

City of Lawrence

Lawrence – Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee

September 21, 2015 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Hallberg, Erin Paden, Bill Anderson, Jim MacMurray, David Hamby, Rod Hernandez, Jacki Becker, Justin Eddings
MEMBERS ABSENT: Dan Ashley
STAFF PRESENT: Stephen Mason, Jessica Mortinger, Carol Fittell
PUBLIC PRESENT: Michael Almon, Nikki Wentling, Barack Matite

1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:11 p.m. in Eudora, KS. A quorum was present and introductions were made.

2. Action Item: Approval of the August 17th Minutes

A motion to approve the August minutes was moved by Bill Anderson, seconded by David Hamby and passed unanimously.

3. Discussion Item: Eudora Elementary Trail & The Great Kaw Adventure Race

Barack Matite let BAC members know that the Eudora Elementary Trail has been completed and has changed how kids can access the elementary school. They have reported high use of the facility and received positive feedback. After the meeting, Justin Eddings took interested BAC members to ride the new trail. Barack Matite also informed the BAC that the Eudora Conventions and Visitors Bureau, City of Eudora & the City of De Soto partnered to develop an adventure race event called the "The Great Kaw Adventure Race". This event will be held annually on the last Saturday of September and will include three components; running, canoeing/kayaking, and biking. The first leg of the race will begin in Eudora; continue on the Kansas (Kaw) River where the participants will canoe to De Soto where they will run a 5k through the town. The final portion of the race will be bicycling from De Soto back to Eudora. This is the first year of the race and participation has been limited to 50 teams. Interested parties are invited to participate next year and/or volunteer this year during the race.

4. Discussion Item: Downtown Lawrence Bike Parking

Jessica Mortinger presented the plan for a three location pilot bike coral project and the installation of inverted U bicycle racks to increase the amount of secure bike parking downtown. Lisa Hallberg noted that bike corrals and on street parking were ideal because bicyclists are not allowed to bicycle on the sidewalk, also by putting the parking in the street, it brings legitimacy to bicycling for transportation. Members discussed existing deficiencies in racks downtown, like the comb rack on 100 East 10th Street, the poor mid-block wave installation and the lack of parking for event venues. BAC members agreed this proposal for bicycle parking downtown addressed the lack and quality of existing bicycle parking. Jessica Mortinger let the BAC know that the official proposal would come before them at the October meeting. Michael Almon thought a pilot would be good and thought the proposed locations would be good. He shared a Chicago example that was a long term solution to allow businesses to apply for additional parking when they recognized the need.

Jessica Mortinger indicated a program that allowed businesses to apply and supply additional bicycle parking based on their customer and employee needs could be similar to how businesses current apply for sidewalk dining.

5. Discussion Item: Share the Road Information

Jessica Mortinger presented Share the Road information with bicycle, motorist, and pedestrian safety tips from the City's website and asked the BAC for feedback. She indicated she would send out a tracked changes document to collect comments from members.

6. Other Business/Updates

Pedestrian – Bicycle Issues Task Force - Jessica Mortinger noted the Pedestrian – Bicycle Issues Task Force members asked how the BAC would like to be engaged about a possible recommendation related to the advisory committee. BAC committee members agreed that staff should invite a PBITF representative to a future meeting and noted that communication on this topic will be fundamental. Jessica Mortinger also invited BAC members to the Saturday September 26th Open House hosted by the taskforce at 9:00am at the East Lawrence Recreation Center.

BAC Hosted Rides – Members discussed possible future ride to Lecompton and/or other locations in the county.

Bike Share Feasibility Study – Jessica Mortinger noted that the MPO was awarded Consolidated Planning Grant funding to pursue a feasibility study in 2016.

BNSF Rail Crossing – The crossing is scheduled to be repaired, there was no provided timeline.

County Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) and Maintenance – Lisa Hallberg and Jim MacMurray asked if representation from the County could be invited to a future meeting to present about CIP and maintenance plans and processes.

Walk to School Day - October 7th, Erin Paden shared that a citywide walk to school day is planned.

Take a Kid Mountain Biking –Stephen Mason noted that October 3rd, 10-noon was a local Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day. The event is an annual national event sponsored by International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) to promote mountain biking and get everyone out to enjoy the great outdoors on a bike.

Lawrence Pedestrian Coalition – Erin Paden noted that on September 30th, the LPC was hosting City Engineer, David Cronin for a Kasold Drive presentation of the design options

7. Public Comments

There were none.

8. Adjournment of Meeting and Announcement of Next Meeting

The meeting ended at 6:00 PM. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for October 19th, 2015 at 5PM at the Lawrence Parks & Recreation Conference Room.