

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
January 9th 2020
5pm to 7pm
NDS Conference Room

Members in attendance:

Carl Schwarz
Mike Smith
Peter Krebs
Peter Ohlms
Navarre Bartz
Cort Hammond
Frank Deviney
Brian Cameron

Stephen Bach
Jonathan Hine
Richard Magee
Kyle Rodland
Amanda Poncy
Will Lee

- **CIP Update and Discussion** - Peter Krebs and Amanda Poncy

Peter Krebs gave an update on the last Planning Commission meeting and Amanda Poncy talked about the state of funding for several Bike/Ped projects. There was also a brief discussion about the importance of the West Main Streetscape Project over concern that it might lose funding due to its large cost. BPAC discussed whether or not to ask a councilor to join its listserv again now that Kathy Galvin has stepped down.

- There has been lots of turn out from bike/ped community to advocate for funding
- Planning Commission voted to overturn cuts and increase Bike/Ped Budget
 - But they were unspecific which means more work is needed to ensure funding
 - It was noted that the Commission is just advisory and the budget has not actually been changed yet
 - Peter Krebs said that 3 council members, Sena McGill, Lloyd Snook, and Heather Hill have said in private that bike/ped funding should be restored
 - Annual Program funds are available still.
 - Currently several projects may not be funded these include:
 - Rugby Ave. SUP
 - Total estimated cost is \$700,000 of which \$400,000 is covered by a grant from VDOT funds. Staff is working to revise the design to fit the budget and/or cover the difference.
 - Emmet Feasibility
 - ~\$180,000 is needed to advance the design plans far enough by the April deadline to leverage VDOT funding
 - Old Lynchburg Rd./Sunset Ave./Moore's Creek Grant Match
 - This was a joint City/County priority that was discussed at the September 2019 Council/BOS meeting.

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- The County has submitted a revenue sharing grant application for this project. If awarded, a maximum of \$450,000 will be needed for the grant match in order to advance the project to construction
 - Avon St. Bike Improvements
- \$379,000 will be needed to build infrastructure between the Belmont Bridge and Hinton Ave. to complete the network between Locust and Monticello Ave. Peter Krebs suggested another round of communications to advocate for funding
- Feb 6th budget work session
 - It would be good for a representative from BPAC to go
- BPAC agreed that the West Main Streetscape project is important to traffic flow and bike safety and needs to be defended if necessary
- BPAC plans to ask Heather Hill to join listserv to replace Kathy Galvin,
 - Lloyd Snook is a back up
 - This is to allow for a direct channel for advocacy and to maintain contact with Council

- **Outreach and Diversity Sub-committee – Mike Smith**

Mike Smith gave a status update on the Outreach and Diversity Sub-Committee. There was also a short discussion centered on whether or not to create a second email address specifically to handle complaints and how else to conduct outreach within the community.

- The sub-committee met a few times this fall. The sub-committee has been stalled for a few months but is looking to get rolling again
- The sub-committee conducted a survey of BPAC members to figure out what other groups BPAC members represent
 - There were 9 responses to the survey
 - The survey can be reopened and more responses added
 - Multiple neighborhoods are represented.
 - Several members represent downtown adjacent neighborhoods (e.g. Fifeville, Belmont), one person from the county
 - 7 of 9 folks are involved in a PTO or civic service group
 - 5 of 9 represent a neighborhood organization
 - Amanda has full list
- Can use survey results to more specifically package sales pitches and outreach materials

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- Sub-Committee intends to create a two-line pitch and/or other supports to help members feel more comfortable engaging the public one-on-one
- Common thought from the survey was to create another public email address to handle complaints
 - There was no consensus on whether or not to pursue this
 - The general thought was that complaints = data
- A member pointed out that there is power in utilizing personal connections for outreach beyond official channels
- There is an idea to establishing ambassadors to report out to neighborhood associations
- This is the last meeting with Mike Smith due to his relocation and acceptance of a new position

- **Project Updates/Discussion**

Various members gave updates on projects that they are involved with.

