

Happy New Year!

Cambridge Bicycle Report

Meetings, Events, and News

January 3, 2013

MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 8: Planning Board, 7:00 PM

Second Floor Meeting Room, 344 Broadway

Agenda available here: <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/zoninganddevelopment/planningboard.aspx>

Bike parking zoning is on the agenda.

Tuesday, January 8: New Charles River Basin Advisory Committee, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

WilmerHale, Sixty State Street, Boston, MA

The presentations made will be viewable after the meeting on DCR's website at

<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/charlesRiver/charlesBasin.htm>.

If you have questions about the public meeting, please call 617-626-4974 or email

DCR.Updates@state.ma.us.

Wednesday, January 9: Bicycle Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

344 Broadway, 4th Floor

Wednesday, January 16: 12:00PM - 2:00PM and 5:00PM – 7:00PM

State Transportation Building,

Suite 2150, MPO Conference Room

10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116

Start the New Year well informed. Attend the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Be Informed, Be Involved Sessions on January 16, 2013, to learn about some current events at the MPO. These sessions are an opportunity for members of the public to hear briefings and give feedback on MPO work currently underway, planned, or recently completed.

Planning Schedule

- Overview of the MPO's federal fiscal year (FFY) 2013 Schedule of Certification Activities *Noon and 5:00 PM*
- UPWP and TIP Development – Presentation of the development process for the FFY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program and the FFYs 2014–17 Transportation Improvement Program *12:15 PM and 5:15 PM*
- Looking at Transportation Needs around the Region – Presentation and discussion of two recently completed MPO studies:
 - Community Transportation Technical Assistance Program *1:00 PM and 6:00 PM*
 - Safe Access to Transit Project *1:30 PM and 6:30 PM*

The currently active UPWP and TIP documents can be reviewed at www.bostonmpo.org.

EVENTS, TALKS and CONFERENCES

January 17: Made for Walking

In her new book, *Made for Walking: Density and Neighborhood Form* (Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2012), landscape architect, urban designer and photographer Julie Campoli identifies the essential ingredients of a successful urban neighborhood. Based on the latest research on urban form and travel behavior, Campoli provides new ideas about the role of density and the importance of diverse land uses. On January 17, she will give a presentation on her new book.

This event, co-sponsored by the [BSA Urban Design Committee](#) and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, is free and open to the public; RSVP to rsvp@architects.org with "Urban Design 1/17" in the subject line. Light refreshments will be provided, and copies of the book will be available for sale and signing. For more information on Campoli's work and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, visit www.lincolninst.edu/pubs/2150_Made-for-Walking.

Friday January 25: Walk-Ride Day

www.gogreenstreets.org

ACTION, ANNOUNCEMENTS and NEWS

Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Public Transit Committees Looking for New Members

Please spread the word about vacancies on the committees. More information can be found here: <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/News/2012/12/transportationcommitteeslookingfornewmembers.aspx>

Chicago's New Blueprint for Biking

<http://grist.org/cities/chicago-like-bikes-and-its-about-to-prove-it-in-a-big-way/>

Today, the city's bike-loving mayor, Rahm Emanuel, will unveil the [Streets for Cycling Plan 2020](#), an aggressive bicycling blueprint that was a year in the making. With 30 miles of protected bike lanes already completed and another 70 promised before the end of Emanuel's first term in 2015, the city's new cycling infrastructure will weave through every neighborhood, assuring a path within a half-mile of every Chicagoan's home....

"I'm a big believer in getting things done versus talking about them," says [Transportation Director Gabe] Klein. "So is the mayor. We have a moral responsibility to make change as soon as possible."

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NB: There will be no Bike Report next week.

Cambridge Bicycle Report

Meetings, Events, and News

January 11, 2013

MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 15: Planning Board, 7:00 PM

Second Floor Meeting Room, 344 Broadway

Agenda available here: <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/zoninganddevelopment/planningboard.aspx>

Tuesday, January 22: Planning Board, 7:00 PM

Second Floor Meeting Room, 344 Broadway

Agenda available here: <http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/zoninganddevelopment/planningboard.aspx>

Bike parking zoning is on the agenda.

Wednesday, January 23: Bicycle Committee Ride Committee, 5:30 PM

Plough & Stars, 912 Mass. Ave.

All are welcome!

