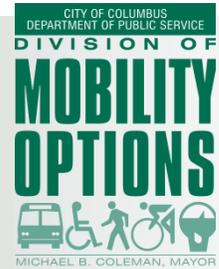


Columbus Transportation and Pedestrian Commission
Bicycle Sub-Committee
109 North Front Street
Ground Floor
June 29, 2011
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Attendees:

Members: Jeff Stephens, Aaron Schill, Betsy Pandora, Brian Moore, Tricia Kovacs (Remote)

Staff: Nick Popa, Chris George, Daniel Moorhead

Guests: Gordon Renkes, Warren McCullough, K.C. Sorenson, Nick Shultz, David Roseman, Brent Nimmo, Rod Rudinger, Brian Hagerty

The following notes summarize the items which were discussed at the Bicycle Sub-Committee (BSC) meeting held on June 29, 2011:

Previous Meeting Notes

- Need to update Parking Lot to reflect prioritization discussed at previous meeting.

Action Item:

1. None

2011 Resurfacing Update / Bike Plan Preliminary Engineering Report RFP

- Non-Road Diet Projects
 - Sharon Woods Blvd
 - 3 Public Meetings Conducted
 - Sharon Woods Civic Association (6/2/11)
 - Northland Community Council (6/7/11)
 - Open house (6/22/11)
 - Survey ends 6/29/11
 - Resurfacing scheduled to begin on 7/5/2011
 - Plan proposes narrower travel lanes and increases parking density and alternating parking from side to side.
 - Implementation of narrower lanes should lower speeds on the street.
 - Warren McCullough Comment:
 - Neighborhood residents didn't know about two previous meetings
 - Residents didn't get much lead time on meetings (two weeks)
 - Private consultants hired by City to develop plan
 - Not sure outside engineering consultants really familiarized themselves with neighborhood

- Didn't hear about difficulties being addressed
 - High School football games (Friday night, Saturday morning, Monday evenings, little league soccer, church festivals (St. Elizabeth and Good Shepherd))
 - Concerned about safety
 - Sharon Woods might as well be 50 mph based on actual travel speeds
- Hopes to hear about these on July 12th (Transportation and Pedestrian Commission meeting) and have them addressed
- New ADA curb ramps are decreasing parking spaces that were counted as existing during parking analysis
- K.C. Sorenson Comment
 - 184/981 respondents to survey for Bicentennial Bikeways Plan (BBP) were bike riders
 - BBP provided no details on results of survey
 - Survey took place in 2007
 - Clarification: Survey results are in the BBP appendix
 - Do not know percentage of bike riders in neighborhood
 - Since parking study, 12 new ADA curb ramps have been placed that reduced parking, eliminated some parking spots
 - Reduction of parking spaces lowers livability and quality of life for residents
 - Davis, CA (18% of population rides bikes, many on weekends)
 - Avoids as much as possible putting bike "paths" on two lane roads like Sharon Woods
 - Extreme traffic – school buses, 90 driveways, 17 intersections, and business entrances are present indicating strong safety hazards
 - Bike riding is only for 5 months of the year
 - Report should be available to citizens before recommendation made by committee
- Rod Rudinger comment
 - Road is wide enough to accommodate bicyclists and cars
 - Traffic not heavy enough to necessitate bike lanes
 - Prefer share the road signs
- Committee Comment

- Tricia Kovacs
 - Lanes more appropriate on arterials rather than residential streets
 - Has City considered sharrows on Sharon Woods Blvd?
- Brian Moore
 - Used to ride regularly on Sharon Woods Blvd
 - Before having kids he felt fine riding on Sharon Woods
 - Now he is a complete proponent of bike lanes to open it up for families
 - Would serve as channel to Sharon Woods Metropark
- Aaron Schill
 - Sharrows – 35 mph is upper echelon for placing sharrows on a roadway
 - If speeding exists, the road may be above acceptable speed for sharrows.
 - Chicane effect of alternating parking should help to slow traffic.
- City Response
 - Bicentennial Bikeways Plan (BBP) recommends bike lanes on Sharon Woods Blvd
 - BBBP was vetted through a public process.
 - Public Service Department is charged with implementing projects in BBP.
 - Sharrows are considered on some streets as well.
 - Results of Sharon woods survey can be posted online
- Chair Response
 - Studies have shown that an increase of bike infrastructure results in increased ridership
 - Minneapolis is #1 bike-friendly city in the country even with it having the coldest weather of any major US city
- Dexter Falls
 - Currently in conceptual phase
 - Public outreach plan is being developed
 - Scheduled to be resurfaced on 8/23/2011
- Remainder of Streets
 - In Project 5
 - No resurfacing schedule yet
 - 11th Ave – High St to Grant Ave

- Chittenden – High St to Grant Ave
- King Ave – Grandview Ave to Olentangy River Road
- Henderson Rd – Chevy Chase to Kenny Road
- Road Diet Projects
 - Henderson Rd
 - Kenny Rd to Olentangy River Road
 - Project 2 Resurfacing scheduled to begin on 7/11/2011
 - Intersections are not wide enough to carry bike lanes through intersection
 - High speed facility (50 mph speed limit)
 - Travel lanes would need to be narrowed to provide space for bike lanes
 - Question
 - Can paint be used in lieu of thermoplastic to give time for more detailed study?
 - City will determine whether feasibility exists for paint in lieu of thermoplastic.
 - Comment that there are not many complete streets in the area parallel to Henderson Rd
 - Remainder of Streets
 - No schedule yet but planning for later this year
 - Champion Ave – Frebis to Mooberry
 - Ohio Ave – Frebis to Mooberry
 - James Rd – Livingston Ave to I-70
 - Livingston Ave – Brookway to Big Walnut
- ODOT Urban Paving Projects
 - Cleveland Ave – Long St to Westerville (2012)
 - Central (2015) – Brown to Town
 - Town (2015) – Central Ave to Starling St
- City and Stantec will be developing criteria and policy for road diet of streets
 - This criteria will be applied to resurfacing streets and has the potential to be applied to non-resurfacing streets via pavement marking removal and remarking

Action Item:

1. *City staff will determine feasibility of using paint in lieu of thermoplastic for Henderson Road pavement markings.*

2011 Share the Road Campaign

- EMH&T and Engage Communications are developing an Education and Engagement Plan
 - Continuation of 2009 High St campaign but citywide
 - Campaign will help address community concerns about bike safety
- Comment: ODOT education book (*Street Smarts*) is no longer available
- Committee should have received survey as part of Education and Engagement Plan
 - Some sub-committee members did not receive a survey (need to be on distribution list)
 - Sub-committee members will be part of STROC – Share The Road Organizing Committee
- Next steps
 - City will review results of survey
 - Organizing meetings will take place
 - First meeting will be in mid August
 - Effort should be wrapped up around mid-September
 - City will decide best implementation actions based on meeting discussions and budget
 - City will also meet with COTA and CPD for input
- Comment: Introduce bicycle related sign placement criteria for discussion as part of process

Covered Bike Parking Update

- Phase 1
 - Showed rendering of what bike shelter will look like
 - Columbus Asphalt will be contractor for project
 - Contract legislation will go to Council 7/11 or 7/18
 - A Notice To Proceed is anticipated to be given on August 3
 - Initial round of 10 shelters should be installed by 10/31/11
- Phase 2
 - Going to Office of Support Services in early August
 - Notice To Proceed will be given in late 2011
 - Construction to begin in Spring of 2012
- City met with Short North Special Improvement District and heard concerns regarding shelter placement
 - Minimum Pedestrian Access Route will be maintained at all shelter locations

- High St and 3rd Ave is location of primary concern
 - 5 ft width is present at this particular location
 - This width exceeds the minimum required
- Heavy pedestrian traffic but also heavy bike usage
- Retrofitting facilities into existing infrastructure is a challenge sometimes
- City addressed concerns regarding ADA blind access
- Minimum width is measured from base of shelter to edge of clear zone

Bike Rack Installation

- 11 racks installed in June 2011
- 11 racks installed in May 2011
- 29 racks installed 2011-to-date
- 5 racks in progress
- Existing supply has been exceeded by demand
- 100 additional racks are on order
- Question on parking code
 - Does change of ownership bring new provisions into effects? Answer: No
 - New development brings provisions into effect if there is a change of use, council variance, or motorist parking change

Bikes May Use Full Lane

- Confirmed feedback from Tricia
- No additional feedback will be forthcoming.
- Staff will draft policy for placement
- Goal to have final policy in place by end of the year to coincide with Ohio Department Of Transportation adoption of Federal Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices
- Schedule
 - Draft by next month – discuss
 - Come back in August – with revisions
 - Goal to be finalized by September

Action Item:

2. *City staff will draft a policy for placement of Bikes May Use Full Lane signs.*

“Parking Lot” Issues

- Tricia overlaid list with BBP
 - Comment into including Recreation & Parks Department into BBP discussion
- City will reorganize parking lot to reflect overlay
- City to send out list of 77 recommendations + additional information that would help
 - City will refresh statuses of items
- Subcommittee to prioritize recommendations
- Return to city by next meeting
- Next meeting will be to work on prioritization of list
- Comment: look at mode shift goal of 10%, better define this goal by what policies should be in place for that
- Comment: Add parking lot to meeting notes
 - Clarify nature of parking lot
- Comment: Intersection Livingston Ave @ Alum Creek Drive, info on improvements
 - Committee will be updated on Spot Improvement projects at next meeting

Action Item:

3. *City staff will refresh statuses of items on list of 77 recommendations and send out to committee.*
4. *Committee will prioritize recommendations and prepare to discuss at next meeting.*
5. *City staff will further organize projects in Parking Lot into BBP and non-BBP.*
6. *City Staff will provide update on Spot Improvement projects at next meeting.*

Other Business:

- July 27 – Neighborhood Pride bike ride
 - Proposed Alternatives:
 - August 3rd, August 4th, August 10th/11th
 - Look for availability of meeting room