

Bike Committee Notes 4.13.2011

In attendance: Ellen Aronson, Bill Connolly, Madeleine deBlois, John Goodman, Catharine Hornby, Tom Meek, George Perkins, Chris Porter, Cara Seiderman, Adam Serafin, Carole Sousa, Randy Stern, Peter Stokes, Taylor Walker, Jim Wilcox, Andrea Williams, Seth Zeren

Jim – Public Works Department

- Project to improve Linear Park connections, including crossing at Mass. Ave. is re-starting
- Reminder to send final plan for May 21st ride route to make sure that there are no major construction obstacles
- Some sewer separation projects federally mandated for Charles River clean-up, some not.

Meetings –

- Read Cara's emails for meeting notices.
- Bill went to Arlington meeting. Meeting had huge turnout, estimated 300-400 people. About 50/50 pro/anti bikes. Proposed plan is to create cross section of 3 travel lanes (one in each direction + turning lane) plus bike lanes.
- Suggestion voiced for people from Arlington, Cambridge, Boston to talk about Mass Ave jointly – value in having a consistent path/lane crossing all the cities
- Road diets, and related video, brought up. Idea of restriping the middle to create a turn lane - like Prospect St. was recently redone.

Tree Planting & Placement

- City looking at plans to plant more trees – placement matters. Some placements could preclude cycle tracks or similar in the future. (Really hard to get rid of trees once they're in – people very attached to them.)
- Best if new trees in line with existing trees, rather than a new line
- Are there other ways of improving streetscape?
 - Could use decorative bike racks as public art instead of trees?
 - Other design elements?

Research Project

- Temporary lane markings over the summer to test out options for marking lanes, particularly in ways to reduce risk of “dooring” --- Mass Ave b/w Harvard and Porter Squares

Wayfinding Survey

- Chris -- anyone else volunteer to ride routes and make decision?

Bike Ride Update

- Rain cancels

- Frame: history and present day music of Cambridge – music performances, square based, 10 AM start & end at Harvard. 2 hour ride. May 21
- What about bathrooms?
- Make sure to get park permits
- Be prepared to volunteer for ride

Chris –

- Couple of issues:
 1. letter of support to MAPC to support extension of Somerville bike path to North Point
 2. Flow on 1-way streets and counterflow lanes

Harvey Street Development Plan

- Reviewed

Longfellow Bridge Project

- Plans haven't been finalized
- Public probably won't hear plans before they're submitted to FHWA

Comments to/from Mass DOT

- Leading pedestrian and bike signals around JFK St and Memorial Drive
- Committee will send letter