



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 4, 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 4:34 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

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

Members absent:

Jodi Norris

The following City and other agency staff was present:

Ben Anderson, Intern
Martin Ince, Multimodal Transportation Planner
Adam Langford, NAIPTA
Dylan Monke, Intern
David Wessel, FMPO Manager

Public present:

None

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Mr. Ince introduced Ben Anderson, who is a graduate planning student at the University of Arizona and will be interning with the City for the summer; and Dylan Monke, who is a planning student at NAU and the Montoya Fellow intern for the FMPO and NAIPTA.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Langford announced a series of Mountain Line service changes beginning August 2:

- Frequency for Route 2 will be increased from 30 minutes to 20 minutes during peak hours
- Route 2 and Route 3 will have two morning and two afternoon route deviations, to more directly serve Basis School and Northland Prep during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up
- A supplemental bus will be added once daily to Route 5; as the afternoon bus is often full as a result of student ridership from FALA.

3. Approval Of Minutes

Mr. Welch made, and Mr. Blanchard seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 2, 2015 with corrections as noted. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Bicycle master plan

Mr. Ince provided an outline for the process and content of a pedestrian and bicycle master plan.

Mr. Wessel explained that the plans would be sub-elements of the Regional Transportation Plan. The plan is about a year behind schedule (it should be updated every five years). It will include a public participation component.

The Committee asked about the FUTS signs and how that will promote walking and biking. There is an interest in doing before and after counts of cyclists and pedestrians, particularly on well-used trails and at key trail intersections. The Committee discussed how the FUTS signing could be expanded to include the entire bikeway and bike route system.

2. U.S. Bike Routes System

Mr. Ince reported that the resolution in support of the development of U.S. Bicycle Route 66 was reviewed and approved by the Transportation Commission on the previous evening, and was scheduled for City Council consideration on June 16. He provided a copy of the resolution to the Committee.

3. Kendrick Street Bike Boulevard

Mr. Ince said the students had completed their report, and the City was moving forward on implementation. The Committee expressed its concern that Kendrick will have more and faster traffic if the stop signs are reversed. Traffic calming should be included in the project, for example seasonal speed pillows or gateways to demarcate the bike boulevard. There was also a concern about student drivers from the high school.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. High capacity bike parking in Heritage Square

Mr. Welch reported that the Earth Day event at Heritage Square had more bikes than in the past, but there was nowhere to park them. He said he observed some friction caused by improperly parked bikes. He asked the committee to consider what might be done, and wondered where there might be room for additional bike parking. The Committee agreed to have a more in-depth conversation about the issue at the next meeting.

2. Bicycle travel modeling

Mr. Wessel provided some background information on the regional travel model maintained by the FMPO. He said that previously bike trips were estimated for the model, but now they can potentially be modeled more accurately.

He walked through the steps of how the model is developed, and explained the sources of data. He then showed the Committee a map of anticipated travel demand for all streets in Flagstaff, as well as FUTS trails. The Committee briefly reviewed the map and discussed some seeming anomalies. Mr. Wessel explained how the bike component of the model might be used for various analyses, for example to gauge the relative benefit of various improvements to the system.

Mr. Welch asked how our modeling compared to other communities.

Mr. Hall asked if bike rides were timed from point to point as part of data collection

3. Route 66 FUTS closure at Evergreen – Trax development

Mr. Ince provided information about the closure of the Route 66 FUTS Trail between Arrowhead and Fourth Street. He reported that the trail has been closed and removed, even though the development agreement between the City and the developer requires that it be kept open until the replacement trail is in place. He said the developer was asked to open the new, realigned trail by the beginning of July.

The Committee responded that the City should have constructed the realigned FUTS as part of the Fourth Street bridge project. At the time, the BAC and bicycling community argued to have the trail built as part of the initial project. If it had been, the situation with the closure would have been avoided altogether.

The Committee expressed concern that the developer's actions seem so blatant, especially in light of the requirements of the development agreement, and asked if the City has any leverage to enforce or ask for extra consideration from the developer.

A concern was raised that this area was becoming another Milton Road.

The Committee asked if bike parking would be provided as part of the project.

The Committee indicated that this is a very well-used trail, and expressed its concern about the safety of trail users and the impact of the closure.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

There was no discussion on the Reports

2. Concluding Announcements

There were no Concluding Announcements

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm.