Draft Minutes of the Cambridge Bicycle Committee Meeting March 2013

Present: Cara Seiderman, John Goodman, Andrea Williams, Catharine Hornby, Taylor Walker, Tegin Teich, Jim Wilcox, Tom Meek, Ben Hammer, Dan Baronofsky, Madeleine deBlois, Carole Sousa, Amy Linne, Viola Augustin

Visiting: John Gazley, Michael Proscia, Jonathan Adams, Megan Ramey, Katherine Howitt

Agenda Review, Approval of Minutes, Other Logistics

There was one edit to the senior outreach notes, to be reflected in the final version of the February minutes otherwise the minutes were approved.

DPW Update

Jim gave an update from the DPW. The DPW had their annual meeting with contractors at the beginning of the construction season (see separate handout). The DPW is implementing a policy requiring contractors and utilities to tag their roadway and sidewalk patches with a plastic insert with the contractor's name and year. This will help DPW assign problems back to the specific contractor/ utility company. When reporting potholes on the iReport app pictures of these tags are helpful. At the meeting DPW reviewed the policy for bicycle accommodations in work zones including signage (use full lane) and smooth transitions. Construction projects are staring up in the next week including Western Ave/ Mem Drive (see handout). Community meetings for the Huron Ave project are taking place. One for focusing on the Tobin school, at the Tobin school 3/21 and one general community meeting 3/27.

Committee Projects / Subcommittee Reports

Tegin gave an update for the Wayfinding subcommittee. The signage for the route from the BU bridge to Inman square is in the process of being designed, fabricated and installed. As more routes are being signed the committee may want to consider color coding the routes. The signs should be designed to meet generally accepted standards. The subcommittee is interested in working with other agencies and cities to tie into a bigger network.

There was no Infrastructure update but Tegin did bring up the idea of collaborating on mapping overlays of bike facilities.

Carole gave an update on the senior outreach initiative. She is looking to set up a daytime meeting with council on aging and seniors.

Spring Ride

The spring ride will be 5/18/13. The route has been updated. The organizers are still looking for sponsors / food vendors. The committee agreed on the name "The Sweet Ride". John got confirmation from the CPD that the ride can cross into Somerville.

Harvard Overpass Update

Ben addressed some of the questions the committee had last meeting about the project. The proposed bike parking meets the city standards. The goal of the design was to alleviate pinch points and conflicts with pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The solution is an open plaza with improved sight lines. Bicycles are encouraged to use the plaza. As the plaza opens traffic patterns will be analyzed to enhance the design. The school is discussing holding Bay State Bike week bash at the plaza & Queen's Head Pub. There will be a meeting on 3/28 at the Pedestrian Committee meeting to discuss lanes in the underpass.

Bicycle Parking Zoning Proposal

The next Planning Board meeting is 3/19 committee members are encouraged to attend and send letters of support. Following that meeting is the Ordinance Committee meeting on 4/3 at 4:30pm.

Grand Junction Rail with Trail Zoning Proposal

There was a feasibility study done by the City several years ago. There is support for a zoning proposal to protect the right of way by creating a pathway overlay district. This would allow property owners to develop on other portions of their land in to make up for the easement. Beacon St in Somerville

Latest update indicates the last public meeting was abrasive.

Development Project 130 Cambridgepark Drive

The committee reviewed the plans. There appeared to be adequate parking at the ground level, seemed well thought out.

Huron Ave

There is resistance from the business community on additional crosswalks and proposed loading zones that would take away parking spots. The city would like to conduct an intercept survey in the second week of April to see how people got the district. The committee members are encouraged to volunteer.

Bicycle Classes

The city is offering bicycle road safety classes for high schoolers, the general public and also bike maintenance classes.

Hubway

Hubway to start up soon.

Next Committee Meeting Wednesday April 10th.