

# DRAFT MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, September 2, 2021 | 4:30 pm

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Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Kim Austin  
Daniel Crim  
Jeff Goulden  
Estella Hollander  
Susan Hueftle, acting chair

### Members absent:

Matthew Mitchell

One vacancy

### The following City and agency staff were present:

Rick Barrett, city engineer  
Martin Ince, multimodal transportation planner  
Jim McCarthy, Council liaison  
Charles Hernandez, Flagstaff Police Department

### Public present:

Rose Houk  
Joe Koenig

## I. **PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS**

### 1. **Announcements**

Ms. Hueftle asked that election of officers be done at the next meeting. She said that the flooding has left a lot of gravel along streets.

**2. Public Comment**

Ms. Houk asked to comment about the shared lane markings on South San Francisco Street. Mr. Ince said that this issue could be included with the Bikeways Plan discussion during the Active Transportation Master Plan item. As a result, Ms. Houk's comments are included with that item.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the regular meeting of July 1, 2021 were not available

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Active transportation master plan**

Status and schedule

Mr. Ince outlined the process moving forward. The BAC asked if there will be paper copies of the plan available at City Hall, and if the survey can be reviewed before it goes out.

Bikeways Plan  
South San Francisco

Ms. Houk said that the shared lane markings on South San Francisco Street are not comfortable for bicycling. She said that the section from NAU to Butler is okay, but not the section from Butler through downtown. She said that when she takes the lane, vehicles often pass too close, then pull back into the lane in front of her too soon. She related an encounter with a driver.

Ms. Hueftle said that the markings need to be refreshed. Mr. Crim said he would like to see an undercover police officer issue citations.

Mr. Ince showed several images for potential enhancements to the markings. He said there was little room on the street to create dedicated space for cyclists. He asked the committee if they thought the enhancements would be beneficial. The committee offered a number of thoughts:

- The committee liked the continuous center green lane version.
- The bike box at Route 66 would be helpful, especially if bike lanes can be fitted after a road diet for that block of San Francisco St.
- There is a concern that the paint used for markings could be toxic.
- Does the sticker version of the markings last longer than the paint.

- There are pros and cons to all of the short-term options.
- Consideration should be given to lowering the speed limit.
- Narrower lanes will help encourage slower speeds.
- Dooring was a threat when the street was two-way.
- Flashing lights would make the existing sign more visible.

Mr. Barrett reported that modeling for the Lone Tree overpass shows a reduction of traffic on South San Francisco St.

Councilmember McCarthy said he supports some kind of added markings. He reported that he had just returned from a trip to Seattle, and was amazed at how many signs use flashing lights.

Ms. Hollander said merging is sketchy where the bike lane ends on Beaver at Cherry, and could be improved with something to make cars more aware that the bike lane ends. Additional guidance for bikes between Aspen and Route 66 would also be helpful.

Ms. Houk said the white-on-green pattern would be an improvement. She is troubled by comments about maintenance, since markings are not much to maintain. She stressed that safety needs to be prioritized, and in general maintenance overall needs improvement. In the long term, she recommends a two-way bike path on Beaver St. She does not think that the Lone Tree overpass will reduce traffic on San Francisco.

Ms. Hueftle asked how comments and complaints to the City get translated into action, and how can the public see a faster response. Councilmember McCarthy said the Council should not get involved in administrative items. He said that he typically forwards comments to the appropriate person at City Hall. He said that it does help to send emails to Council.

Advisory bike lanes

Mr. Ince described how they work, and listed several potential applications. He showed several images.

Ms. Austin thought they would be a better solution than the temporary traffic calming measures on University Ave. She said the current configuration requires cars and bikes to share the same space. She asked if there is evidence of traffic calming effects. Ms. Hueftle asked what kind of signing and education would be used. Mr. Koenig said he agrees with the concerns about the temporary traffic calming on University.

Ms. Hollander expressed a concern about potential conflicts, and wondered how many cars and bicyclists could use the facility before there are conflicts. She asked if they worked well

on routes that have a lot of bicyclists, like routes to campus for example. Ms. Austin agreed that education would be essential.

## **2. Separated bike lane pilot project**

Mr. Ince provided an update for the project. Mr. Barrett reported that City staff was working to add Beaver St to the pilot project, so the two streets could be delivered as one project. He described some timing issues with hiring subcontractors for the striping work, and with delivery of curb stops.

Ms. Hueftle asked how often gaps in the barrier will be provided. Mr. Barrett responded that gaps will be located wherever there are side streets and driveways. There may also be gaps in long sections to allow bikes to “escape.” The committee discussed drainage concerns in light of recent flooding, minimum widths for two-way and contra-flow facilities, and how narrow vehicle lanes can be. The committee was reminded that this is a pilot project, and there is much to be learned from the experience.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business

## **IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **1. Reports**

Roadway project status. Mr. Ince provided an update on three roadway projects. He showed an image of the potential layout for the Beulah/University roundabout. Ms. Hollander recommended shark’s teeth for the crossings. There was a discussion about whether the crossings were one-way or two-way for bicyclists.

Urban Trails and Bikeways Map. Mr. Ince reported that it has been sent to the printer.

City Hall reopening. There is no new schedule for the resumption of in-person commission and committee meetings.

BAC vacancy. The committee reiterated its interest in recruiting members of underserved neighborhoods and communities.

### **2. Concluding Announcements**

Election of officers should be included on the next meeting agenda.

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm