

Notes - Cambridge Bicycle Committee 6/8/22

Attending: Randy Stern, Amy Flax, Guido Cuperus, Scott Kilcoyne, Conor Henrie, Eitan Norman, Anna Frebel, Carola Voelker, Pamela Yang, Julia Somerdin

City Staff: Cara Seiderman (CDD), Walter Goldberg (CDD), Jim Wilcox (DPW), Stephen Meuse (TP&T)

Visitor: Emma Johnson

Notes:

Review of previous minutes

- Minutes approved

Bike Ride Review

- Spring Ride - Trails to Rails
 - A few pinch points, eg contraflow lanes
 - A few times CPD seemed to head in different direction from route
 - Overall great ride, lots of volunteers, lots of food (if the city has a budget for food, they could let us know in advance it would help). Thank you Bon Me and Flour Bakery!
 - Maybe a hand out would be helpful explaining what the ride is, and listing future rides, in case people along the way ask questions
 - Water tank was great
 - Danehy Park stop was well limited in time by Mark.
 - Special because of COVID hiatus
- Fall Ride - Bowtie Ride
 - Easier - no theme, can reuse older bowtie routes
 - Usually last Sunday in September – Sept 25 this year, but night of 25th is first night of Rosh Hashanah
 - Oct 2 would be better - let's assume this date for now
 - July meeting could be committee ride to view new infrastructure
 - August meeting could be test ride for Bowtie Ride
 - Past rides are on the website - could just pick one and repeat it (after reviewing for any needed/desired modifications).
 - Need (a) volunteer leader(s) from the committee

Project Updates

- Garden Street, Stephen Meuse, TP&T
 - First community meeting was held
 - Huron to Mason St at Common, quick build, separated bike lanes, better crosswalks
 - One way bike lanes or two way on one side?
 - One way on two sides won't fit well between Linnaean and Huron, so that complicates things - could fit 5 ft one ways with only a 1 ft buffer, but DPW needs to OK that for snow clearance and street cleaning. Also, narrow bike lanes are problematic for wider cargo bikes, or bikes with trailers, etc. DPW has been requesting more narrow equipment in budget requests. But it's a staffing issue too, needing an extra person to plow the narrow lanes.

- 2 way bike lane would have to transition to ordinary road use at Huron Ave, but that intersection is busy and adding a dedicated bike phase for the transition would likely back up traffic. It might be easier at Linnaean St because that intersection is less busy, and then have 2 lanes between Linnaean and Huron.
 - Huron to Linnaean, must remove all parking
 - Linnaean to Chauncy, must remove all parking
 - Chauncy to Mason, can likely keep parking on southwest side of street
 - Can slip lane to Waterhouse St be removed? A- No, buses heading to tunnel need this.
 - It confuses people if some street are two way bike lanes, and some are one way - should there be a policy for one vs the other? A - TP&T prefers one way on each side. But need to look at it because of narrow width in spots. Could be two way on one side, 1 way on the other!
 - Shared Street idea may not make sense for a street like Garden, that is more arterial, not really a low volume, traffic calmed street. But shared streets are potentially on the table for other streets
 - Can intersection of Concord and Garden be reduced in size, say by bending Concord Ave to intersect Garden perpendicularly? Can maybe move stopline further west? Can intersection be designed to encourage more traffic to go west on Concord, rather than Garden.
 - Shepherd St - mark bike lane as bidirectional to the quad, since that is how it is used today. The street is wide. Can the bike lane be made wider? Out of scope for Garden St project...but this street is on the 5-Year Plan for Sidewalk and Street Reconstruction, starting FY2023
- Porter Sq median removal starting Friday, and catenary coming down at same time
- Flex post replacements will be happening soon too
- South Mass Ave bus lanes being extended and painted to river
- DPW update
 - Bway near Galileo/Ames another month of work
 - Inman Sq will be mostly done by November 2022
 - Eversource work continues to disrupt bike lanes in East Cambridge
 - Gore St work continue through October
 - Harvard Sq Plaza - road work starts in July
 - Port Infrastructure - getting bids for water main
 - River St - Bid opening in June - \$40M project, start construction in September
 - Mass Ave 4 - Harvard Sq bus stop design in process
 - Binney St Park - construction start in July, includes a little of Grand Junction path

Committee Work

- Wayfinding
 - Look at apps, for example, not just signage on the streets
 - Conor, Guido and Amy interested
- Data
 - Julia, Scott, Guido interested
- Bike Counts
 - CDD counts in September will need volunteers
 - Carola would like to help, Guido, Scott and Amy
 - Eco totem - 2022 seems like numbers are climbing back post pandemic
 - Miovision counters - counts all traffic
 - at Mass and Vassar, $\frac{1}{5}$ of traffic is bikes - quite a large percent

- Are cameras counting everything?
- What other micromobility devices are being used?
- Scott would like to help visualize this, especially if 20% of traffic but 10% of land use
- Brochures for families with children
 - Anna interested
 - What biking feels like in the city now, start campaigns with schools, not enough bike parking at Morse School

Next meetings

- July - look at new bike infrastructure
 - End at ice cream shop?
 - Up and down Mass Ave?
 - Focus on newer infrastructure
 - Ride on upcoming project streets to see the problem - eg Garden St and Cambridge St from Inman to Lechmere
- Aug - committee ride of Bow Tie route

Public Comment

- No members of the public present at this time