- **Emmet Streetscape** – Peter Ohlms
 - The last public hearing was in December 2019
 - The project's scope is from intersection of Ivy Rd. and University Ave. to Arlington Blvd.
 - The project adds bike lanes which are protected in sections
 - It adds SUPs on both sides of the street
 - Discussion about a reduced width between Massie Rd. and Arlington Blvd.
 - It is funded and will be built
 - Construction is planned to begin in May 2021 and finish early in 2023
 - <http://www.emmetstreetscape.com/>
- **Barracks/Emmet Project** - Navarre Bartz
 - The last public meeting occurred in November 2019.
 - The new preferred option is a mix of a narrow buffer strip, ~3ft, for most of the length of the project
 - There is talk of removing the buffer strip in a section to minimize the height of the retaining wall
 - There is concern about getting onto the path at Buckingham Rd.
 - Design issues getting onto and off of path

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- Path is on uphill side of the road, more easily serving riders who are traveling away from Barracks Road
- The Path does not connect to any other bike facilities at the top of the hill, it also ends at Buckingham Rd., two blocks shy of the peak at Rugby Rd.
 - BPAC agreed that the logical terminus is Rugby Rd
- The City is evaluating options for an on-street bike facility up to Tenth St. which would connect the project to existing infrastructure
- Navarre is working on a memo to send to City Council, City Manager's Office, City Staff, and Timmons Group
- Some members highlighted the need for infrastructure to be intuitive.
- <http://barracksemmetimprovements.com/>
- **Rugby Avenue Trail** - Amanda Poncy
 - The project includes a shared use path from Sherwood Road into McIntire Park.
 - Originally, the project was designed with a curb extension at Sherwood Rd.
 - Discussion about moving pedestrian crossing to the Westwood intersection and changing the intersection to a four way stop
 - Design changes are underway to address budget overages.
 - Aiming for summer construction with exact dates TBD
- **Bike/Walk Cville** - Peter Krebs
 - Series of social bike rides similar to last year
 - A grant from BamaWorks is funding Bike Cville again this year
 - Peter Krebs is looking to partner with BPAC
 - Peter would like to have volunteer leads for rides
 - LEAP Tour De Solar
 - Fifeville ride
 - The schedule will be solidified soon to facilitate planning.
 - Look for a website to go live week of 1/14/2020
 - Other potential rides include:
 - Tom Tom Festival art ride, similar to last year
 - Bike and Boo type collaboration ride with Community Bikes
 - Garden ride?
 - Possibly partner with Charlottesville Climate Collaborative?
 - Maybe do in conjunction with fall harvest festival @ Buford

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- Walk Cville
 - Series of Urban Hikes
 - There was a suggestion to have these at the same time as the bike series to maximize resources. The route could be shorter to accommodate walking speeds.
 - Would like help from BPAC
 - This is not currently funded, but there is opportunity to siphon bike money for it
- Basic Bicycles is re-opening in the lower level of Beer Run – Feb.1st 12-6pm
- **Vietnam Memorial Pedestrian Bridge** - Peter Ohlms

Peter Ohlms gave background and answered questions on the recently discussed Vietnam Memorial Pedestrian Bridge. .

- At the November 18th, 2019 meeting, Council considered design options to address the concern that the Vietnam Memorial is not ADA accessible. One of the proposed solutions is to provide a new parking lot and pedestrian bridge across McIntire Road Extended (estimated at \$2 million). 1
 - Idea is to connect the Vietnam memorial on the west side of John Warner Parkway at the elbow of the switchback to a new parking lot on the east side
 - Primary reason cited is for ADA compliance
- The project would not currently be connective to anything
 - However it could be useful for connecting to future infrastructure towards Pantops
- The plan moving forward is to ask Heather Hill about the status of the project
 - Not clear if there is support for it
- Link to Minutes from Council Meeting. Relevant information is on page 5-6.
 - <https://www.charlottesville.org/home/showdocument?id=68442>
- **Vote for Vice Chair and nominate rep for comp plan steering committee**

Due to Mike Smith leaving, a vote to elect a new vice chair was needed and a representative for the new Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee was needed as well. Both elections were uncontested and unanimous.

- Navarre Bartz nominated for Vice-Chair
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- Elected unanimously
- Navarre Bartz nominated for BPAC representative to Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
 - Elected unanimously

Upcoming Events:

- January 30: Regular BPAC Meeting NDS Conference Room, 5-7PM
- February 6: Council Worksession Budget, City Space, 5PM
- February 28: Bike Repair Party, Three Notched Craft Kitchen, 5PM
- March 2: City Council Meeting (Budget Presentation), Council Chambers, 6:30PM
- March 5: Council Worksession Budget, City Space, 5PM
- March 5: Regular BPAC Meeting NDS Conference Room, 5-7PM
- March 12: Council Worksession Budget, City Space, 6PM
- March 16: City Council Meeting (Budget Public Hearing), Council Chambers, 6:30PM
- March 25: Community Budget Forum, City Space, 6PM
- March 26: Council Worksession Budget, City Space, 6PM
- April 2: Regular BPAC Meeting NDS Conference Room, 5-7PM
- April 6: City Council Meeting (Budget Public Hearing), Council Chambers, 6:30PM
- April 9: Council Worksession Budget, City Space, 6PM
- April 14: City Council Meeting (Budget-2nd Reading), Council Chambers, 6:30PM