

City of Lawrence

Lawrence – Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee

December 3, 2013 Notes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Burger, Chad Foster, Lisa Hallberg, Justin Eddings, Chris Rogge
MEMBERS ABSENT: Jay Bialek, Josh Ediger, David Hamby, Rhonda Houser
STAFF PRESENT: Jessica Mortinger, Todd Girdler,
PUBLIC PRESENT: Daniel Ashley, Kathleen Ames-Oliver, Sara Taliaferro

1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:11 PM and introductions were made. Ms. Hallberg welcomed the two facilitators for the work meeting, Kathleen Ames-Oliver and Sara L. Taliaferro. Ms. Ames-Oliver is the Manager of Learning & Development at the University of Kansas where she facilitates a variety of courses including Leadership, Team Building, Change Management, Communications, Coaching, and Conflict Resolution. She indicated she has facilitated numerous interventions with troubled and conflicted teams and serves on the Lawrence Community Cooperation Committee. Ms. Taliaferro is a community facilitator with Core Mediation Training through Midland Mediation Services. She is a facilitator with and chair of the Lawrence Community Cooperation Committee, working in conjunction with the Homelessness Intervention Advisory Board. She is resource facilitator for the Good Neighbor Committee with the Lawrence Community Shelter. Both Ms. Ames-Oliver and Ms. Taliaferro said they were happy to be able to help the BAC work through setting work tasks and priorities for their time tonight.

2. Discussion/Action Item: Review League feedback to Set BAC work priorities

BAC members walked through the facilitator's directions to each write-down 3-5 programs, projects and/or activities that the BAC could work on to improve bicycle friendliness in the short term 1-5 years. These could be activities recommended from League feedback, T2040 or any other ideas. The ideas were then all grouped by the members by category. The facilitators then asked members to write a goal for each category. The following lists the items written as parts of this discussion.

Goals

1. Achieve parity in all transportation processes
2. Make it easier to travel by bike
3. Develop clear expectations of parity in responsibilities and behaviors for all road users
4. Create and foster a common cycling experience
5. Define strategies and priorities to implement the bikeway system plan with the ultimate goal of an excellent integrated bicycle system

Advocacy

- Advocate for cycling as a viable mode of transportation
- Encourage cycling for short travels in town
- Increase visible benefits to smaller towns supporting cycling
- Encourage cyclo-tourism to surrounding towns

- Create a tour of town
- Create City sponsored SAG (support and gear)
- Create Douglas County/Lawrence Scavenger Hunt Ride

Education

- Clarify responsibilities of cyclists and motorists using roadways
- Consensus on acceptable behaviors by road and other bicycle facility users and on acceptable enforcement (i.e., education and training)
- Increase public knowledge and familiarity with bicycle safety
- Much greater understanding of bicyclists usage of facilities and of all bicycle vs. motor vehicle or pedestrian incidents
- Promote keeping bicycle ID information
- Police protection/education
- Develop new means to foster education of cyclists and motorists in the community (re: best practices)
 - LJWorld/Wellcommons Blog, Parks & Rec Classes
 - Get real commitments and resources from people
- Message Board alerting change/proper use to roadway users
- Increased education through police/Safety Officer contacts with motorists & cyclists
- Accomplish implementation of requests for officers to increase public contact

Planning

- Find and encourage alternative paths or gravel routes
- Unify network of cycling paths, ROWs, etc.
- Prioritize gaps to fill/connect into bike route network to address most pressing concerns first – better yet, address concerns on separate schedule, immediately as needed
- Develop a process to continue to discover opportunities to build a complete and highly functional (both commuter & recreational) bike route system and map the system
- Prioritize opportunities on an ongoing basis

Infrastructure

- Increase secure bicycle parking
- In any new development approved by the City or County Commissions the developer must not only include minimal cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, but must also integrate that infrastructure into adjoining facilities(as far as possible)
- Increase the quantity of physical infrastructure
- Increase MPO and/or local planning and/or engineering staffs to address infrastructure issues for bike/ped
- Increase connectivity between exiting recreational facilities (shared use paths, parks, linear parks) in order to maximize the area's investment in existing facilities and increase bikeway use
- Make basic improvements to the trail at Burcham Park
 - River bank improvements
 - Bridge condition
 - Erosion control
 - Safety at night
- Get \$

- Hire Staff
- New Development Ordinances

Priority – Visibility - Elevated Relevancy

- Integration – not “commitment”
 - Safe and Direct pathways to schools
 - Core area identification and development
 - Look for options to improve cyclists & pedestrian safety at dangerous intersections (e.g., South Lawrence Trafficway) crossing at 21st & Iowa - explore pedestrian tunnels or bridges
- Admit the problem
 - Staff & City/County Manager/Administrator meetings
 - Community ride along
 - Combine advocates
 - Move input from advocates to the beginning of bikeway and neighborhood planning and design process so that bike-ped connections are part of plans from the start and not late additions or optional last minute add-ons to plans

During this discussion the group mentioned two themes that summarize their aspirations for a better bicycling environment in the Lawrence-Douglas County Region. These are:

- Good cycling infrastructure will be the result of good everything else (planning, design, engineering, education, enforcement, encouragement, evaluation) done for bicycle travel
- Build More and Better bikeways for Transport and Access

BAC members agreed to work on the homework to flesh out the list of activities that drive each goal, prior to their next regular BAC meeting.

3. Other Business/ Updates

Multimodal Studies Draft Reports out for Public Comment www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/study

Ms. Mortinger indicated that the drafts for the three part Multimodal Study - Commuter Park & Ride Study, Fixed Route Transit and Pedestrian Accessibility Study, and Countywide Bikeway System Plan are out for public comments and review.

4. Public Comments: There was none.

5. Adjournment of Meeting:

The meeting ended at 6:55 PM.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2013 at 5PM or another date set by the BAC.