

Cambridge Bicycle Committee Notes June 12, 2013

Present: Ari Orsevit, Dani Baronofsky, John Goodman, Carole Sousa, Madeleine deBlois, Catharine Hornby, Andrea Williams, Peter Stokes, Michael Proscia, Amy Linne, Viola Augustin, David Chiriboga, Cara Seiderman, Randy Stern, Brenda Pike, Sarah Ehrich, Katherine Howitt, Matt Schruppf

Guest: Michael Charney

1. Agenda Reviews

- David Chiriboga mentioned he wanted to talk about schools and education
- Randy Stern mentioned he'd been contacted by the Friends of Riverbend Park

2. Cara Seiderman mentioned the committee meeting rules: stick to the agenda; raise hands; be mindful of time; guests sit in the “peanut gallery” and speak after committee members have spoken, and she'll try to keep that running together with committee chair. She gave congratulations to Catharine Hornby on her marriage (and a cupcake; everyone else had to make do with Taza chocolate and we are okay with that).

3. Bike Ride Recap (applause for John Goodman)

- DC talked about the video/issue with a motorist at the end of the ride. Mentioned that leaders/sweepers could/should have some sort of official-looking garb, or assure a police officer stays with the back of the ride. Day glo vests were mentioned as something we might be able to procure.
- Better communication between the back of the ride and the police
- One person got ticketed for overtime parking at the library (was handled). Not an issue on Sundays when street parking is available to anyone. Cara will work with TP&T about consideration in the future, there are very small numbers of people driving to the ride
- JG: bike fixers (Quad, AdvenTours) should set up closer to the start, not on the street; there were fewer people using their services this year
- CH: Police did a good job of stopping the race and letting the ride compress, great view up Cambridge Street
- AO: mentioned video emailed to CS; will include. 250 riders in 2:30 = 100 riders/min = 6000/hour. Higher than a lane of traffic :)
- DC: Passersby asked "what is this" on the ride. Should we have ... signage? literature? Wearable item? Something else?

4. CS gave a Bicycle Facility Overview presentation. Limited notes as follows:

- Background on facilities/research
- Perception—research—Questions
- Congestion—pollution—health (impacts)
- Goal: City for Everyone
- 80% of interested but concerned cyclists (60% of population) will use a separate facility vs 40% a bike lane

- 95% of enthusiastic & confident comfortable with some facility vs 50% without
- Discussion of the 12% of the 1% of bike enthusiasts who are less likely to use a separate facility (bike path/cycletrack) and whether this is a problem for advocacy if they advocate against facilities.
- Cambridge bicycling tripled since 2002
- Crashes per cyclist down lots (absolute # of crashes level or slightly up, but # of cyclists up a lot), as has been seen in other cities
- Purpose-built facilities = lowest risk of injuries
- People like low traffic and facilities, but removing parked cars is the best way to make a road safer (also slow speeds)
- Hampshire Street study, where do people bike/drive/park as facilities are added: Lines; bike symbols
- Sharrows, bicycle boulevards, bike priority lanes
- “Bike Priority Streets” may be good option, especially with signage and calming added
- Bike signals (example: HSq)—CS update that based on committee input the island will be narrowed but retained
- Two stage turn boxes
- Colored markings, in Cambridge used for areas of conflict (e.g., across turning lanes; driveways in cycletracks) and may be used in intersections with high crash rates
- Fatalities: 40 mph = 80%, 30 mph = 50%, 20 mph = 5%. City has been advocating for ~25 years to drop state statutory speed limit for urban areas from 30->25
- Traffic calming examples

5. September 29 ride (JG):

- Last year's route
- Trader Joes as a sponsor (hopefully)
- Earlier in the day = better because of less traffic
- Concern about participation by churchgoing crowd if before 11 a.m. (Andrea Williams, CH)
- Any time will have some conflicts; e.g., Sunday afternoons conflict with many children's sports activities
- (Honk is in October, so no conflict)
- Start/end at Library, stop at Danehy
- John will check with Police about timing – when they are able to do it may determine time

6. Tree tour:

- With city arborist, 20-25 participants
- Weeknight in summer (6 p.m.), would only work May-Aug
- More interest in trees than bikes; bikes = good way to get around
- If interest, run monthly/with some frequency
- No police support, MassBike might be able to provide some waivers/insurance/etc

7. CS: Institute for Transportation Engineers

- Interested in a tour of Cambridge bicycle facilities
- Possible Bike tour of Cambridge Aug 6
- ? # of people (limit?)

- What bikes to use ... Hubway / Urban AdvenTours? (AO note: traffic engineers may be interested in Hubway, could be separate)
- AW interested in helping (AO as well)

8. Garden Street shared lane marking ideas, was mentioned during presentation—use a priority/shared marking with signage (CS)

9. Wayfinding subcommittee w/ Megan Ramey, Plough and Stars Monday

10. JG: Wed 26th social at Flatbread. In Somerville but they donated lots of pizza. AO talked to JG after the meeting about inviting the Somerville Bicycle Committee. Will contact Ken Carlson.

11. CS on vaca June 21 - July 7. Let her know stuff sooner rather than later, might not be a bike update for a week or two.

12. Matt Schrupf = Infrastructure Committee

- Planning a meeting (perhaps at city facility)
- Collect data from maps from ride

13. DC: Education, interest in subcommittee

- Especially in re: bike/walk to school
- Survey for parents/kids: knowledge/attitudes/practices
- AO: will talk to SRTS coordinator & put in touch

14. RS: People for Riverbend Park

- Memorial Drive Sunday closure people
- Advocating for narrower roadway of three lanes, 2/1 like bridges, with separated bicycle facility
- Contacted RS last week
- CS: Connectivity Study (DOT/Accelerated bridges) will come out soon
- RS: will get more info about group

15: August 14 meeting = potluck. At RS house?

16: AO thought—multi-city Bike Committee networking and trivia night. Cambridge/Somerville/Arlington/Bedford/Newton/Boston/Burlington/Lexington/Watertown ... <http://massbike.org/resourcesnew/local-bike-committees/>