

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
June 6th 2019
5pm to 7pm
NDS Conference Room

Members in attendance:

Frank Deviney	Cort Hammond
Peter Ohlms	Lena Seville
Carl Schwarz	Scott Paisley
Dave Stackhouse	Trey Biasoli.
Navarre Bartz	Amanda Poncy
Sarah Littlefield	Will Lee
Peter Krebs	Kyle Rodland
Mike Smith	

• **Rugby/Rose Hill Drive Update**

Peter Krebs, Amanda Poncy, and Chris Gensic gave an update on the status of the Rugby/Rose Hill Dr. project following the results of a public meeting.

- A public meeting to discuss the Rugby Ave/Rose Hill Drive was held on May 29th, 2019. The temporary installation was implemented in phases to better understand the impacts. First, the stop lights were covered and stop signs installed with no changes to the existing intersection configuration.
 - With just stop signs it seemed to work well
 - Pedestrians gave feedback that they felt safe
 - Then removed the turn lanes were removed
 - This significantly backed up traffic
- A stop light seems to be preferable for traffic control based on the opinion in the meeting despite being more expensive
- Many people expressed concern about traffic safety at the 250 Bypass ramp/Westwood and concern about not knowing about the Rugby Ave trail design
- The City is looking for funding for the project now
- About 80 people attended the public meeting
- Due to concerns raised about the trail and traffic pattern – a joint meeting with Rugby/Rose Hill community about changing traffic pattern at 250 ramp for the Rugby Avenue Trail project will be held on June 25. Chris provided a general overview of two options for the proposed multi-use trail.
 - There are two options that both include a separated multi-use trail. The main difference is how it is done and where the lanes are placed
 - Dave Stackhouse noted that “speed is an issue at that intersection” and that visibility and safety is an issue with T-Bone collisions there too.
- Chris Gensic also provided updates on trail projects under construction:

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- The 250 Bypass Trail from Meadowbrook Heights under Dairy Bridge to Hydraulic has gone to bid and will start construction mid-June
 - It is expected to be finished by the fall of 2019.
- Water Street Trail up to Belmont Bridge has also been bid and should begin construction this summer.
- Trailhead at VFW
 - Chris has been authorized to create a trailhead for access to the Rivanna Trail

- **Eco- Counter Update**

Will Lee showed data and talked about the state of the automatic bicycle and pedestrian counters in Charlottesville. He talked about the repairs and replacements that have happened recently and asked BPAC to consider strategic placements of counters in order to collect useful, relevant data.

- 10 counters total, 3 are pedestrian counters, 4 are mobile tube bicycle counters, 2 are permanent installation bicycle counters, and 1 is a mobile bicycle and pedestrian counter
- 4 were recently replaced under warranty due to potential wiring issues
- Thoughts towards strategic placement of counters
 - Collecting data on cycling around Emmet St. and East High St., before streetscape projects are started in order to see the impact of the project

- **Bike Month Recap**

There was general discussion about events during bike month and how to improve for next year.

- Rivanna river ride
 - Had a low attendance but otherwise went well
 - There were thoughts about trying to tie it into River Fest next year
 - This would help improve advertising
- Bike to School Day
 - Kyle Rodland received positive feedback from every school

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- Burnley-Moran Elem. expressed interest in doing a bike parade regularly during the school year after the success of Bike to School Day
- For next year: More advance planning, better swag bags, perhaps look into ways to expand event and support schools with lower turn out
- Bike to Work Day
 - Saw more people than ever in both the morning and afternoon
 - For next year: add signage ahead of the station, maybe try for a station on both sides of the road
- Family Bike Day
 - Very hot, numbers were down
 - Great layout and a good flow in the event
 - For next year; talk to Lynn Childers and see how to better engage Friendship Court community
- Wes Bellamy social ride
 - Bellamy was social with everyone on the ride
 - He engaged with the community while riding
 - Consider a more strategic route next time
 - Wes is interested in a companion event to “Run These Streets” called “Ride these Streets”
 - The group agreed that a council member ride should happen every year
 - This seems to be a good way to show councilmembers issues around biking that otherwise don’t seem to be important
 - Need to be strategic about making contact with future council members
- The Bicycle Advantage Program

This is a nascent program that is seeking to encourage local businesses to offer a discount to patrons who ride their bikes to the establishment.

 - Currently the program has ~ 17 businesses and is set to officially launch soon
 - BPAC was interested in the possibility of bicycle friendly business designations
 - There were questions about how this might be a vehicle for BPAC to engage and involve the business community
- **Improving Committee Diversity + engaging with business community**
 - Engaging the Business community

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- Tension with businesses over on street parking vs. bike lanes
 - Possible issue with East High Streetscape
 - This has not been an issue with Fontaine Avenue Streetscape – most are in favor of removing parking
 - What committees can BPAC with align with – Tree Committee, PLACE, Parking Committee, Chamber of Commerce
 - Scott Paisley has a lot of background info from the West Main Street project about the economic benefits of bicycling.
 - Consider Working with the Chamber of Commerce to have a presentation that discusses the benefits of bike access – Amanda will find out who is the best point of contact.
 - There was also discussion about having a BPAC member participate on the City Parking Committee
 - Opportunity to talk about benefits of bikes and promote the Bike Advantage Program
 - Create a 1 page talking points of benefits – would be useful to have testimonials from businesses
 - Harrisonburg’s Economic Benefits of Bikes could be a local resource
- Improving Diversity
 - Lena proposed the idea of meeting with the City Manager to do an equity audit of all city committees. All agreed, but suggested it would be more powerful if the committees jointly approach the CM.
 - Someone suggested having less formal meetings that are more welcoming
 - Navarre shared lessons learned from the ULI Equity meeting
 - Important to meet people where they are
 - Talk to important members of the committee
 - Need to develop talking points and a specific ask for any outreach event.
- **Standards and Design Manual (SADM) Next Steps**
 - There is a June 13th Stakeholder’s Workshop to discuss some of the issues that need resolution among competing interests.

Upcoming Events:

- June 12 – E. High Streetscape Public Meeting
- June 13 – SADM stakeholder workshop
- June 17 – Webinar “Equitable Development – Finding Funding and Support”

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- June 17 – City Council Dockless mobility update
- June 21 –Summer Solstice twilight ride
- July 4th – NO MEETING