

DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, February 1, 2018 | 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 4:31 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Mark Haughwout, chair
Kim Austin
Jeff Goulden
Estella Hollander
Susan Hueftle
Matthew Mitchell
Margaret Penado

Members absent:

None

The following City and agency staff was present:

Nicole Antonopoulos Woodman, Sustainability Manager
Martin Ince, Multimodal Transportation Planner
David McIntire, Community Investment Director
Jenny Niemann, Energy and Climate Specialist, Sustainability Section
Maggie Twomey, Volunteer and Event Coordinator, Sustainability Section

Public present:

Fuller Barnes
Jan Barnes
Joey Bono
Trevor Cotter
Alexandria Vallejo

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Mr. Mitchell announced that he has purchased an ebike, and would be willing to share it with other members so we can better understand how they work. He also said that he took the bike to the police station to register it, which took him 10 minutes and cost \$2. He thinks the sticker will help deter theft.

Ms. Austin said that Bike to Work Week is scheduled for May 20 through 25.

Ms. Hueftle reported an on-going safety problem with motorists using their cell phones while driving. She asked about the status of current laws, and the level of enforcement. Mr. Ince said he would relay the questions to Officer Blair.

Ms. Twomey said that Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 21 at Bushmaster Park. She would like to have a variety of bicycle activities, including helmet sales, a bike rodeo, demos, fix-it clinics, and local bike shops. She invited the BAC to be involved.

2. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Goulden made, and Ms. Hollander seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2017 and January 4, 2018. The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Active transportation master plan

Jan and Fuller Barnes introduced themselves as property owners along the alignment of the Elks Lodge Trail north of town. They are not interested in closing the trail, but would like to manage it better as it crosses their property. There was a discussion about the alignment of the trail, opportunities for easements, and planned FUTS to help serve the same function.

Mr. Ince said there was probably not time to discuss FUTS prioritization, but they would regroup for the next meeting.

The PedBikeWays survey would close in about two weeks; at present there were 175 responses to the survey.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Flagstaff Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Ms. Niemann presented information about the City's climate plan plan. The plan is intended to implement a Council goal of taking meaningful action to address climate change. The climate is changing; this plan will function as a roadmap for how we respond.

She described the public engagement strategy, and said that the planning process will last through August 2018. The first open house was held in January, which attracted about 150 participants; another is scheduled for March. There is also an on-line survey for those who cannot attend the open houses.

Transportation accounts for 50 percent of Flagstaff's emissions. They are working to refine the inventory of emission sources. At present there is not an estimate for emissions from wood-burning stoves.

The City has convened a steering committee for the plan; an outside advocacy group called the Flagstaff Climate Action Council has also been convened.

2. Flagstaff Bike Share

Ms. Antonopoulos-Woodman and Mr. McIntire provided information about a planned City pilot program to provide bike share in Flagstaff through Spin bicycles. Both the sustainability program and economic vitality at the City see numerous benefits to having bike share in Flagstaff.

Ms. Antonopoulos-Woodman said that the City has been considering a bike share program for the last several years. She explained the difference between the traditional bike share model and the new dockless systems. The traditional model relies on docking hubs and requires significant capital and subsidy, while the new model uses dockless technology and is typically privately operated.

Ms. Antonopoulos-Woodman and Mr. McIntire outlines the parameters of a six-month pilot program. The license with Spin will be exclusive, and data collected will be used to fine-tune the program following the pilot.

Some safeguards are planned to avoid potential issues with bicycle parking, including requirements for Spin to move bicycles that are improperly parked, rules for parking provided on the app, information about where bikes can be parked, and tracking/reporting of users who improperly park bicycles.

There were a number of questions and comments:

- Helmets are required in Flagstaff for riders under the age of 18. It is the responsibility of the user to obtain a helmet, although Spin can include information about the helmet law on its app.
- NAU has a separate agreement with Spin to operate on campus. NAU does not believe it will hamper the yellow bike program, which serves a different function.
- Users are not allowed to leave bicycles in ADOT right-of-way.
- Spin anticipates that 200-300 bicycles will be deployed initially in Flagstaff. Spin monitors how the bikes are used, and would reduce the number if they are unused. It may be possible for the City to limit the number of bikes following the pilot program.
- There was a question about the suitability of the bikes on unpaved FUTS trails, and whether the gearing would work in a hilly city. The tires are wide enough to function on aggregate FUTS. Spin deploys the same bikes in Seattle and San Francisco, which are hillier than Flagstaff.
- The program will always be operated at no-cost to the City, although there is some City staff time involved in the start-up.
- Spin believes that the program can operate year-round, although the number of bikes may be reduced in the winter.
- The cost to rent is \$1 per 30 minutes.
- Flagstaff is one of the smaller markets for Spin.
- Several new jobs will be created in Flagstaff for Spin. Also they may contract with local bike shops for maintenance.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

Mr. Ince provided a brief update on the Citizens Transportation Tax Commission.

2. Concluding Announcements

There were no Concluding Announcements

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm