

DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, October 5, 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 4:40 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Kim Austin, chair
Susan Hueftle
Matthew Mitchell
Margaret Penado

Members absent:

Mark Haughwout

Two vacancies

The following City and agency staff was present:

Andrew Hoffman, Flagstaff Police Department
Martin Ince, multimodal transportation planner
Maggie Twomey, volunteer coordinator

Public present:

Jeff Goulden
Bill Sandercock
Jack Welch

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Ms. Austin reported that yesterday was International Walk to School Day. About 1000 kids participated at four schools in Flagstaff.

Ms. Twomey reported that the City of Flagstaff recently added nine new bikes to the City employee fleet. The bikes can be checked out like other pool vehicles. The bikes were purchased from Bright Angel bikes, which renews their fleet every two years. A question was asked about how often the bikes are used.

Ms. Twomey also said that Flagstaff's annual Make a Difference Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 28 from 8am until noon at Willow Bend. Projects will include a trash clean-up, garden projects, and improvement of the single-track trail that connects Willow Bend to the FUTS. She said that more than 200 groups participate in the Adopt-an-Avenue and Adopt-a-FUTS programs.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Goulden asked if the City has recommended any FUTS trails for inclusion in the project list for the Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation (FOSPR) initiative. Ms. Hueftle asked about the City's involvement in that effort.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Penado made, and Mr. Mitchell seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of September 7, 2017. The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Active transportation master plan

Mr. Ince presented potential revisions to the FUTS master plan, including trails that could be deleted from the plan, new trails to be added, and trails with significant revisions to planned alignments. He also reviewed the results of the most recent FUTS users survey and explained how the results have been incorporated into the recommendations.

The Committee has a number of comments and questions:

- If the trail along Woodlands Village Boulevard is deleted from the plan, what is the alternate for bicyclists? Mr. Ince said the road has sidewalks along both sides, and that bike lanes are recommended as part of the bikeways plan. It may be helpful to provide better signing and guidance for cyclists through this area.
- There is an opportunity for a new trail in an old alley right-of-way between Bushmaster Park and the East Flagstaff Library. Mr. Ince indicated that a couple of respondents in the FUTS survey suggested the same idea.
- If the Pipeline Trail is intended to be a commuter route, it should be paved.
- There is some dispute about the willingness of property owners to give an easement for the Elks Lodge Trail.
- Bike lanes along Butler may be a reasonable alternative to a FUTS trail, but they should be protected or buffered. At this point anything would help. The Committee discussed whether there might be an opportunity for a trail on the north side behind the truck parking and Black Barts.

Mr. Ince showed a draft map showing trails divided into three classes – primary, secondary, and tertiary – and gave a brief description of each class. The Committee provided several comments:

- The Karen Cooper Trail makes sense as a primary trail and would be more useful if it were paved. Snow removal on the trail would also make it usable year-round.
- Concrete is preferable to asphalt, although there may be some backlash from the running community to any paved surface.
- Paved trails that are primary commuter routes should include a painted centerline stripe to help separate users.
- The trail through NAU has possibility as a primary route, although it is indirect in spots and very crowded when the university is in session.
- The Foxglenn/Sinclair Wash Trails are probably too far out of direction, and too recreational, to be considered a primary route. Also, adding bike lanes to Butler Avenue would diminish the usefulness of those trails as a commuter route.

The Committee reviewed the draft prioritization criteria for FUTS trails, and considered that connectivity may not be a meaningful measure as currently written.

The Committee reviewed the draft themes, goals, and strategies for the Active Transportation Master Plan, and had several comments:

- How to make sure that all new development and capital projects are built in conformance with the bike plan.
- Any lighting along FUTS trails should be dark sky compliant.
- E-bikes need to be addressed.
- Bicycle theft is becoming a bigger issue, and more well-organized than before. Online registration may not be possible, but it may be possible to work with retailers to have bikes registered at the point of sale. The Committee wondered if there were stats regarding how effective registration is at deterring theft.

The Committee asked for a copy of the schedule of meetings for the Citizen's Transportation Tax Commission.

III. NEW BUSINESS

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

Mr. Ince said that a new survey regarding High Occupancy Housing is available at the Flagstaff Community Forum.

The bicycle diversionary class has steady attendance. There is an idea to open the class to the general public, so that anyone may attend even if they did not receive a citation.

2. Concluding Announcements

There were no Concluding Announcements

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm