

CITY OF AUSTIN
BICYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAC)
MEETING SUMMARY

One Texas Center
8th Floor Conference Room
August 16, 2012

Chris LeBlanc – BAC Chair
Jason Abels – BAC Vice Chair
Tommy Eden – BAC

PARTICIPANTS:
Allison Kaplan - BAC
Ellen Gibbs - BAC
Tom Wald – Alt BAC
Mike Kase – BAC

Sheila Molina - BAC
Myndi Swanson – Alt BAC
Tom Thayer – Alt BAC

Patrick Jones
Michael Cospers
Doug McLaren

GUESTS:
Rich Hollenbeck
Jesse Duncan
Noni Jarnagin

Jessica Tunon
Christopher Stanton

Nadia Barrera

STAFF PRESENT:
Annick Beaudet

Sophia Benner

Michael Cospers
Doug McLaren

GUESTS:
Adrienne White
Rich Hollenbeck
Noni Jarnagin

Patrick Jones
Gonzalo Camacho

1. Introductions – Mr. LeBlanc begins the meeting with introductions
2. Review and Approval of July Minutes - After adding a few changes, there is a motion to approve by Mr. Abels which is seconded by Ms. Gibbs, and approved by the group.
3. Items from BAC –
 - By-laws: Mr. LeBlanc states that elections have traditionally been held in October, but last year they were in November. The group prefers October. Mr. LeBlanc asks when the notice should go out. The group decides that the process should take six weeks. Therefore, the call should go out by September 6th. The respondents should have four weeks to respond (back by October 4th). Mr. Stanton asks about the statement regarding geographic and racing community representation. The group discusses how diversity is important. Mr. LeBlanc states that Ms. Luciano, Ms. Gibbs, Mr. Abels, and Mr. Faidley are up for reelection. Alternatives up for reelection are Mr. Bartle and Mr. Thayer. Ms. Gibbs states that she would probably not run for re-election. Mr. Stanton asks what the difference between standing and alternate members. Mr. LeBlanc states that only full standing members vote while alternates vote for elections and when appointed by a full standing member (when nine standing members are not available). Mr. LeBlanc states that he had an intention to change that to have a circular list for alternates who could serve. Ms. Beaudet asks if the group would prefer to have nine members or seven members; as the City Boards & Commissions now have seven members serving. Ms. Beaudet states that transitioning to an official Board and Commission should be on a future agenda. Mr. LeBlanc states that Article II, Section 2.c regarding the pace of re-elections is in line with what the BAC is currently doing. Mr. Kase

recommends asking the Chair or his appointees to invite an Alternate to move into a Standing member position. Mr. LeBlanc states that he likes that idea, but also likes the idea of Alternates rotating into the open position. Mr. Jones recommends that the Standing member nominate an Alternate to represent them if they step down from the BAC. Mr. Kase states that while a 3-person sub-committee seems equitable, he states that given the respect the group has for the Chair, having the Chair appoint a Standing member would be an efficient way of dealing with the situation. Mr. LeBlanc states that each position could have a designated, numbered, or letter seat. Mr. LeBlanc states that the person with the fewest votes could be the one that has the one-year term. Mr. LeBlanc states that the only thing to add would be, if there was a seat vacated that only had one year left on its term, then the person with the lowest number of votes would be given the one-year term. Mr. LeBlanc will develop the changes and will share it with the group for voting at the next meeting. Discussion regarding the election subcommittee ensues and changes to Article III, Section 2 regarding the timeline for the subcommittee and report (i.e. the report does not need to occur in September – in the past the report occurs in October, before the election). Mr. Abels asks if he can still Chair the committee if he is up for re-election. Mr. LeBlanc responds that he can. Mr. Kase and Ms. Kaplan also volunteer for the election sub-committee. Mr. LeBlanc will also join the sub-committee. Mr. Thayer asks about Article IV, Section 2.c. Mr. Abels clarifies that the preference should be for a standing member being able to nominate an alternate so as to allow them to represent them as the proxy. Ms. Beaudet clarifies that if an alternate is not designated, they may be represented through round robin. However, Mr. LeBlanc states that this designation should simply be acted upon by the Chair. The group agrees. Mr. Wald also discusses Article V. Mr. Jones states that Article IV, Section 2,A should state “Decision Making Process” as the process includes more than consensus-based decisions. Mr. Kase suggests that for Article V, the group should strive for a 2/3 majority for amendments to the by-laws. Mr. Wald and Mr. Kase will work on Article V and Mr. LeBlanc will address the election part of the by-laws.

- Discussion: Garbage Cans in Bicycle Lanes – Ms. Beaudet begins the discussion with the ordinance. Mr. Thayer asks why citizens do not place their cans on the curb, instead of in the street. Mr. Stanton remarks that it may be a problem for blocking the sidewalks. Mr. Wald states that he often sees a problem on 30th Street. Mr. Kase asks that if there could be a policy that would ask for citizens to place their cans in the area that is a separated between the sidewalk and the street, if possible. Mr. LeBlanc asks that we first identify where the problem exists. Mr. LeBlanc also recommends focusing on west campus due to the narrow streets. Ms. Beaudet will research where residential fronts bike lanes, and also looking at anecdotal cyclist’s evidence on where trash cans interfere with bike lanes. Ms. Sheilanova recommends looking at Duval and 45th Street. Ms. Beaudet states that reflectors on the trash cans would be a good idea. Mr. Jarnagin also recommends that Austin Resource Recovery (ARR) could send out a reflector in the mail that could go on trash cans. Ms. Swanson recommends that the reflectors say “5’ apart.” Mr. Patrick also recommends that the reflector also state that the reflector or cans should state when the cans should be put up. Mr. Wald suggests it is possible that ARR has recommendations for how to deal with narrow streets. Ms. Beaudet states that she will keep this idea on the agenda for another update, and will do research, and will speak with ARR about their recommendations. Ms. Benner will do some research on how other cities deal with this issue.

- Shoal Creek Trail: Ms. Beaudet states that the trail has been open for about a month, and it will stay open until the spring. When it is closed again, there will be a two-way cycletrack on Cesar Chavez to San Antonio Street. It will be funded by the Central Library and the 2nd Street Bridge thanks to Council Member Riley's policy regarding bicycle detours. Because of the construction in the area, the LAB will likely be closed in the area up to San Antonio Street. Ms. Beaudet states that once the plan is finalized and approved by the City Manager, the City will develop a press release with the official detour. She also lets the group know that the Bicycle Program is working on a Facebook page to update the group with information such as this. Mr. Wald asks if portions of the cycletrack on Cesar Chavez would be permanent. Ms. Beaudet states that it would be depend on how future development and connectivity occurs.

4. Items from Staff – 6:50-7:55

5. Announcements/Adjourn –

- Ms. Beaudet announces that Friday the 24th from 9:00 a.m. at the Kramer Redline stop to for the bicycle cage grant. Mr. Cospers asks if there would be an option to have a bicycle cage at the Westgate shopping center to catch the rapid bus. There will also be a ribbon cutting at 10:30-11:30 at Zilker Elementary for the cycletrack and back-to-school safety information from APD. Ms. Beaudet states that there will also be video footage from the Green Lane Project representatives.
- Mr. Cospers asks about bicycle infrastructure out to the F1 track. Mr. Kase announces that Bicycle Sport Shop will provide bicycle valet service at the bicycle depot. Ms. Beaudet states that staff worked on the route, and that getting to the location eventually will be improved.
- Mr. Eden would like to know when we are going to review the Bicycle Parking Code Amendments. Ms. Beaudet states that it may come to the October meeting. Mr. LeBlanc suggests that due to the elections, it may be best to delay to amendments to the November committee. Ms. Beaudet agrees.
- Mr. Wald discusses an Alliance for Bicycling and Walking committee in regards to Bicycle Advisory Councils and he will share the audio link with the group.
- Ms. Tounen states that she is working on a car free day for Austin.

Mr. Abels motions to adjourn and Mr. Kase seconds