



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 6, 2011
4:30 pm

City Hall, Staff Conference Room
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Ken Lane, Chair
Dave Blanchard
Richard Hall
Kent Sherman
Katie Sheridan

Members absent:

Jodi Norris
Melanie Street

The following City staff was present:

Martin Ince, Multi-Modal Planner
David Needham, Police Department

Public present:

Christine Adamowicz
Kara Kumon
Elson Miles

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Ms. Sheridan introduced herself as a new member of the Committee. She said she works at NAU, and is a regular bicycle commuter.

2. Public Comment

Ms. Adamowicz said she is new to Flagstaff, and is interested in getting involved. She is starting the Sustainable Communities program at NAU.

Ms. Kumon reported that she moved here recently from Tucson, and is also interested in getting involved.

Mr. Miles said he had read the Arizona Daily Sun article on shared lane markings, and wants to make sure that they get done sooner rather than later. He thought the project could be moved along if the BAC voices its support, and sets goals and timelines to get the project done.

3. Approval Of Minutes

Mr. Sherman made, and Mr. Blanchard seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 4, 2011. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. Shared Lane Markings

Mr. Ince provided some background information on a proposal to add shared lane markings on San Francisco Street from Route 66 to Cherry, and on Beaver Street from Fine to Route 66.

The Committee expressed its desire to have the markings installed this year.

The Committee discussed publicity and education for the shared lane markings, and concluded that it would be best to begin publicity now before the markings are in place. Some outlets for publicity include the Lumberjack, NAZ Today, and Jack Welch's column in the Daily Sun.

Ms. Sheridan commented that some motorists misunderstand the intent of the markings, and some even get angry at bicyclists for not moving over.

Mr. Sherman referenced a survey from San Francisco that sound that most drivers and bicyclists understood the function of the markings. He wondered about how large the symbols should be to be effective.

Ms. Adamowicz suggested rumble strips between the bike lane and travel lane, and a short discussion ensued about buffered bike lanes in Tucson.

Chair Lane expressed his concern that adding shared lane markings will remove any future possibility of adding bike lanes.

Mr. Miles said all of downtown is a congested area and all streets could be candidates for shared lane markings. He gave Cherry Street as an example.

There was a discussion about maintaining the symbols, which typically involves refreshing the markings.

2. Bicycle Education

Mr. Ince described an idea to seek volunteers who are willing to become League Certified Instructors (LCI) through the League of American Bicyclists and teach bicycle safety courses. He described the bicycle education program in Pima County, which is able to offer regular bicycle safety courses because they have more than 20 LCI's in the area. He said that it takes a commitment to become an LCI, but he thought there would be individuals in Flagstaff who are willing to become certified and teach classes.

Officer Needham indicated that he is interested in becoming an LCI, and said he is looking into a diversion program for individuals who receive cycling-related citations. The BAC concluded that a diversionary program would be of great benefit, and hoped that it would include motorists.

Mr. Blanchard described the trail ambassador program as a possible model for a bicycle ambassador program.

Mr. Ince said he would check the status of a proposed LCI seminar in the Phoenix area.

3. ADOT Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Mr. Ince described the proposed plan and the planning process, and said that the BAC would be involved throughout the process as a review body.

The BAC suggested other possible stakeholders, including:

- Northern Arizona Trail Runners Association
- Flagstaff Hiking Club
- McMillan Racing Team
- Run Flagstaff
- NAU Transportation Action Team
- NAIPTA

4. Bicycle Parking Strategies

Mr. Ince provided some thoughts on a strategy to increase the supply of bicycle parking available around town.

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He said that an inventory of existing bicycle parking would be valuable as a starting point. The possibility of using a student to conduct the survey as a class project was discussed. Ms. Adamowicz said she may be interested in doing the survey as a volunteer.

The Committee wanted covered parking and bike lockers to be included in any strategy, and bicycle parking should be included in any parking structure built in the future.

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. FUTS Trail Users Survey

This item was held over to the next meeting.

2. City Code Revisions for Bicycles

Mr. Ince reported that Council review of the City Code revisions was tentatively scheduled for December 6, 2011.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

Mr. Sherman asked about the new section of FUTS on McMillan Mesa, from Gemini to the Arizona Trail. He also reported a new driveway crossing of the trail near Coconino High School.

Mr. Hall asked about clearing shoulders on I-40.

2. Concluding Announcements

There were no Concluding Announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Blanchard made, and Mr. Hall seconded, a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0). The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 pm.