

Meeting Minutes Cambridge Bicycle Committee 3/14/12

Present: John Goodman, Amy Linne, Matt Schruppf, Adam Serafin, Ellen Aronson, Randy Stern, Daniel Baronofsky, Jim Wilcox (DPW), Scott Walker, Dan Vallee (DPW), Wayne S. Amaral (Traffic), Cara Seiderman, Catharine Hornby, Katherine Stevens (visitor), Peter Stokes, Andrea Williams, Carole Sousa

I. Minutes of 2/12/12 meeting approved and accepted.

List-serve will be moderated by Cara and Catharine. Still send e-mails to list-serve; they will go directly to Cara and Catharine.

II. Proposed regulations to ban bicycle parking at handicap parking spots going into effect. Signs will be attached, this summer, to handicap sign posts in commercial areas and in 150 public on street spots. Signs will not be posted in parking lots or in private neighborhoods except upon request.

III. Infrastructure Projects

A. There was a review of Broadway sidewalk improvements which included issues such as: lack of handicap ramps, tough pedestrian access, and sidewalks in disrepair. Improvements proposed included: modified cross walks, elevated cross walks, truncated domes, replacing curbs. There is an on-line survey for comments

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/engineering/broadwaysidewalksurvey.asp>
[x](#)

The Bike Committee discussed options for bike facilities on Broadway. A decision had to be made because the Broadway Project is going out to bid next week. After much discussion it was agreed to ask, at a minimum, for an edge line to push cars closer to the curb and shared lane markings that would indicate a 5' bike lane. Two creative options were also discussed, dotted lines with Shared Lane Markings (aka "sharrows") or continuous bike lane with dashes on the left hand side. Cara offered to continue the discussion around these creative options internally.

B. River St. and Western Ave. bridges at 25% design phase. There are raised cycle tracks leading to and from Cambridge to Boston and way finding bicycle signage on the Boston side.

Shortcomings:

- Ways bikes get into Cambridge funky
- No crosswalk across Memorial Drive on eastern side of Western Ave. bridge
- Underpasses
- No advanced signaling for cyclists and pedestrians

There is generally positive feeling about the cycle tracks and the committee supported the proposed plans with comments regarding additional improvements as bulleted. Andrea brought pre-made letter forms for public comment that people can fill out. Randy will draft a letter from the bike committee.

C. DPW Update:

- Jim asked for the best way to get cyclists evaluation of the Concord Ave. Project. Concord Ave. is on the spring bike ride. It was agreed that surveys would be given to participants.
- Two big contracts coming up Contracts 14 and 15.
- Important community meeting concerning the Kendall Square-Main Street Project will be held on April 10 at 6:30pm, Marriott Hotel.

- Western Ave. Project will be in July.
- Funding source found for the Scott St. and Irving St. Traffic Calming Project.
- The community process for Huron Contract B will begin in April. This is an important construction project for the Bike Committee to discuss, specifically more room for the bike facility.

D. Underpasses: Cara mentioned a planning study sponsored by DCR looking at long term plans for Charles River path system. Perhaps the consultants working on it can come and speak with the committee.

IV. Development Projects

160 Cambridge Park Drive was discussed. It is now a parking lot that will be developed into 400 units of rental housing. We need to maintain a landing area for a bicycle bridge. (There is a plan to put a bridge from the quadrangle to the triangle, but not the funds. There are funds to do a feasibility study about the bridge). A feasibility study will help figure out where the bridge should land. But, plans for the new development do not maintain a site for the bridge to land. Several problems with the proposed plan were identified. The Bike Committee via a letter to the Planning Board will let developers know that we want: to maintain a landing area for the bridge, more bike parking in the building that does not include bike lifting, and that sidewalks are needed around the site.

V. Committee Projects

A. Carole gave a report on the transportation survey for seniors. It was reviewed by the Council on Aging Board and at the Senior Center Town Meeting. Seniors from those meetings decided to form a task force to further review it. They were not interested in having Carole join the task force.

B. John gave a report on the May Bike Ride. The 14 mile route is divided into three general sections:

1. Kendall Square to the Museum of Science. The MOS will give a demonstration.
2. MOS to North Point to Inman Square to Cambridge Common.
3. Cambridge Common to Fresh Pond.

It's also Fresh Pond Day!

To the delight of the committee, the name of the ride is *Cambridge String Theory Ride*. John has collected so many Cambridge science/bike related facts that he needs an editor. Andrea volunteered.

VI. Announcement

Zoning changes for bike parking requirements will be discussed at the April Bike Committee meeting.

VII. Upcoming committee Meetings

Cara reminded committee members that we need officer elections, i.e. a chair, co-chair, and secretary. Catharine enjoys being chair, but would also be happy to hand it off. We also need to think about priorities for the year-work plan/vision.