

Cambridge Bicycle Committee, February 10, 2016

Minutes recorded by AO: Ari Ofsevit

[initials; * = in attendance]

JA: John Adams *

AMB: Ann Marie Biernacki *

EC: Evadne Cokeh

AF: Amy Flax *

JG: John Goodman *

CJ: Caroline Jaffe *

MVK: Mechthild von Knobelsdorff

SM: Sean McDonnell *

MN: Matt Nelson (CPD) *

AO: Ari Ofsevit *

MP: Mike Proscia *

AQ: Allison Quach (CDD intern) *

MR: Megan Ramey *

JR: Joseph Raser

RR: Ruthann Rudel *

JS: Justin Schreiber (CDD staff, SRTS) *

MS: Melissa Shakro *

CS: Cara Seiderman (CDD staff) *

RS: Randy Stern *

PS: Peter Stokes *

AW: Andrea Williams *

JW: Jim Wilcox (DPW) *

Visitors: Taylor Kenyon, Nora Bent

I. Agenda review, Approval of Minutes, Introductions

Minutes approved (JG AMB)

II. Committee Planning

Event planning:

a. May Bike Ride (RS), theme creates sites, sites create route. Parks? Sustainability? Movies and books? Cambridge in fiction? Cambridge in politics. Old movie theaters (and current: <http://movie-theatre.org/usa/ma/boston/main.html>, see p 115). Ride the old coastline.

AQ: Storymaps application, longer term, map of Cambridge, click through photos, and it tells a story. Good way to put the bike rides and ped walks online.

b. SRTS (JS), five schools signed up, each school celebrates bike/walk to school day, 4/5 have had bike training, logo created, working with school district on walking maps. Always looking for volunteers for bike/walk to school days. On-bike training this fall with MassBike. High school bike group formed, training, Hubway memberships for older students. Committee member comment: Kids don't ride because they don't have a bike or parents say it's not safe. Potential for group ride with CPD (not every morning but a special event). Bike Committee can help with routes. AW, MP and RR will coordinate with JS.

MP: How do routes work? JS: Routes will work with current crossing guard locations, informative for parents.

MR: Meeting re: drivers dropping kids off at Tobin School.

c. RiverFest (June 4): network of small bicycle-related businesses. Something expanded at Riverfest about all things bicycling. MR: would demonstrate separated bike lane if in Central Square.

d. Parking Day. Third Friday in September (or thereabouts). Should we do something more park-like? CJ: her lab group near Dwell Time, microgardens in parking spaces. Partner with Media Lab?

III Updates and Projects

a. DPW Updates

5 year plan update shortly, discuss at April meeting. Alewife will soon restart. Huron will be rebuilt this summer. Sherman and Amory will resume. Pearl and some sidewalks in Central Square, and the new bathroom there. Several other contracts upcoming in the spring; details attached. Main Street in Kendall done by September. Finalizing design for Newport/Roseland in Agassiz. Finish landscaping on Cambridge Common (early fall; no formal ballfields), Grand Junction for CRA, King Upper School, lots of activity on Cambridge St, how do we best design this so it's not a de facto parking lane. Community meeting for path between Russell Field and Alewife MBTA Station. Rindge Upper School, 6 PM meeting, Feb 24. Path can't be widened (environmental issues). Area behind fence owned by WR Grace, MBTA easement, contamination issues and conservation easements. Surface maintenance and drainage. Confluence of multiple uses. Mini-rotary draft shown. MR: Madison has a rotary, wayfinding in the center. People asked for current markings after the original "free-for-all" state.

b. MIT PUD

Hearing in January, comments from bike and ped committees. Next meeting before planning board not yet scheduled.

c. Development

Binney St/Movie Theater

Ensure space would be there for Grand Junction path, project proponents have made this change for future path development. Will move parking entrance towards Grand Jct and replace with a plaza, raised crossing on Little Binney.

Ped Cmte: likes the idea of creating a space with additional retail. Plaza is squeezed by planter, sidewalks narrow, active ground floor.

Bike parking: in garage, through garage entrance (?) or through plaza. Consider better access in to the parking garage. AW: theater needs more bike parking. MR: bike parking very convenient: feels “first class” and there is some bike parking outside, do we want more? Can’t really use bikes by lobby; but force bikes to go through plaza which may be busy at times. Make the whole street a raised intersection as people walk diagonally across. Bicycle parking requirement for movie theater: 10% of seats, need to look up (mostly short term).

Is Little Binney on the bike network plan? Too narrow for lanes, shared bike markings? Or does the short street and raised crosswalk keep it pretty tolerable.

