

Cambridge Bicycle Committee
Wednesday, February 10, 2010

344 Broadway, 4th floor conference room, Cambridge, MA 02139
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
List of Attendees to be added.

DRAFT NOTES

I. Introductions; Minutes; Agenda Review, Announcements (10 min)

II. Cambridge Bicycle Parking Program (30 minutes)

Jeff Rosenblum (CDD) gave an overview of the program, including Demand Survey methodology and preliminary results. Document attached (Bicycle Parking Program Overview, Draft Version 10—December 31, 2009)

III. Reports, Updates, Meetings (50 min)

A. Western Ave. Reconstruction Project—the sewer system under Western Ave. needs replacing, and this work will be integrated with surface reconstruction. Goals include improving water quality; design may include “rain gardens” to capture runoff. Baseline data have been gathered; now begin conceptual design and public outreach. Will use Advisory Committee of 20 people. Jeff will return for a “design charette” meeting with Bike Committee folks; set up a special technical subcommittee meeting with Megan, who is on both the Bike Committee and the Advisory Committee.

B. Bridges: Anderson Memorial Bridge; Longfellow Bridge, River/Western Ave. Bridges—Now that all bridges are under the control of the Mass DOT, we have one umbrella group to work with to ensure bridges have capacity for walking and biking; Anderson Memorial Bridge and River/Western Ave. Bridges are being redesigned next. We are hopeful they will go through a conceptual design process that will incorporate ped/bike/car needs. There is particular concern that the approaches to the bridges will be considered in the redesign, although they are not in the budget. George is working on a letter about this to the DOT. There is a consultant team on board (the “Halvorson team”) that is supposed to look at bridges as part of the basinwide system that will accommodate ped/bike pathway network.

C. Construction and Public Works Update—see detailed update from last meeting; no new update.

D. Police Report –3 crashes. As usual, left hand turns, right-hand turns, and dooring are risks.

E. Climate Congress Report—The Congress had its second meeting in January, and Ellen was a delegate representing ped/bike interests. She reported that they wanted to create a document the City Council could use, and there was a proposal to create a Climate Emergency Response Board. It is not clear how this board would integrate with the existing Climate Action Committee.

F. Development Projects: Alexandria

G. Other—Ellen suggested that we might ramp up desire for bike paths by closing off streets 10-2 for an event such as “Sunday Streets,” as used in other towns so one could bike, say, 50 miles. Could this could happen, for example, in the context of CitySmart in N. Cambridge.

IV. Subcommittee Cluster Focus on Topic Areas and Projects (20 min)—Discussed goals for the year, grouped into clusters: Events (Spring/fall rides); add bike component to the DPH events. The Spring bike ride is usually held the end of Bike Week (May 16-22). Henry Lewis agreed to be captain of the spring ride. [*subcommittee met about ride on March 8*]