

DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, February 7, 2019 | 4:30 pm

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Mark Haughwout, chair
Kim Austin
Daniel Crim
Jeff Goulden
Estella Hollander
Susan Hueftle
Matthew Mitchell

Members absent:

None

The following City and agency staff was present:

Jason Blair, Flagstaff Police Department
Paige Hardman, Montoya Fellow
Martin Ince, Multimodal Transportation Planner

Public present:

Fran Alvarado
Lauren Chavez-Pardini
Tyler Linner

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Mr. Goulden reported that he volunteered for a trail day in Sedona, and was impressed by the level of interest and funding.

Ms. Hueftle said that she would like to have the Committee consider changes to City Code to allow bicyclists to wear a headlight in place of having one on the bike, and to have a flashing rear light instead of a rear reflector. She also suggested painting the area at curb ramps red to remind people not to park vehicles there.

Mr. Mitchell reported that the City is planning to purchase new street sweepers. This affects the cleanliness of bike lanes.

Chair Haughwout said that tomorrow is the last day to introduce new legislation for this session of the state legislature. There is new legislation proposed to create "Share the Road" license plates. He also said that Utah is considering "Idaho stop" legislation. This has been proposed several times previously in Arizona but has not gone anywhere.

Officer Blair said he would like to conduct an event for bicycle education. The event could be an open house format, but could include a bike safety presentation, potentially in conjunction with local bike shops. Ms. Austin said she was interested in having a driver education component.

2. Public Comment

Tyler Linner reported that snow has been piled into the bike lane on Butler Avenue. He asked how he might ask a motorist in a vehicle to stop for a conversation with a police officer. He raised a question about whether it is legal to ride on the sidewalk along Route 66 through downtown.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mitchell made, and Ms. Austin seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of December 6, 2018. The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. E-bike and e-scooter amendments to City Code

Chair Haughwout reported that legislation regarding scooters has been introduced at the Arizona legislature in the form of SB 1398. He wondered if it now made more sense to wait to consider scooter legislation.

Mr. Ince presented an outline of the process for considering City Code revisions, and provided a brief outline of the potential content of the revisions. He said that City staff is still working on the language for the code revisions, so what is presented is in concept and draft form. The Committee had a number of comments:

- A question was raised about whether state law took precedence over City Code with regard to headlights and taillights.
- Another question was raised about the parking provision for accessible routes to buildings. There was uncertainty regarding the definition of an accessible route. The Committee also discussed potential unintended consequences for the other parking restrictions. It is not clear whom the restrictions are targeting: bicycle and scooter renters, bicycle and scooter rental companies, or residents with their own bicycles. It seems to target rentals, but it would apply to all.
- The Committee asked about the potential for scooters coming to Flagstaff, and if the regulations would be different on campus versus the rest of the city.
- Regarding scooters on sidewalks, it may be beneficial to expand the list of sidewalks where bikes and skateboards are prohibited. Currently the signs are limited to the downtown area, but the restrictions may be needed on streets in the Sawmill District. Streets there are public and designed like downtown streets. There may be other developments like that in Flagstaff in the future.
- Skateboards, especially longboards, are very popular on the NAU campus. It is not clear how frequently they are used in the rest of the city, and if electric/motorized skateboards are common.
- There was a thought to include all low-speed, electric-assisted devices in the ordinance in anticipation of other devices in the future.
- The Committee discussed the new provision to provide a truthful name and date of birth when lawfully detained. A similar requirement already existing in ARS, so it was not clear why it needed to be in City Code. The ARS addresses only a truthful name, so the date of birth would be unique to the Flagstaff. It was suggested that having it in City Code might provide an opportunity to make it a lesser offense. It is a class 2 misdemeanor in ARS. The Committee wondered why this is included in the City's bike code versus somewhere else in the ordinance. A concern was expressed that most citizens would not know the legal definition of being "lawfully detained."
- Regarding the DUI provisions, the Committee wondered why the provisions were selective and did not apply to other devices. There was a feeling that it seemed heavy-handed to apply DUI laws to riding a scooter. The laws should focus on and be enforced for bad behaviors, not for being intoxicated.
- The Committee asked about the definition of abandonment, and wondered how the regulations would affect local bike shops that rent bikes. The Committee expressed concerns with the unintended consequences of this section.
- There were several questions about the penalties section. First, do these penalties preclude the City's diversionary program. Second, how does this

schedule compare to the current schedule. Third, are these penalties intended for all bicyclists, or just dockless bike-share bikes. Fourth, is there a time limit between multiple violations.

The Committee closed with the thought that criminalizing behavior should only be done with great care.

2. Active transportation master plan/FUTS master plan

Mr. Ince outlined the process for preparation and adoption of the plan. The Committee discussed their role in the process.

3. Bicycle Friendly Community report card and survey

Mr. Ince provided the City's report card and the results of the survey conducted in conjunction with Flagstaff's application for renewal.

The Committee discussed bike crashes, likely causes, and potential ways to mitigate.

The Committee asked that the survey report be shared with the City Council.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. FMPO Trip Diary Survey

Mr. Ince presented preliminary results from the Trip Diary Survey, including mode share numbers. He said that working paper 3 regarding mode share has been updated with this new information, as well as information regarding means of transportation to work from the American Community Survey.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

There were no Reports.

2. Concluding Announcements

There were no Concluding Announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm