

CITY OF AUSTIN
BICYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAC)

MEETING SUMMARY

City Hall
302 W. 2nd Street
AUSTIN, TX 78704

January 19, 2012

PARTICIPANTS:

Chris LeBlanc – BAC Chair
Mike Kase – BAC
Tommy Eden – BAC
Leslie Luciano – BAC
Richard Faidley – BAC
Sheila Molina – BAC

Myndi Swanson – Alt BAC
Abe Dashner – Alt BAC
Elliot McFadden – Alt BAC
Zachary Stern – Alt BAC
Derek Hansen – Alt BAC
Denise Shaw – Alt BAC

John Bartle – Alt BAC
Tom Wald – Alt BAC
Tom Thayer – Alt BAC
Jacob Calhoun – Alt BAC

STAFF PRESENT:

Annick Beaudet

Sgt. David Walker
Nadia Barrera

Neil Kopper

GUESTS:

Michael Cosper – Citizen

Council Member Chris Riley
Katie Brown – Citizen

Richard Hollenbak - LOBV
Eileen Schaubert

1. Introductions –

Mr. LeBlanc starts the meeting with introductions. Ms. Beaudet, City Bike Program Manager, shares some history of the BAC.

2. Review and Approval of December Minutes –

Name placards will be used starting in February. Mr. LeBlanc motions to accept the minutes and Mr. McFadden seconds. No dissention, minutes pass.

3. Items from BAC –

- **Update from APD (delayed until February)** Ms. Schaubert announces the annual Meet with the Chief event for March 5th. Send questions to: apdforum@austincycling.org. Sgt. Walker gives a short update on the statistics that will be included in next month's briefing: citations, collisions, texting, and 3-foot law violations. Ms. Beaudet discusses how staff has reviewed APD's Uniform Tolerance Policy and how they are working interdepartmentally to ensure that Bicycle Staff comments are incorporated. Mr. Cosper asks if the tolerance guidelines are public. Sgt. Walker states that they are on-line.
- **Signals on Major Cycling Routes** Mr. LeBlanc is interested in why he doesn't trip the loop detector at Jefferson and 38th. He states that he has two issues – 1) Is the timing of the light, and 2) Is tripping the light. Mr. Eden recommends that we bring Mr. Mozdbar to discuss signalization with the group. Ms. Beaudet states that we handle complaints on a case-by-case basis. Ms. Beaudet states that currently the Bicycle Program does not have funding for signals. Mr. Dashner asks about changing the tolerance to allow for APD to understand why a cyclist would run a red light. Mr. Demling asks if APD takes into consideration when citing cyclists for running red lights. Ms. Beaudet states that she could ask Ms. Hernandez (APD) to report about red lights and to check if there are any re-occurring red light citations at one location. Sgt. Walker volunteers to meet with the Municipal Court to determine how they react to a cyclist stating they waited through a signal cycle and then had to proceed due to not being detected. Ms. Beaudet suggests we invite Mr. Mozdbar, and work with him to create a list of

where he would implement the newest detection infrastructure. Mr. LeBlanc recommends leaning the bike over and holding it by the handlebar over the loop to detect the bicycle.

- Mr. Kase adds that on S. Lamar there is a real problem with manhole covers in the bike lane. Ms. Barrera recommends calling 3-1-1 to report.
- Ms. Molina asks about street cleaning. The response is the same. Call 3-1-1 to report. Mr. Wald asks that Street and Bridge should know that after a seal coat the street will need to be swept every couple of weeks due to gravel consistently coming up (for example, Emerald Forest). Mr. Cospier does not understand why his street is swept more consistently than Emerald Forest. Mr. Faidley asks how we can get Austin Resource Recovery to prioritize bicycle lanes. Mr. Eden suggests that a representative from Austin Resource Recovery visit with the Bicycle Advisory Council. Ms. Beaudet suggests that we use the previously passed resolution as a basis.
- Mr. LeBlanc asks about Lake Austin Boulevard. Eastbound, there is a white stripe on the asphalt. However, on the westbound side there is not a stripe. Ms. Beaudet responds that the bicycle markings and stripe will be going in soon. Ms. Beaudet would like feedback from the group. Ms. Luciano states that her twins feel more comfortable on the facility. There is a question about the bicycle facilities over Red Bud Bridge. Ms. Beaudet states that it is a top priority for repair. Mr. Hollenbeck states that the vegetation on Red Bud Bridge needs to be cut.
- Ms. Schaubert asks about detours and construction. Ms. Beaudet states that there is new training for Project Managers for Traffic Closures specifically regarding cyclists for detours. Ms. Schaubert states that the UTC Bike/Ped Sub-Committee will be hearing a report on this soon. Ms. Schaubert states that the detour signs do not give enough route information. Mr. Riley states that one way the City could give you more information is through a QR code.
- Mr. Demling asks for a light on the bridge over Waller Creek on the Lance Armstrong Bikeway. Ms. Beaudet would like to speak with APD to seek an opportunity for partnership. Mr. Calhoun asks for a light as well under IH-35. A long discussion ensued with regard to loitering on the bridge and recent issues. Ms. Beaudet states that the City may be working with a local bike team to put up a mural under IH-35 at 4th Street.

4. Items from Staff –

- **Infrastructure** – Green bicycle lanes on Northwood and Mopac for crossing of interstate on/off ramps and we should be putting them in other locations. Next month, staff will be bringing a list of intersections to the next meeting.
- **Bicycle Program Updates** –
 - Viva Streets! – Mr. Riley, Ms. Luciano, Ms. Barrera, and Mr. Wald gave a short synopsis about the planning of the event.
 - Bicycle Ambassador Teams – Bicycle Commuter Tax Incentive information, other outreach opportunities. Ms. Krause has sent out applications. Interested parties should e-mail Sara.Krause@austintexas.gov.
 - Bike Share – Ms. Beaudet had an interview with Ben Wear. Mr. McFadden remarks that he found it interesting the lack of media thus far. Ms. Beaudet states that as soon as the plan is more developed the City will produce a press release. Mr. Riley asks if Ben Wear knew that Houston is also starting Bike Share. Ms. Luciano states that there will be only four stations.

- Mr. Riley updates the group on the regional bike map. The map will identify the existing conditions and should give you some sense as to how friendly or hostile a particular route would be. It does not identify routes. This map is considered a first step. He is looking for cyclist's feedback to develop feasible routes. He would also like to aim for regional bike route signage. Ultimately, when the map is complete, we could see suggestions on ideal routes and a regional, beginner-friendly network of bicycle routes. Mr. Riley asks the group of recommended routes. Ms. Luciano suggests Austin to Bastrop and Austin to Creedmoor. Mr. LeBlanc suggests Austin towards the east. Ms. Beaudet recommends going to Hutto and Greene. Ms. Barrera suggests Austin to Johnson City. Mr. Riley suggests Austin to San Marcos. Mr. Wald reminds the group that the draft map is on the CAMPO website, under bike/ped. If anyone would like to give feedback, they should visit the website. Mr. Eden states that there is another route to get to San Marcos, which includes using Brodie and 1626. Mr. LeBlanc states that there is opportunity by speaking with businesses at the end of the route, or along the route.
- Mr. Eden asks about promotion of the 3-foot, 6-foot law, and sharrows. Ms. Beaudet states that we will be meeting with the Public Information Office about our outreach strategy for the year and will be discussing the 3-foot law as well.

5. Announcements/Adjourn –

- Mr. Faidley reminds the group of the Texas Trails and Active Transportation Conference.
- Mr. Kase moves to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Luciano seconds the motion.