Wednesday, January 16: 12:00PM - 2:00PM and 5:00PM – 7:00PM

State Transportation Building,

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Wednesday, February 13: Bicycle Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

344 Broadway, 4th Floor

EVENTS, TALKS and CONFERENCES

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Cambridge Bicycle Report

Meetings, Events, and News

January 25, 2013

MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 5: Planning Board, 7:00 PM

*Cambridge Citywide Senior Center
806 Massachusetts Avenue*

Town Gown reports are submitted annually by Cambridge's educational institutions. The reports include information about student, staff and faculty populations, parking and transportation, and current and future development plans. Presentations to occur in the order below:

- Lesley University
- Cambridge College
- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology

For more information: Cliff Cook at 617-349-4656 or ccook@cambridgema.gov

Town Gown Reports can be viewed online on the Community Development website:

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/towngown>

Copies are also available for review at the Main Library or contact Tracey Joyce at 617-349-4651 or tjoyce@cambridgema.gov

Wednesday, February 13: Bicycle Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

344 Broadway, 4th Floor

Please send agenda items by February 4

Wednesday, February 27: Bicycle Committee Ride Committee, 5:30 PM

Plough & Stars, 912 Mass. Ave.

All are welcome!

EVENTS, TALKS and CONFERENCES

Tuesday, January 29: MAPC Annual Open House, 4:00 – 7:00 PM

Metropolitan Area Planning Council 50th anniversary Celebration and Open House

Please refer to the link for more details and to RSVP.

<http://www.mapc.org/mapc-open-house-2013>

Friday, February 22: Walk-Ride Day

www.gogreenstreets.org

ACTION, ANNOUNCEMENTS and NEWS

Legislative Action on State Laws for Massachusetts to Improve Bicyclist Safety

Transmitting a request from MassBike:

I am writing to ask you to email your state legislators to co-sponsor the Vulnerable Road Users bill and the Bicycle Lane Protection bill written by MassBike and filed by Senator Brownsberger.

The "Act To Protect Vulnerable Roads Users", S.D. 723, will strongly encourage motorists to exercise more caution when operating around vulnerable road users, will educate motorists to operate more safely, and will provide law enforcement with additional tools to protect vulnerable road users. The bill

defines “vulnerable users” to include pedestrians, bicyclists, and others including wheelchair users, all non-motorized users, and horseback riders. The bill enhances the fines applicable to motorists who kill or seriously injure vulnerable users, and requires traffic safety education and community service components. The bill also includes a harassment component that makes it illegal to physically harass a vulnerable user with a motor vehicle, and provides civil recourse for a wide range of harassing behavior. With the tragic string of bicyclist fatalities in 2012, the need for strong laws to encourage motorists to be more careful around vulnerable users is clear.

The "Act To Protect Bicyclists In Bicycle Lanes", S.D. 731, makes it a violation statewide for the driver of a motor vehicle to park or stand in a marked bicycle lane or other on-street bicycle facility. When a motor vehicle parks or stands in a bike lane, it endangers bicyclists by causing them to move out of the bike lane into traffic to avoid the parked vehicle, or squeeze between the parked vehicle and the curb or other parked cars. In most communities in Massachusetts, it is not clearly a violation to park in a bike lane. While the City of Boston has recognized the problem and adopted its own ordinance, we run the risk of a patchwork of inconsistent and confusing local laws if we do not act statewide.

Please ask your legislator to co-sponsor both of these important roadway safety bills. They can sign on by contacting Michael Buckley in Senator Brownsberger's office at michael.buckley@masenate.gov.

Austin Rand
Membership and Office Coordinator
Phone: 617-542-BIKE (2453)

City Council Letter Regarding Grand Junction – City Council Agenda Monday, January 28

Councillor Tim Toomey has transmitted to the City Council a letter regarding advancing the Grand Junction Rail-with-Trail Project. It can be seen here:

<http://www2.cambridgema.gov/cityClerk/CommsAndReports.cfm>

If you would like to communicate your support of the notion of advancing the project, you can do so in writing to the city council by Monday: council@cambridgema.gov

You may also speak at the public comment period at 5:30 PM on Monday, January 28.

By way of background, the Bicycle Committee initiated the original study and report and has been a champion of the project since its inception.

Grand Junction Pathway



The City has completed a feasibility study to determine whether it is possible to create a Rail-With-Trail (RWT) along this corridor. A RWT would enable the railroad to continue its services, with a separated trail functioning parallel to the rail. The proposed Grand Junction RWT would serve pedestrians, bicyclists, joggers, and others as a recreational and transportation route, linking various Cambridge neighborhoods and other recreational facilities and serving major employment and university centers. The final study is available by clicking on the Documents tab (on website as linked below).

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Projects/Transportation/grandjunctionpathway.aspx>

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