecting survey information. Close to 10 years' worth of parent survey data is available.

- Q. Is there any data surveying older students as it relates to them instituting recommendations and remembering what was taught at a younger age? Benchmarking like survey; pre and post.

- A. SRTS is doing assessments every three years. Pre and post questions after education sessions. York cautioned tracking populations over time and privacy issues. Add simple yes/no question (e.g. Did you participate in education program in the past?)

Elementary students – age appropriate education is provided on a school rotation basis. (Nancy provided an example of curriculum for BAC participants to glance at.) After school and summer biking/walking clubs and camps are fun and well attended.

Middle Schoolers program is one of most thorough in the Country. This includes bike PE, practical experience and education, after school clubs and camps, plus the Junior Bicycle Ambassador Program.

High Schoolers – Over 250 students received 3-hours of education – Freshman 101 classes. SRTS efforts also support the Junior bicycle ambassador program, as well as Bicycle Friendly Driver Program education. High School students can also letter in cycling and participate in vocational programs.

Q. BAC member(s) were curious if SRTS knows how many student participants received education previously (at younger ages).

A. Yes we are seeing repeats from prior years. Nancy is seeing kids pick up good habits (e.g. wearing helmets)

Equity Tactics in Fort Collins

How to define equity? *“Equality has been described as giving everyone a pair of shoes, while equity is making sure they have shoes that fit.”* Sara Zimmerman, SRTS National Partnership

- How are we making sure the SRTC shoes fit in Fort Collins?
- Tactics: Saturation, Empowerment, and Meeting Kids Where They Are

Saturation:

- Create a written plan to follow continues programming on an equitable basis to all students.
- School Rotation Schedule ensures students of all abilities and socioeconomic backgrounds have an opportunity to participate. The Fort Collins SRTS Rotation Schedule for 2015, 2016, 2017 was referenced here. Contact Nancy Nichols for this detailed rotation by year and school program.
- Bike Trip Field Trips

Empowerment – All students participate in SRTS programming, regardless of level of ability.

- Adaptive equipment is used for bike filed trips. Use equipment and methods that allow all children to join group activities.
- Free helmets are given to students whose families have limited income.
- Look at student’s bikes and ensure maintenance of existing bikes. Long-term support of students and PE teachers for long-term bike maintenance. Bike Fort Collins, VeloFix (mobile bike shop) partners.
- Have students use their own equipment whenever possible.
- Reduced fees for families participating in Recreation Department programs. SRTS Subsidizing Recreation Department fees.

Meeting Kids Where They Are - Find ways to teach kids

- Physically/developmentally
- Cognitively/emotionally. Providing additional assistance as needed (teachers, parents, and other students).
- Culturally – providing programming in language appropriate curriculum.
- Locationally. Targeting neighborhood and groups of kids who may not have as many advantages.
 - o Taking programming to the student where they hang out

We are doing unique things in Fort Collins, getting national attention.

Q. What percentage of SRTS budgets will be supported by the 2017 BFO?

A. The core education budget (rotation schedule) will be funded by the City BFO rather than grants (e.g. ~2/3s of the budget).

Bike Fort Collins Initiatives (Chris Johnson, Executive Director)

Chris provided a quick update on new program initiative of Bike Fort Collins called the Neighborhood Active Living Grant. This award for this project was just received from Kaiser Permanente. The grant focuses on the Poudre Valley Mobile Home Park (PVMHP) neighborhood.

- Core Coalition includes:
 - o Bike Fort Collins
 - o Safe Routes to School
 - o Vida Sana/Promotoras (group has been working with PVMHP for years)
 - o Institute for the Built Environment
- Equity and cultural engagement is a key aspect of this program.

3 year, 2 phase project

Phase 1: community engagement and coalition development (15 mo.)

Phase 2: implementation (24 mo.)

A big part of the project is to serve the community in a way that helps them advocate for policies that improve process and outcomes. Meet in the middle program – increasing community engagement & increasing language and education for communities to engage in activation. Goals of the project include:

1. Work with residents to identify and remedy challenges (cultural and infrastructural) to active living and transportation and connectivity between the park and surrounding community
2. Work with residents to identify and remedy challenges to connectivity between North College Corridor and greater Fort Collins area.
3. Develop resident capacity for self-advocacy and civic engagement, and stakeholder cultural competency to improve processes and outcomes in underserved neighborhoods.

Deliverables include

Phase 1: Active Living Plan based on National Physical Activity Plan Template

This grant will complement a CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment) grant to develop a Loveland/FC and growth corridor. The CDPHE project is a county wide project with similar project focus and timeline as the Neighborhood Activating Living Grant.

The project includes wellness fairs and photo collection from community members.

Discussion

Ragan Adams recommended that the community be involved and have a desire for provided development. “It is important that community wants these changes. Unless the problem-solving resolutions come from the community, then it rarely changes long-term.

Chris also pointed out that Bike Fort Collins is a resource and advocate for the community.

STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Report (Jamie Gaskill-Fox, FC Moves and FC Bikes)

Jamie was present at the meeting in place of Tessa Gregor and Paul Sizemore who were attending a conference and could not be at tonight's meeting. No staff report was given.

Several BAC members asked staff to routinely provide details on Zagster usage, as well as how people are liking/disliking the services and sign-up process.

NEW BUSINESS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Planning Calendar)

Nothing to report

FUTURE ACTION ITEMS

None

ADJOURN

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.