



# MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 3, 2016 | 4:30 pm

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Flagstaff City Hall, Council Chambers  
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:39 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Steven Richard, chair  
Mark Haughwout  
Susan Hueftle  
Matthew Mitchell  
Margaret Penado  
Jeff Stevenson

Members absent:

Melanie Street

The following City and agency staff was present:

Martin Ince, multimodal transportation planner  
Stephanie Smith, assistant to the city manager

Public present:

Laura Durniny  
Andy Fernandez  
Jack Welch  
Leaders and members of Girl Scout Troop 546

### **I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **1. Announcements**

There were no Announcements

## **2. Public Comment**

Mr. Fernandez said he was a life-long cyclist in Flagstaff. He brought up a number of bicycle-related issues:

- The dark section of FUTS along Route 66 just east of downtown should be lighted.
- Fort Valley Road needs bike lanes.
- Most people don't know to use the push-button in the middle of the pedestrian crossings on Fourth Street and Butler Avenue.
- Better markings and signs are needed for the bike lanes along Route 66.
- We need to encourage kids to bike and exercise more.

## **3. Approval Of Minutes**

Ms. Hueflte made, and Mr. Haughwout seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of September 22, 2016. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0).

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Pedestrian and bicycle master plan**

Mr. Ince presented the results of the Milton Road walking and biking survey. The Committee offered a number of comments and raised several questions:

- Is it possible to see the results of the survey after you have taken it.
- The most problematic stretch of Milton for crossing is the long section between traffic signals at Plaza and University.
- There was a discussion about the benefits of a raised median in the center of the street. The Committee expressed reservations about a median as a solution for bicycle crossings.
- The Committee asked how access control might be implemented. Mr. Ince said that business owners may be supportive if it can be demonstrated that access control improves traffic flow, and if existing parking lots can be reconfigured to close access points but increase parking and improve circulation.

- A suggestion was made for wider sidewalks in some segments to accommodate both pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The segment between University and Forest Meadows would be a good location for this treatment.
- The Committee discussed buffered bike lanes and their feasibility along Milton Road. Lack of space is a potential limiting factor.
- There was a discussion about bridges and tunnels along Milton. The Committee raised concerns about security and grades.
- The Committee asked if it were possible to compare project costs to functionality and desirability, in a very general sense.
- A suggestion was made to concentrate early efforts on easier-to-implement projects, like enhancing existing crossings.
- The Committee asked if the signal equipment at existing crossings is capable of counting pedestrians.

The Committee recommended releasing the results of the survey to the public as soon as possible without making recommendations or drawing conclusions from it. The Committee also asked for examples of other innovative facilities.

The Committee asked if it could review an outline and schedule for the master plan, to get a better overall sense of the project.

## **2. Bike lanes on Beaver Street – Columbus to Cherry**

Mr. Ince reported that striping options for Beaver Street had been presented to the City's Transportation Commission. The preferred striping option is to remove parking along the west side and stripe a continuous bike lane, although at this time a final decision had not been made. The Committee offered several follow-up questions and comments:

- Is there room for some protection for the bike lane from traffic, for example a curb or another barrier.
- Suggest traffic calming in the last block, to allow cyclists to ease into the lane of traffic as the bike lane ends at Cherry.
- Is there a way to notify drivers and bicyclists in advance of the merge.
- Questions were asked about the construction schedule, whether the street would be closed during construction, and where alternate routes would be located.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Visitors from Girl Scout Troop 546**

Members and leaders from Girl Scout Troop were introduced by Ms. Smith. The girls were asked a number of questions by the Committee, and in turn asked the Committee about the issues on which they worked. The girls offered a number of suggestions for improving bicycling in Flagstaff:

- More bike lanes and trails
- Separate space for pedestrians and bicyclists on trails
- A place for kids to learn how to ride a bike and be safe
- Warning signs on steep hills
- Wider sidewalks for both walkers and bikers.

**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 6:35 pm