

Cambridge Bicycle Committee, April 2017

Minutes recorded by AO: Ari Ofsevit

Members

- * Jonathan Adams
- * Steven Bercu
- * Annie Marie Biernacki
- * Amy Flax
- * John Goodman
- Stacey King (Harvard)
- * Caroline Jaffe
- * Sean McDonnell
- * Ari Ofsevit
- * Michael Proscia
- Joseph Raser
- Ruthann Rudel
- * Ingrid Schorr
- * Melissa Shakro (MIT)
- * Randy Stern
- * Mechthild von Knobelsdorff
- * Peter Stokes
- * Andrea Williams

Staff

- * Cara Seiderman (CDD)
- Jennifer Lawrence (CDD)
- Justin Schreiber (CDD)
- * Greg Hanafin (CDD)
- Brad Pillen (Health)
- Patrick Baxter (TP&T)
- * Jim Wilcox (DPW)
- Matt Nelson (CPD)
- * Juan Avendano (CD)

Guests: Bruce Dreher, Nate Fillmore, Ted Feldman, Mark Boswell

I. Agenda review, Approval of Minutes, Introductions

Minutes approved. SB JG

II. Roadway Projects

a. Fulkerson St

Juan Avendano, Traffic Calming Project Manager. Street was reconstructed and a neighborhood process/traffic calming project was done. As part of the redesign, curb extensions were added, along with a raised intersection at Spring Street and a two-way multi-use path Charles to Spring, to accommodate people going to the school. Currently the path is marked along the one-way section of the street. Shared use path for walking and bicycling. Raised intersection allows transition. Fulkerson is relatively wide (19' outside of parking). (How) do we allow two-way bicycle travel?

Contraflow: low-volume, low-speed, clear desire line. A bit busier than what we have on some other streets, but could be a good next step. Permitting two-way travel on a one-way street is an option. Sign and markings, not a dedicated lane, like "bikes excepted" or "two-way bike traffic allowed."

Vancouver: with turning traffic, you can put in a short separated treatment to remind motorists. Street would retain parking. Without also having a regular bike lane, people may bike in a contraflow lane. But having a regular contraflow lane is an option.

There are a lot of streets where we'd like to allow two-way cycling on one-way streets. The idea is to see how this works. This is an opportunity to try something new.

SM: How far are other streets? JA: Side street concerns. CS: Green markings and signs for side streets. JA: We have curb extensions as well to help with this. SM: Anywhere there are three-way stops would need stop signs in all directions. RS: One-way parking-protected wouldn't be possible, bump-outs and CFD. CS: Separated facilities on main streets; this is a lower-volume, traffic-calmed street.

AO: Let's not let the perfect get in the way of the possible. We're not going to have perfect bike lanes everywhere, cycletracks, etc. Real contraflow bike lane is still an option. SB: In Paris, default policy is that bikes can go in both directions, it works well. JA: Observations: cyclists use bike lanes in both directions. SB: agree. RS: in favor, but with clear lane markings. RS: Who has right of way, should we put up signs? AO: I think in this case it would just be a point of people giving ROW to each other, slow speed. Guest: can we minimize the amount of money/thermoplastic on the street?

a. Dudley St

Street to be reconstructed. Rebuild raised intersection, will rebuild the rest to try to improve pedestrian experience. Encourage eastbound on Dudley, westbound on Harvey: direct to a parallel street. Dudley is much narrower, so we're not as confident as Fulkerson. There is not room to travel, someone has to pull over.

MP: This makes sense, as Harvey is out of the way. AO: Agree. RS: This is narrower, seems unsafe. JA: These are two different streets. Less room. But very little traffic, and slow speeds. SB: Very little traffic, and low speed. MVK: Without much traffic, probably not very dangerous, since it's part of the plan,

we'd like to have something. AW: The more that this exists throughout the city, the less irregular it becomes and the safer it becomes. Ultimately it would be great if all these sorts of streets were two-way for cyclists. Safety factor increases with the number of places we have this. CS: Not specified as contraflow in bike network plan. Both Harvey and Dudley connect to park/path.

c. DPW updates

JW: Huron full-depth & sidewalks, paving this week. Several sidewalks, some drainage and water main work. Inman Sq. public meeting May 2, main library, 6:30 presentation, open house otherwise. Kendall work, and Broadway/Galileo is going to have a building come down during demolition and construction. Will be a shared lane during construction. AO: would it be possible to ban left turns from Broadway NE to Galileo SW, which would allow us to build a protected/buffered lane during construction? There is basically no one who would be negatively affected by this except traffic exiting Biogen, and that traffic could, without a median, go left on Broadway and right on Ames. *[post-meeting update: The period when the roadway is taken up to the extent of removing the bike lanes is actually limited to a discrete time period when the crane set-up and median removal work is happening, but during the longer duration of the building construction, there will be bike lanes.]*

III. Projects

a. State Legislation

Summary has been sent to committee. Should committee take positions on this? Peter will send out a survey and asks that you read the uploaded slides before taking it. We will send out the report again.

b. Inman

[May 2 meeting](#), library. Please come! Meetings with lots of departments to go through all the iterations.

Tuesday, May 2: Inman Square Intersection Improvements Community Meeting, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Cambridge Public Library (Main Branch), Lower Level (L2), 449 Broadway

Open House: 5-8 pm Presentation: 7 pm

c. Participatory Budgeting

Cambridge Street public meeting. April 25, CRLS. Plans for two sides, one parking-protected, one bollards. Stakeholder meeting to take in to account all details. Bus stops are a challenge since buses need a curb. Frequent buses transporting kids to events/activities, war memorial pool has chemical delivery across sidewalk, where do these vehicles go? We have Inman bike counts, but we'd like to do a bike/ped count near Harvard Square, last week in April, need some help. If anyone can give an hour and count, would be helpful.

Brattle St: two-way travel (which everyone seems to favor)

Mass Ave Trowbridge-Bow will look at one or two-way travel, but less of a clear use of the contraflow direction given the directionality of the streets in the area (do not see people doing this now).

Will have plans for Brattle/Mass by next meeting, or perhaps a special meeting.

IV. Events

a. May ride planning.

Subcommittee needs to have a meeting to discuss. CS: Needs to have a route ASAP, AMB halfway there. JG: Route needs to take priority whether or not you have the sites. MP and AMB will make a route, sites and stops will be conceptualized, this should get rolling within the next week. CS: Call for volunteers in advance. Water and snacks (e.g., granola bars) will be ordered.

Name has not been chosen. History of Women Leaders HOWL ride? WOW? Women on Wheels. IS: meet at Plough, choose a name. JA has options. See March minutes. Plough meeting: Wednesday April 19 6:30ish.

Fresh Pond Day is the same day; would anyone be interested in Fresh Pond bike rodeo? We do not have available resources; the bike committee ride dates are determined well in advance, suggest next time they coordinate around that (they knew the date of our ride and that it was a conflict).

CS: As part of design challenge, a bike rack design with the potential to allow for greater density was selected, models will be on site for people to try out and get feedback.

b. RiverFest

June 3, CS: Probably not enough bandwidth given the bike ride and other events to create something just for the committee, but would be good to volunteer for bike-related stuff already going on. Contact Jen Lawrence.

c. More tabling events

If interested in other events, contact RR.

d. Parking Day

Parking Day informational meeting late afternoon on the 19th 4-7. Not mandatory. Would need a subcommittee.

e. Bow Tie Ride

On schedule to keep on the radar. Sept 24 (agenda is wrong).

V. Announcements, upcoming meetings

MVK: Last meeting, goodbyes and well wishes for safe travels were proffered.

AO: Bike lane restored on Main towards Longfellow, thank you to city for quick responses and for Rep Livingstone for pushing the state.

Guest: Where do you go to report a crash? Go through CPD, CS will check to make sure that the website is correct.