

## **Draft Minutes of the Cambridge Bicycle Committee Meeting February 2013**

Present: Cara Seiderman, John Goodman, Andrea Williams, Catharine Hornby, Taylor Walker, Tegin Teich, Jim Wilcox, Tom Meek, Matt Schrupf, Ben Hammer, Dan Baronofsky, Randy Stern, Madeleine deBlois

Visitors: Jonathan Adams, Eric Wylie, John Gazley, Megan Ramey, others

### Agenda Review, Approval of Minutes, Other Logistics

The January minutes were approved

### Committee Projects / Subcommittee Reports

Matt gave an Infrastructure subcommittee update. The infrastructure subcommittee is looking for additional members. The committee has completed their comments on the DPW's 5 year plan, if there are no additional comments they will be sent on to the DPW. The infrastructure committee would like to review the streets that are slated for repairs/improvements in the next 3-5 years. Other projects the subcommittee would like to undertake are: conducting a survey of people's commutes/commonly used routes and use the data gathered to find gaps in the infrastructure, adding categories to iReport for bicycle infrastructure problems, the stress level study, and education of the bicycle committee (what types of infrastructure are out there and their effectiveness). The committee expressed interest in learning more – getting additional data, statistics, etc. (or elevator pitch) that might help support the argument for better bicycle facilities at public meetings etc. This may require extending a meeting to have enough time for a thorough discussion.

Tegin gave an update for the Wayfinding subcommittee. The signage for the route from the BU Bridge to Inman Square is finalized but not yet installed. The subcommittee is planning their next route. John will email proposed route to the committee.

Carole gave an update on the senior outreach initiative; she is working on organizing a meeting with the seniors to follow up on the survey.

### Spring Ride

The spring ride will be 5/18/13. The theme of the ride is food/candy in Cambridge. There is an opportunity to take the ride along the wayfinding subcommittee's newest route. There is the possibility of crossing into Somerville for a small amount of the route, need to clear this with the Cambridge Police. Possible break locations are by the high school or at the library so that the committee members who do set up and clean up can participate. Ideas for vendors and /or sponsors are Novartis (at the former NECCO factory) the Culinary Institute, Whole Foods. There is a meeting on Wednesday Feb 27 at Plough and Stars to discuss.

### Harvard Overpass Update

Ben Hammer gave an update on the plans for the overpass by the science center. The project includes wider sidewalks by Harvard Yard, open free flow space of pedestrians and bikes (that doubles as event space), bike racks (both covered and uncovered). The committee had several questions: would there be an opportunity to tie the newest wayfinding route that goes south through this area south to Quincy street?, is there any signage planned?, will this design create any pinch points for bikes and pedestrians? Ben was going to take these questions back to Harvard.

### DPW Update

Jim gave an update from the DPW. The Concord Ave project had its first community meeting there was positive feedback on the plans. Forest St will be under construction. Jim will review the spring ride route and note any construction project conflicts along the route. Art bike racks are slated to be installed in Kendall Sq.

### Bicycle Parking Zoning Proposal

The Planning Board moved that the proposal be formally forwarded as a petition. The next Planning Board Hearing is 3/19/13. Committee members are encouraged to attend and send letters of support.

### Grand Junction Rail with Trail Zoning Proposal

Pathway Overlay District would ensure that no new structures are built within the space required for a path and would provide a mechanism for property owners to retain the development rights through a transfer.

### Beacon St in Somerville

Randy attended a meeting in Somerville about planned improvements for Beacon St. He gave an update of the plan presented which include a cycle track on one side, bike lanes and mountable curb. There was some pushback from people who wanted more parking included in the plan. But there was general support of the improved bicycle facilities to be included in the project.

### Huron Ave

Latest updates to the plan include additional crosswalks and a loading zone spot. The businesses are against anything that reduces parking. Open House on Wednesday, May 1.

### Craigie Street Bridge

No update on the state of the bike lanes. MassDOT says DCR is the one refusing to agree to add bike lanes on the project.

### Longfellow Bridge

The construction will interrupt vehicular traffic and the T for some time. The final plans will include a separated bike lane from the bridge to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

### Call for new agenda items

Cara asked the committee members if they have any items they would like to discuss at future meetings. The law TROMP has been trying to pass (increased fines for vehicle and pedestrians and bikes) is coming up again, the committee has opposed this in the past. We would like an update from the CPD on crash data and citations also what they think are the most dangerous intersections of cyclists. Could the committee set up a group bike ride in lieu of a meeting one month.

Next Committee Meeting Wednesday March 13th.