

Minutes of the Cambridge Bicycle Committee Meeting June 2012

Present: Cara Seiderman, John Goodman, Randy Stern, Andrea Williams, Catharine Hornby, Taylor Walker, Madeleine deBlois, Jim Wilcox (DPW), Amy Linne, Tegin Teich, Ellen Aronson, Viola Augustin, Peter Stokes, Matthew Schrupf, Scott Walker, Sam Lipson

Agenda Review, Approval of Minutes, Other Logistics

Laura Gilmore is a new city intern and she will be distributing the weekly Bicycle Reports. The website has been redesigned.

Follow up from May Bike Ride & Preliminary Planning for the Fall

Approximately 240 riders joined us on our spring ride. John set up a survey for feedback.

We received lots of positive feedback from the ride. Regarding length the general response is that the ride should be 1-2 hours long. One criticism was that there were too many choke points on the ride. The ride was planned to show off some of the less known routes, however they tend to be narrower; next year the ride will try to avoid choke points.

Some people suggested themes for next year's spring ride. John will distribute a link to the survey results.

The fall ride will be the Bow Tie ride the date for the ride is September 30th. Volunteers to handle the vendors needed.

May "race"

The event went well. The bicyclist won; you can read about it on his blog:

<http://bikesafeboston.com/>

Central Square Planning Study

There will a meeting with city staff and the bicycle and pedestrian committees on June 18th.

This is the committees' chance to make comments on specific concerns

Huron Ave

Upcoming meetings and walks: June 26th public meeting, June 28th Pedestrian committee
This project is still in the data gathering stage, it will be a major project and a chance to something unique. There has been a lot of initial talk in the community about an increased need for parking.

DPW Update

The Concord Ave project will conduct a count survey to compare ridership to the numbers before the project. Work at Alewife Reservation is ongoing. Upcoming projects: Broadway (Third to Ames), this a MassDOT project, the sewer separation component of this project has been removed. Broadway (Prospect to Portland). Contract awards and construction to start in mid July. Western Ave to begin in the fall (two year construction project).

DPW is on Twitter, follow them for construction, parks and recycling information

Mass DOT Bridges

Anderson Bridge construction has started (MassDOT, part of the Accelerate Bridge Program), traffic has been problematic, not least because of the lack of advance warning to users. The signal at Hawthorn Street will be a part of this project. Longfellow construction will start in January or February of 2013. BU Bridge, the bike lane will stay, at least for now;

the deck at Com. Ave may be widened to accommodate traffic at the intersection.

Development Projects & Other Projects

160 CambridgePark Drive Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge feasibility study will likely be underway soon. The North Point park bridge will be open by the end of June. [*update: July 13 opening*]

Subcommittee Discussions

Randy would like the committee to focus energy on a variety of projects. The committee brainstormed ideas for projects that smaller groups could work on. The most popular options were:

- Improving the public image of bicyclists
- Improving biking infrastructure (facilities) and locating and addressing gaps in infrastructure
- Wayfinding
- Enforcement
- Mass Ave Bike lanes

Other ideas:

- Safety
- Bike Parking
- Joint work with other committees (reporting back to the bicycle committee about what other groups are doing)
- Recruiting New Cyclists
- Huron Ave

Committee members are welcome to organize subcommittee meetings; there is a small conference room that can be booked in the City Hall Annex.

Crash Report

A report was issued from the fatal crash at Mass Ave and Vassar. The truck driver was found not at fault. This particular intersection and others will be reviewed by the city to see if there are ways to improve safety. A study found that most of the motorists involved in bicycle crashes in Cambridge were not from the city.

Summer Potluck

Tentatively scheduled for the August meeting, at David Quinn's abode.

Hubway

Planning for the Hubway stations in Cambridge is underway. They will be coming soon.

Next Committee Meeting Wednesday July 11th