

Cambridge Bicycle Committee minutes 12/9/20

November minutes were approved

Cycling Safety Ordinance (Brooke McKenna, TP&T)

- Requires the city to build 22.6 mi of separated bike lanes (SBLs) by 5/1/26
- 2.5 mi per year
- Focus on major corridors (Bway, Garden St, Cambridge St, Hampshire St), plus special approach to Mass Ave due to complications of the street function and variations in cross sections through the city.
- Mass Ave
 - Complex segments - city to do block by block analysis of impacts of SBLs
 - If quick build not feasible by 5/1/23, city needs to create a capital plan and timeline
 - Standard segments - to be completed by 5/1/22
 - Central Square - quick build not possible, new design by 5/1/23, built by 5/1/25
- City can get extension by 1 year if not feasible in required timeline, also pandemic delay possible
- Annual report 5/31 of each year plus website updated 2x/yr detailing plan and progress
- Quick build vs temporary control devices (cones, barrels, etc.)
- Permanent/capital project lanes may take longer, but must start as planned.
- Q&A
 - Pandemic impact? A-Outreach must be less in person, revenue impacts not clear, the ordinance allows changes for revenue shortfalls. Also, restaurants using streetspace may complicate things
 - Next deadline May 31, 2021 - is the City on schedule? A-city is on schedule and plans to continue
 - Is the website available? - A-not yet, but working on it.
 - Temporary control devices did not work well for shared streets, how would they be used? A-As little as possible, the City hopes to be able to use quick build techniques almost everywhere.
- Public questions
 - none

TP&T updates - S. Meuse

- Highlights from last year - Quincy/DeWolfe bidirectional lanes and sharrows, Webster St bike lanes, Little Binney sharrows, Little Concord Ave repaved and painted, Hampshire approach to Broadway added in green, Banks St contraflow lane, Binney/Galileo quick build SBL in advance of construction completion (raised SBL to come).
- A lot more smaller changes!
- Q&A
 - Also like the Quincy Street crossing to science center
 - Thank you for all this work. But how did Webster St happen so quickly? A-Repaving for a construction project there presented an opportunity

Outreach - Jen Lawrence, Adi Philson (CDD)

- Cambridge uses "Empowerment Model"
- Community Engagement team, CDD hiring own team of 8-10 outreach workers, from the community

- Host events to engage with people, e.g., Glocal challenge, Team CDD, Cambridge Science Festival, PARK(ing) Day
- Partner - Fresh Pond Day, River Festival, etc.
- Flyers, brochures, signs, maps social media, etc.
- Bluebikes programs - hospital workers, essential workers, income eligible program
- Bike education programs - youth programs (including youtube curriculums, bike rodeos, earn-a-bike), healthy aging and cycling, collaboration events
- Ideas in development - bike ed/mentor program lead by BIPOC
- Q&A
 - Bike rodeos are great. How do we assure equity, e.g. not requiring parents to bring kids (some can't do that)? A - We focus on equity, work with grades, parents not required. Chose Danehy because it is near large public housing. All 6th graders get trained for bike safety on actual bikes provided by the city. Every 2nd grader, and 4th grader also gets training on a bike!
 - What is the outreach plan for large apartment buildings, e.g. Walden Street Apartments? A - That has been a focus. We do host events and were planning to host bike workshops at community centers & large buildings this year, but pandemic delayed. Partnering with property managers is useful.
 - What materials can we share? - A-CDD youtube page, bike workshops page, and newsletter that can be signed up on workshops page
 - Is there any plan for earn a bike to become high school class? A-Yes, are working with high school. Train summer employment kids on bike safety while on-line for orientation. Lunch time training classes with free pizza.
 - Any resources developed to help the community organize their own rides? A-Can help arrange bike police for a community ride, and almost anything a community group asks for.
 - There will be more updates for bike committee from CDD outreach team at future meetings
 - Any connection with Cambridge bike fixup/give back program? A-yes, have met with them. City will not take over community programs, but will offer and provide expertise and support as requested.

Cambridgeside Galleria development

- Q&A
 - Why are they proposing less bike parking than zoning requires? A-They state that do not have space on site for all the short-term parking, and that it has been underutilized in the past. Long complicated reasoning, best to read the detailed proposal and discussion
 - Bike parking uses an elevator. 3rd recent proposal that uses elevators. Not a good trend, ramps are easier to access and use? A-Zoning allows elevators. Ramps for cars can be steeper, but it takes more space for bike/ped access. Would take zoning change to require developers to use ramps or at-grade bike parking. Committee could work on proposing a change. Would be good to get feedback from residents of these new buildings and how they are using bike parking.
 - Are elevators large enough for large bikes? A-yes, elevators need to fit gurneys for emergencies. Larger cargo bikes are a tight fit. Some new electric cargo bikes are getting even bigger. Need to look at that.
 - Mitigation for improving crossing Land Blvd would be important to have.

[Tobin Montessori/Vassal Street Upper School](#) - next time, not time sensitive for tonight but people should look at the proposal on-line and are welcome to comment to the project team individually. From the [project website](#): *The Schematic Design Phase allows the team to provide better-informed responses to questions about traffic, open space, cost, and handling of hazardous soils. This does not indicate this is the final design. Community meetings will continue to be held during this process so that we can continue to receive feedback and refine the design. We encourage the community to provide feedback as we go through the Schematic Design Phase. Please submit comments to: riley@cambridgema.gov or citymanager@cambridgema.gov.*

Volpe follow up – will be discussed again at a future meeting. MIT has not presented their final formal proposal to the Planning Board yet. We can then formally comment on that. They heard our feedback last time very clearly and people hope they will be responsive in their updated proposal.

Grand Junction Path - Committee members should read on-line design and give feedback by January 4th. Committee members requested a meeting/presentation on the proposed design for the bike committee. UPDATE: THIS WILL BE ON THE AGENDA FOR THE DEC. 17 PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE MEETING AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

Next meetings –

Joint meetings with ped/transit? There is a proposed schedule (see separate document) that includes suggested dates to hold for joint meetings and get them on calendars. Consensus is that would be helpful.