

Cambridge Bicycle Committee DRAFT minutes Jan 8, 2020

Attendance

Committee Members: Joel Anders, Jonathan Anjaria, Julian Astbury, Mark Boswell, John Ellersick, Amy Flax, Ryan Frazer, Alison Harris, Dien Ho, Patrick Lynch, Qian Mei, Scott Olesen, Todd Robinson, Ruthan Rudel, Rebecca Simonson, Christine Smaglia, Randy Stern
Staff: Cara Seiderman (CDD), Greg Hanafin (CDD), Jim Wilcox (DPW), Stephen Meuse (TP&T), Adi Philson (CDD)

Adi Philson, Mobility Education Coordinator for CDD

- Doing bicycle light giveaways throughout the city; bike committee members have helped as volunteers
- Interested in winter biking get together or ride (see Rides/Education/Outreach tab of sub-committee projects spreadsheet below)

Winter operations - Jim Wilcox, DPW

- Over last 15 years, snowfall in Cambridge has ranged from 9" to 110"
- Parking bans on emergency streets implemented when 8" snow or more. Will tow until vendor lots are full.
- Emergency parking for 1200 cars
- 23 miles of city cleared sidewalks, bus stops, ramps
- Separated bike lanes are plowed (special new plowing vehicles and equipment have been purchased), but where there flex posts, a ridge of snow (aka "windrow") is left between lane and street, which then melts and freezes causing ice in bike lane. Trying to use brine solution
- Regular bike lanes often disappear in big storms since snow is plowed to curb and car parking goes into bike lanes. No plan to ticket these parked cars blocking the bike lane.
- Snow removal is hard - no place to put it in Cambridge other than Danehy parking lot. Much goes to Allston now, on Harvard property, but that area is getting developed
- Challenges - continuity of trash, dead end streets, one way streets (narrow), handicapped parking, space savers
- For 2020, most snow is predicted for Jan 21 - March 10
- Flexposts that are knocked down by plows are generally not replaced until snow season over

Project planning for this year

- Grouped projects into 1. Rides/Education/Outreach, 2. Bike Plan, 3. Policy/Legislation, 4. Data, 5. Infrastructure
- Broke into groups and set initial goals for each committee above.
- See revised and reorganized list at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aznFH0-axGh3gsH2itKMe-w14KUdhNVcDsgWM6sXGmw/edit?usp=sharing>
- Started to add additional tabs to above spreadsheet with notes from Jan 8 meeting.
- Need notes added for groups in addition to Rides/Education/Outreach.

Development project review

- Tobin School
 - Will review once plans are more concrete, still 3 options under review
 - Want safe routes to school to be real
- River Street Reconstruction

- Current plans are for separated bike lane the entire route from the river to Central
- Grand Junction Path
 - Complex planning due to MBTA needing 2 tracks for planned commuter rail
 - All rights of way for bike path not clear yet
- Inman Sq - much work happening now
- Roger St Park between 2nd and 3rd under construction
- Meetings on Garden Street to be held soon. Proposal to extend bike lane west to Linnaean Street (it ends a few blocks short now)
- Looking at wayfinding signs from Brattle to Garden St.
- Bike Plan – technical evaluations are underway; next steps will be discussed at a separate meeting with Bike committee

Other Announcements

- “Bikelash” training planned in Boston for Jan. 25 by BCU (separate advocacy group)