

Approved by BAC
8-3-2017



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 6, 2017 | 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 4:39 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Mark Haughwout, chair
Susan Hueftle
Matthew Mitchell
Margaret Penado

Members absent:

Kim Austin

Two vacancies

The following City and agency staff was present:

Andrew Hoffman, Flagstaff Police Department
Martin Ince, multimodal transportation planner

Public present:

Tyler Linner
Kim Swanson Linner
Jack Welch

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Ms. Hueftle said she has received complaints about construction signs blocking bike lanes.

Ms. Penado reported that the temporary No Parking signs along Soliere near Country Club were moved in advance of the Fourth of July fireworks event.

Chair Haughwout reported that the old lane line markings have worn through and are visible along Beulah Boulevard between Lake Mary Road and University Heights Drive South. The old lane lines are confusing to motorists.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Linner asked why there are Bike Lane Closed signs on Butler Avenue when the closure is actually along Continental. He said that his fat bike tires, which are 4 inches in width, do not fit in NAIPTA's bike racks on the front of buses.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Haughwout made, and Ms. Hueftle seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of May 4, 2017. The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Active transportation master plan

Mr. Ince presented information on buffered and protected bike lanes. Following a detailed review of candidate streets, buffered bike lanes appear to be feasible and are recommended on seven street segments, totaling 5.4 miles. On another 6.6 miles of streets, an adjacent FUTS trail could serve as the low-stress alternative to riding on the street. For three street segments – West Route 66, Butler Avenue, and Country Club Drive – buffered bike lanes are recommended when the roadway is widened.

The Committee had several comments and questions:

- There may be an opportunity to provide a buffer between the bike lane and the right turn lane between west-bound Lake Mary Road and north-bound Beulah Boulevard. Most cyclists and vehicles are making this right turn, rather than proceeding straight through the intersection. The Committee considered facilities that would be appealing and used by bicyclists, including a protected lane or separated pathway for bikes. Some cyclists use a social trail that significantly cuts the corner, although this is difficult to access.
- The Committee discussed the use of rumble strips or textured pavement as an audible warning to vehicles that stray into the bike lane. Tucson uses textured pavement. ADOT has developed a design for rumble strips that is better for bicycles.
- A buffer may be included along the bike lanes on Beaver Street, once it has been repaved.
- The Committee discussed a potential FUTS trail along Butler Avenue, generally between the Interstate 40 junction and Fourth Street. There is a concern that the future road may be too busy and fast for most cyclists to feel comfortable,

even with standard or buffered bike lanes. The planned Foxglenn FUTS Trail is probably too far away, and too out-of-direction, to function as a reasonable alternative. There is some question regarding whether there is enough space in the corridor to accommodate a FUTS trail, and what it will connect to at the two ends.

- The Committee discussed the Sinclair Wash FUTS Trail and its role at the far-southern end of the Milton Corridor Ped-Bikeway. There is a concern that the FUTS trail will be difficult to access for cyclists coming from the east side of Interstate 17 and the Ponderosa Trails neighborhood. Many bicyclists who use the trail would have to cross Beulah Boulevard twice, if they are coming from Ponderosa Trails and going to the NAU campus. The inconvenience of having to cross twice would probably outweigh any improvements to the trail, including paving the trail and installing a grade-separated crossing at Woodlands Village Boulevard. A more functional alternative would be a two-way bicycle facility on the east side of Beulah Boulevard between Lake Mary Road and McConnell Drive.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation program

This item was not discussed.

2. Letter of support for Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program grant for preparation of a regional trails plan

Mr. Ince provided background information on the grant program and a potential multi-agency grant application for a regional trails plan.

The Committee asked about the status of the Forest Service's trails and recreation plan for the Mount Elden/Dry Lake area, and discussed the need for accommodating downhill mountain bike trails.

Mr. Haughwout made, and Mr. Mitchell seconded, a motion to send a letter in support of the City's application for a Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program grant for regional trails planning. The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).

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 6:25 pm