



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 2, 2015 | 4:30 pm

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Ken Lane, Chair
Richard Hall
Paul Owen
Jeff Stevenson
Jack Welch

Members absent:

Dave Blanchard
Jodi Norris

The following City and agency staff was present:

Ben Anderson, intern
Martin Ince, multimodal transportation planner

Public present:

Mark Haughwort
Matt Mitchell

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Mr. Hall said that crosswalk markings were painted at the FUTS crossing at Woodlands Village Boulevard by the Big 5 store, but then removed after two days. He said that he really enjoyed having the markings while they were there.

2. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment

3. Approval Of Minutes

Mr. Welch made, and Mr. Owen seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 4, 2015. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Bicycle master plan

Mr. Ince presented outlines for the draft introduction to the pedestrian and bicycle master plan, as well as working papers for existing plans and policy, other resources and literature review, and mode share trends and peer cities comparison.

Mr. Stevenson asked if developments like the Core were required to install bike and pedestrian improvements to help mitigate their impacts. He wondered how developers are made aware of BAC issues.

There was a discussion about whether residents of student housing projects will leave a car behind if there are adequate walking and biking facilities in the area. Bicycle and pedestrian accommodation should be included in review of all large student housing developments. The developers should be required to explain how they are making things better for bikes and pedestrians, as part of the development review process.

The BAC wondered if it would be helpful to send an email to City development review staff to express concern about how bicycle and pedestrian issues are considered in large projects, and in particular student housing projects. The BAC also wants to discuss this issue as an agenda item at the next meeting.

The Committee also asked about the proposed new development on McMillan Mesa and wondered how it would affect bicycle facilities, FUTS trails, and open space. There is a concern that new development will be piecemeal and unplanned and will ruin the Mesa. Mr. Ince offered to bring a map to the next meeting showing proposed development, open space, FUTS trails, and bicycle facilities on McMillan Mesa.

The Committee discussed the importance of having a solid plan for bicycle and pedestrian facilities in future discussions regarding the renewal of the Transportation Tax, which expires in 2020.

2. High capacity bike parking in Heritage Square

Mr. Welch reported that the discussion about additional bike parking began on Earth Day, which for this year had been moved to Heritage Square. There was not enough bike parking available in the vicinity of Heritage Square, and as a result a number of bicycles were parked in inappropriate locations. Mr. Welch said that he volunteered to explore the issue on behalf of the Sustainability Commission.

The Committee discussed a number of issues related to bicycle parking:

- Space for large-scale bike parking will be an issue. For Earth Day, one-lane of Aspen was closed which created some room.
- There is a significant difference between event parking and day-to-day bike parking needs downtown.
- There is a need for additional everyday bike parking downtown.
- There is also a need for higher-capacity bike parking to meet the demands of regular events, like First Friday Art Walk, Movies on the Square, etc. More people would ride to these events if there were better parking available.
- There would likely be opposition to converting an on-street auto space to bike parking.
- Private off-street parking lots are a potential location for higher-capacity bike parking.
- There were some concerns about security with valet bike parking, although this type of arrangement has been very successful in other communities. It would be useful to collect information on the security-related experiences of groups that provide valet bike parking in other communities.
- Bike parking in Durango seemed to serve a dual purpose (bike-car) and might be something to emulate.

The Committee would like to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

The Committee expressed concern that the Route 66 FUTS trail would be subject to further closures as development progressed in the Trax project. The Committee asked if a lane of Route 66 could be closed to vehicular traffic and made available to bicycles and pedestrians while the Route 66 FUTS Trail is closed.

2. Concluding Announcements

There were no Concluding Announcements

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm