

DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, July 1, 2021 | 4:30 pm

Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Daniel Crim
Jeff Goulden
Estella Hollander
Susan Hueftle, acting chair
Matthew Mitchell

Members absent:

Kim Austin

One vacancy

The following City and agency staff were present:

Rick Barrett, city engineer
Jeff Bauman, traffic engineering manager
Greg Clifton, city manager
Charles Hernandez, Flagstaff Police Department
Martin Ince, multimodal transportation planner
Julie Leid, Transportation Commission chair
Jim McCarthy, Council liaison

Public present:

Michelle James

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Mr. Mitchell made three suggestions:

- Recommended public service announcements for pedestrian and bicycle safety
- Would like to see local bicycle groups connected and more involved
- Would like to return to in-person meetings, and would like update on status or schedule

Mr. Goulden said he was okay with virtual meetings, but not okay with the recordings being shared on a public forum. He said it should be discussed before the committee returns to a hybrid in-person virtual meeting arrangement.

Councilmember McCarthy reported that the Council may return to in-person meetings after the Council break. Their next meeting is August 24. He thanked the Transportation Commission, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and Bicycle Advisory Committee for their presentations to Council.

Ms. Hueftle requested a printed copy of the Active Transportation Master Plan.

Mr. Clifton introduced himself. He said that he heard from others how great the presentations to Council were, and said the discussion will continue. He also said he intends to attend more meetings.

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 the June 17, 2021 joint meeting with the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Goulden made, and Ms. Hueftle seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2021 regular BAC meeting with one correction. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Mitchell made, and Ms. Hueftle seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021 regular BAC meeting. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Mitchell made, and Mr. Goulden seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2021 regular BAC meeting. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Active transportation master plan

The Committee made a number of observations about the presentation to the City Council and subsequent discussion on June 22, 2021:

- Ms. Hueftle said that the Council benefits from getting information that may seem counterintuitive. She asked if there were more formal ways to share information, and suggested a draft letter with the BAC's position. She said that Council enthusiasm seemed to wain at the end.
- Mr. Crim said he was encouraged that the Council was engaged in the pilot project. He said it would be a great show of support for bicycling.
- Mr. Goulden said we need to be careful about levels of protection, and that candlesticks may give a false sense of security. Making sure we do it correctly is more important than doing it quickly.
- Ms. Hollander expressed concerns about the safety and permanence of the pilot. The City should pilot some potential solutions as a test prior to a permanent configuration. She wondered about resolution of the petition and next steps.
- Ms. Hueftle said making people safe should be the primary goal. The city needs more safe streets, not memorials.
- Councilmember McCarthy reported that the Council has allocated funding to the Flagstaff Trails Initiative and for counseling services for those affected by the crash. He said that he and Councilmember Aslan were more cautious but would like to prioritize safety. He gave an example of the Milton Corridor Study, which emphasized pedestrian and bicyclist safety over vehicle delay.
- Ms. Leid said there is an urgency to taking action. She asked the BAC how they would spend \$1 million in the short term:
 - Mr. Goulden voted for protected bike lanes, but worried about the cost and durability.
 - Ms. Hollander voted for safe infrastructure and connected networks, including intersections.
 - Ms. Hueftle voted for plugging gaps in the network, including FUTS trails and bike lanes. She said protected bike lanes could be emphasized on major corridors, and that we need to solve scary segments or people will be discouraged from riding.
 - Mr. Mitchell said we have walked through our projects and priorities. He said the city should go bold on the pilot projects.
 - Ms. Leid said she thinks Butler is a problem, she will choose to drive instead of riding on it.
 - Ms. Hueftle mentioned road diets as a way to give more space to pedestrians and bicyclists.

Mr. Ince describe the pilot separated bike lanes projects on Butler Ave and Beaver St, including design options and considerations. The committee discussed various aspects of the project:

- There was consensus that the barriers were more beneficial on Butler than on Beaver.
- A suggestion was made that railing or candlesticks can be used to create protected intersections.
- There was discussion about the process and equipment for snow removal and sweeping.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Flagstaff Urban Trails and Bikeways Map reprint**

The committee asked if it were possible to review a draft of the map.

2. **Election of officers**

This item was held over to the next meeting.

3. **Letter of support for RAISE grant**

This item was not discussed.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. **Reports**

There was no discussion on the Reports.

2. **Concluding Announcements**

Ms. Hueftle acknowledged Mark Haughwout's service as chair of the BAC. The Committee indicated its interest in recruiting new members for the vacancy from underserved communities.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm