

Cambridge Bicycle Committee DRAFT minutes Feb 13, 2019

Attendance

Committee: Corby Bacco, Mark Boswell, Dien Ho, Patrick Lynch, Rebecca Simonson, Randy Stern, Peter Stokes, Andrea Williams

Staff: Greg Hanafin (CDD), Stephen Meuse (TP&T)

Projects

- Traffic dept re-evaluating “no turn on red” for bikes in situations where it makes sense, eg. onto a street with a bike lane. Would install sign indicating right turn on red permitted for bikes.
- Traffic dept designing concept for Windsor Street contraflow bike lane - between Cambridge Street and Hampshire Street where it is currently one way south. Concept design presented. This could be done soon, just paint. Limited parking reduction, 1 or 2 spots. Not enough room to make it separated/buffered - would have to be standard bike lane.
- Hampshire St currently has timed lights at Prospect, Columbia, and Windsor from Inman to Broadway at 15 mph - bike speed. This was paid for through the “bike spot improvement” budget item (new signal controllers).
- Brattle St - new “caution, 2-way bike traffic” signs to be installed on stop signs on side streets
- River Street Reconstruction. 1st meeting held. 2nd meeting 2/26. Scope = Mem drive to and including Carl Barron Plaza. Mark Boswell attended first meeting for bike committee. Public meeting planned for March.
- Grand Junction path - Heading East, path will have to switch to left side of tracks north of Binney St then cross back at Cambridge St. Not desirable but Alexandria dev co say it would cost “tens of millions” from “too many owners” to acquire land rights to keep it straight. Not just that; the tracks would have to be moved, costing more and not currently supported by MassDOT. Bike Committee (Dien) will draft a letter to Ordinance Committee, Planning Board, indicating support for the path, with a preference for it to be continuous on side of the RR, and at a minimum to have high level controlled/safe crossings of the track and road. Other requests include well-done quality lighting along the path, quality design elements like a fence, and a Bluebikes station. The Bike Comm supports creating this important path but takes no position on zoning tradeoffs maybe needed to acquire land.

Spring Bike Ride

- 2 options - “Literary Ride”, emphasizing recent lit connections” or “Water Ride”, emphasizing former shoreline of Cambridge and potential effect of flooding from climate change related sea level or storm surge rise. Actions - Randy Stern to draft pitch for water ride, Rebecca Simonson to draft pitch for Literary ride.
- Patrick Lynch again generously offered to provide food (Big Thank You and applause!)
- Prefer to have water tank, not bottled water.

- Idea to have straggler concierge – extra sweeps to split off if needed and take stragglers back to library
- Police asked to move ride start up to 9:30AM, approved by committee.
- Bow Tie ride on 9/29 conflicts with Rosh Hashanah - plan to have it 9/22 if no major city conflicts

Review of Ride Hail letter from Somerville Bike Committee

- Bike Comm unanimously endorsed it
- Greg Hanafin will get back to SBC to let them know
- We could use a LOGO like all the other groups had! City seal can be used for City sponsored activities (e.g., official bike rides), but not for this letter.

Mass legislation update

- Now split into 3 bills
- All same goals as last time except Idaho stop option removed

National Small Business week

- Ped committee considering a walk, Harvard to Porter, to stop in businesses and talk up benefits of good Ped access to local business
- Week of May 5-11
- Bike Comm could join in, or do something in parallel
- Idea: Maybe get donations from local businesses to put in “Local business basket” and raffle it off on Cambridge Bikes list as PR for stores with bikers?

Other

- Ames St - will be an upcoming meeting with DCR to discuss Mem drive crossing concepts