



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 3, 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 4:36 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Ken Lane, Chair
Jan Blackman
Dave Blanchard
Richard Hall
Kevin Parkes

Members absent:

Jodi Norris

One vacancy

The following City staff was present:

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

Public present:

Adam Cornette
Brandon Davidson
Justin Pryzby

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Cornette introduced himself as the co-owner of Flagstaff Bicycle Revolution.

3. Approval Of Minutes

Mr. Parkes made, and Mr. Blanchard seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 2, 2010. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. Enforcement of Traffic Laws for Bicyclists

Mr. Pryzby reported that he has received six citations to date for violations of ARS 28-815(a), which requires bicyclists to ride to the right unless one of several exceptions are met. He said that some of the citations have been dismissed by the court. Several of the citations have been along the same stretch of road (Route 66 near Switzer Canyon Drive), and several have been issued by the same officer. He said there is a dichotomy between the law and how the law is enforced, and asked the Committee to consider an education program for law enforcement personnel.

There was a brief discussion about ARS 28-815(a), including a discussion about court cases and federal guidelines for when taking the lane is warranted because it is too narrow to travel side-by-side with motor vehicles.

The Committee asked Mr. Pryzby about whether he rode in the shoulder that was striped for bikes along both sides of Route 66, and whether he used the FUTS trail along the south side. Mr. Pryzby responded that the shoulder appears to be too narrow to meet minimum standards, and that an ADOT report found numerous crashes with motor vehicles along the path.

The Committee discussed circumstances when a cyclist might be better served not take the lane, including on high-speed, high-volume roadways, and when it serves to antagonize motorists.

2. FUTS/Bikeway Planning for Beulah Boulevard from Lake Mary Road to McConnell Boulevard

Mr. Ince asked the Committee to discuss several options for improving bicycle travel along Beulah Boulevard between Lake Mary Road and McConnell Drive. He said the route is important for bicyclists, but that existing conditions need to be improved. The Committee discussed several options:

FUTS trail along Beulah

- Not an ideal solution
- Driveway crossings could be a problem for bicyclists

City of Flagstaff - Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes

February 3, 2011

Page 3 of 4

- Not enough space for a FUTS at the north end
- Would be costly
- Would accommodate some, but not all cyclists

Bike lanes along Beulah

- Preferred option
- There are a lot of bicyclists who ride on the sidewalk along this part of Beulah, probably including a high percentage of students
- The intersection of Lake Mary/Beulah is easier for bicyclists to cross than the intersection of McConnell/Beulah
- Bike lanes along McConnell should be continued across the I-17 on-ramp

Realign the FUTS trail to the intersection of Beulah

- Does little to fix problem
- There is also a threat of crashes with motor vehicles at the intersection
- Concern about out-of-direction travel introduced by realignment

Enhance FUTS crossing at Woodlands Village Boulevard

- Many trail users are not comfortable using the existing crossing
- The crossing needs to be more visible
- Median needs to be wider to create a refuge
- Bicyclists coming from the Ponderosa Trails neighborhood are not encouraged to cross to the west side of Beulah to use the trail, because it requires out-of-direction travel and several difficult crossings

Enhance FUTS crossing at McConnell and Beulah

- The trail connection at the southeast corner of the intersection does not look like it is a trail
- This section is less than 10 feet in width and should be made wider
- Better signing would guide users through the intersection
- Extend the aggregate trail across the sidewalk to McConnell, and provide a curb ramp
- Provide a smoother, more apparent transition between the aggregate trail and the concrete trail along the south side of McConnell
- Provide more space at the landings behind the curb ramps at the intersection; there is not enough room to wait with a bicycle

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. FUTS Planning Discussion

Mr. Ince presented a draft of a planned survey of FUTS trail users. The Committee discussed the survey and made several recommendations:

City of Flagstaff - Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes

February 3, 2011

Page 4 of 4

- The bicycle commuter survey does not have to be repeated every year; once every two years should be sufficient
- The trail users survey could be done in conjunction with Bike-to-Work Week during off-years
- Local bike shops would be willing to promote the survey
- A small card could be handed out along FUTS trails, directing users to the on-line survey
- "Skateboarding" should be included with "Rollerblading" on question 5
- "Health/exercise" and "Fitness" training should be combined on question 6
- "Walking your pet" should be added as a response for question 6
- The last two categories under question 7 should be changed to "1 to 3 hours" and "More than 3 hours"
- "Public transit or bus" should be added to question 9
- There was a question about the usefulness and necessity of question 11
- "Nighttime" should be added to question 12
- Question 14 would be difficult to answer and should be deleted, since most users do not know the names of the trails
- Question 18 should be more specific about circumstances when trails should be paved or unpaved
- Question 19 should be deleted

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

Mr. Ince provided a brief report on the Walnut-Florence Underpass project.

2. Concluding Announcements

Mr. Ince said a review of the "Flagstaff Urban Trails and Bikeways Map" would be included on the next BAC agenda, in advance of the planned reprint of the map.

The Committee asked for a more thorough report on the status of FUTS trail projects for the next meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.