Auburn Court BZA: Parking >300 feet from entrance, several buildings away. For an appeal they must demonstrate a hardship to meet the zoning requirement. Would it be better for bike racks to be built closer to the building? Can they add to existing buildings? Hardship is that they don’t want to give up too much space in the building for bike parking? Comments due by 16th. “New building there is no hardship demonstrated regarding nearby bike parking; there is plenty of car parking nearby and no reason that bike parking can not be accommodated in this manner.”

c. Legislative forum. See link. Short presentations from Boston & Cambridge, food, Motor Transport Assoc, 589. Focus on large vehicles and cycling. Breakout sessions as well (speed limits, etc). CPD planning to attend. Sen Brownsberger wants legislative action coming out of this.

d. multitown advocate meeting (Saturday Feb 6). Productive, notes sent out. Collaboration on projects and resources.

e. Massachusetts has released a statewide separated bike lane design guide.

<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/DoingBusinessWithUs/ManualsPublicationsForms/SeparatedBikeLanePlanningDesignGuide.aspx>

IV. Subcommittee reports

Please meet and report, ask Cara for space/guidance if necessary.

MR: Dutch report to committee from TP&T (Joe Barr) and otherwise a TP&T Q&A.

DPW Update

Notes for the Bicycle Committee

February 10, 2016

On-going Sidewalk and Roadway Work

5 year plan street list:

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/departments/engnr/fiveyearplan.aspx>

Large Projects:

Huron Contract B- Sewer separation and storm water management project.

- Sewers, drain, water, curb cuts, sidewalks and paving on:
Huron Ave (Concord Ave to Fresh Pond Pkwy) – buffered bike lane included
Chilton St (Vassal Lane to Huron Ave)
Gurney St
Fayerweather St (Vassal Ln to Brattle St) – bike lane included
Granville Rd (Vassal Ln to Huron Ave)
Reservoir St (Vassal Ln to Highland St)
Vassal Lane (Alpine St to Huron Ave)
Blakeslee St
Saville St (Fayerweather St to Walden St)
Hutchinson St
Appleton St (Concord Ave to Highland St)
Royal Ave
Manassas Ave
Walden St (Saville St to Vassal Ln)
- Water main work of Huron Avenue.

Concord Avenue Sewer Separation Sewer separation and storm water management project

- On-going utility work.

Sewers, drain, water, curb cuts, sidewalks and paving on:

- Alpine St (Vassal Ln to Garden St)
- Bay State Rd
- Birch St
- Chilton St (105/106 Chilton St to Field St)
- Concord Ave (Baystate Rd to Huron Ave)
- Copley St
- Corporal Burns Rd
- Fayerweather St (Saville St to Field St)
- Fern St

- Field St
- Garden St (Field St to Walden St)
- Hazel St
- Ivy St
- Saville St (Walden St to Fayerweather St)
- Walden St (Saville St to Garden St)

Chapter 90, Contract 16 - paving, sidewalk, curb cuts

Mason Street- Brattle Street to Garden Street –complete

Tufts Street -Magazine Street to Pearl Street- complete

Massachusetts Avenue -Russell Street to Beech Street – done in August

Second Street - Hurley Street to Gore Street- sidewalk and paving

Massachusetts Avenue- Linnaean Street to Everett Street

Frost Street – Forest Street to Roseland Street- complete

Chapter 90, Contract 17 - paving, sidewalk, curb cuts-

Mead Street – Cogswell Avenue to Walden Street –paving in a couple of weeks

Sherman Street – Walden Street to Garden Street – road and sidewalk in spring

Garden Street – Huron Avenue to Walden Street – work complete

Longfellow Road – will be constructed as shared street – complete

Mount Auburn Street – Gibson Street to Fresh Pond Parkway – paving done

Scott Street – Irving Street to Bryant Street - complete

Irving Street – Kirkland Street to Scott Street - complete

Amory Street – Broadway to Hampshire Street – road and sidewalk in spring

Fulkerson Street – Charles Street to Cambridge Street – paving in a couple of weeks

Chapter 90, Contract 19 - paving, sidewalk, curb cuts, water valve work

Pearl Street

Central Square sidewalks

Portland Loo in Central Sq.

Chapter 90, Contract 20 - paving, sidewalk, curb cuts

Hurlbut Street

Richard Ave.

Muller Street

Mass Ave. - Linnaean to Upland

Chapter 90, Contract 21 - paving, sidewalk, curb cuts, water main

Harding Street

Kenwood Street

Lawn Street

Porter Street

Thorndike Street

Chapter 90, Contract 22 - paving, sidewalk, curb cuts

Dudley Street

Healey Street

Parker Street

Kendall Square – Main Street – Ames to Wadsworth

- Work on roadway and sidewalks

Newport Road and Roseland Street – sewer separation, water main, road and sidewalks

Meeting in March at Agassiz Neighborhood Council

Cambridge Common/ Flagstaff Park

- Curb and sidewalk working on-going in common
- Includes construction of bicycle access from Peabody Street to Mass. Ave.- should be open by end of June.
- Reconstruction of Mass. Ave along Common – work complete

New Street and Concord Lane - Sewer separation and storm water management project

Grand Junction/ CRA project –Path and Landscaping Improvements

Port neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements- Stormwater management, utilities, surface restoration in Bishop Allen, Columbia, Cherry, Pine area

Willard Street -Stormwater management, utilities, surface restoration