

## DRAFT Notes - Bicycle Committee Meeting Jan. 11, 2023

Attendees: Walter Goldberg (CDD), Cara Seiderman (CDD), Brennan Biemann, Alison Harris, Mark Boswell, Guido Cuperus, Thomas Randall, Jim Wilcox (DPW), Amy Flax, Randy Stern, Stephen Meuse (TP&T), Eitan Normand, Scott Kilcoyne, Conor Henrie, Tenzin Choephel (CDD), Miguel Perez-Luna (CDD)

Visitors: Austin Ledzian, Nahid Chowdhury

Approve December minutes - approved

Event planning and engagement - Miguel Perez-Luna (sustainability planner), Tenzin Choephel (active transportation coordinator)

- Winter biking workshop February 6 at Main Library (Tenzin)
- Bike Bus to Graham and Parks (Eitan/Mark)
  - Peabody bike bus was every Friday up until holiday break - very successful
  - Starts at Rindge Towers, but hard to get word out to all parents there
  - Needs planning where to start and route, but getting word out is biggest challenge
- Online videos explaining rules of the road to kids, and how to bike in the city - need some updating
- Safe routes to school - what exactly is happening with this?
  - National movement to encourage kids to walk and bike to school
  - 2nd grade teaches pedestrian safety
  - 6th grade teaches bike safety (5 lessons), at end of program kids receive helmets and go on a group ride
    - Is it possible to make it earlier? Per Amy, Needham starts in 3rd grade.
  - Bike to school day - could it be once/month?
  - Used to be a PE lesson in 4th grade? What happened?
- Winter Ride
  - Maybe connect to workshop, end at workshop, or do after workshop
  - Tentatively March 4 or 11
  - Needs more planning.
  - Potential small budget for snacks or hot chocolate
  - Can reuse last year's flyer, changing date
- May Ride (5/20)
  - Needs a theme and associated route
    - Network – Bike Network, social network, networking companies, neural networks - Nice to hit all the new facilities
    - Medical facilities, medical network
    - Randy and Scott - will work on route, once we have a theme

- Eitan and Guido volunteer to help
- Mayors Ride (skipped last year, but should check whether it is still planned for spring)
- There was also an Arts Council Ride

## Project Updates

- 2022 completed project review
  - 2.5 miles of SBL (Separated Bike Lanes)
    - Often formerly an unprotected bike lane
  - SBLs South Mass Ave, Douglas to Mem Drive
  - Watertown Cambridge Greenway (State project)
  - Gore St reconstruction (shared use path still not complete, hopeful April or May)
  - SBLs Garden St Huron Ave to Concord Ave
  - SBLs Brattle St Mason to Sparks
  - North First St from Jacobs St to Water St
  - SBLs Inman Square
  - SBLs Cambridge St from Oak St to Prospect St
  - Norfolk St shared lane markings
  - SBLs Porter Sq
  - Various new bike signals installed
- Several committee members voiced appreciation and enthusiasm for the new lanes on Garden and Brattle, stating that they are important parts of their routes, and particularly meaningful for those with children and older adults.
- TP&T Updates - Stephen Meuse
  - Concrete barriers added to Brattle, reflectors being added
    - Flexposts added at start of sections of concrete barriers, or if something juts out
  - Jan 31 Brattle St Phase II meeting
  - Assessing vehicular counts on side streets
  - Preliminary Hampshire St work, next meeting not scheduled yet
  - Main St planning to begin Feb or March
  - Inman Square walkthrough to happen soon to review signal design
  - Area of Huron Ave, Aberdeen Ave, Mt Auburn intersection will be designed this year - possible bike lane adjacent to median to not impact parking - if room
  - First Street and Second Street - no new decisions, waiting on MBTA decision on bus service on first street
- DPW - Jim Wilcox
  - Broadway/Galileo - lots of work, Volpe coming - will be lots of construction for next 5/6 years...

- New Vellucci plaza proceeding, final Inman paving in the spring 2023
- N Fourth St work, bike paths blocked, what can be done?
- Harvard St water main work
- River St utility work started, 30 month contract, side streets first
- Willard St - near Charles River stormwater outfall
- Binney St park work will continue to 2024
- Belmont St complete streets project
- Bike path over bridge to Cambridge Crossing - dates need to be looked into
- Grand Junction being done in pieces - Binney-Bway is the piece being worked on now
  - Some waiting for Eversource conduit routing plans
  - Some waiting on MIT decisions
- Mass Ave 4 - design ongoing
  - committee members to be interviewed soon
  - Team coming to bike/ped/transit committees for an update in March
- Development projects
  - Lechmere Canal project - may not come to committee meeting, but they are going to Conservation Commission soon
    - Proposing a drainage system added to path along the canal
    - ECPT has expressed the opinion that aesthetics matter and if asphalt, should be colored asphalt.
    - Still no final decision on surfaces of paths. DPW suggested exposed aggregate concrete. Stone dust as proposed will impact drainage system, in addition to being not viable for accessibility, plowing. Carol Johnson, original landscape architect, stated that the reason for stone dust of that path was because it was less expensive, and acknowledged that it was not an accessible surface and would have done something different if that had been better understood.
    - We will look at plans at next joint committee meeting 1/18, whether or not developer attends
    - May need to update our letter to the planning board, which has still not been sent...Will decide on final wording at next week's meeting. Planning Board meeting is January 31