

Minneapolis BAC Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, February 26, 2014
4 PM – 6 PM
Minneapolis City Hall – Room 333

1. Member Introductions and Sign-in (4:00 – 4:05)
2. Approve BAC Agenda and Minutes (4:05 – 4:10, see attachment 1)
3. BAC Reappointment Process, Simon Blenski (4:10 – 4:20)
[Application and Information](#)
4. Engineering Subcommittee, Paul Frenz (4:20 – 4:50)
 - Complete Streets Policy
 - Bike Plan Update/Protected Bikeway Planning
5. Winter Cycling Conference, Robin Garwood, Forrest Hardy, and Shaun Murphy (4:50 – 5:10)
6. Bike Boulevard System Update, Shaun Murphy (5:10 – 5:30)
7. Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Position, Nick Mason (5:30 – 5:40)
8. Announcements (5:40 – 5:45)

Happy hour for Shaun Murphy following meeting at Pizza Luce (119 N 4th St).

Next BAC Meetings:

Thursday, March 13th: Education, Encouragement & Enforcement Subcommittee

Tuesday, March 18th: Engineering Subcommittee

Wednesday, March 19th: Executive Committee

Wednesday, March 26th: Whole Committee

Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes
Wednesday, February 26, 2014, 4 PM – 6 PM
Room 333 Minneapolis City Hall

Members Present: Richard Anderson, Joe Bernard, Bill Dooley, Ethan Fawley, Paul Frenz, Robin Garwood, Janice Gepner, Bob Hain, Matthew Hendricks, Hōkan, Joshua Houdek, Nick Mason, Gina Mitteco, Shaun Murphy, Greg Sautter, Ciara Schlichting, Sarah Stewart, Jim Skoog, Georgianna Yantos, Kelley Yemen

Members Absent: Lisa Bender, Billy Binder (excused), Marin Byrne (excused), Ginger Cannon (excused), Brian Funk, Roy Hallanger, Jessica Hill, Gary Nelson, Peter Wagenius

Others Present: Mackenzie Turner Bargaen, Simon Blenski, Peter Crandall, Forrest Hardy, Scott Shaffer, Lacy Shelby

Action

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee strongly supports the Metropolitan Council completing a **regional bicycle study** to inform a meaningful bicycle section as part of the Transportation Policy Plan update.

While most of the study looks good for Minneapolis, we have some questions and concerns, including:

- Why is there a corridor gap on the southern edge of downtown Minneapolis west of Hiawatha Avenue (in the corridor around Franklin Avenue)? This seems like a gap.
- Why are there a lack of connections into downtown Minneapolis, including Washington Avenue to connect to the University of Minnesota? This seems to not connect the center of the region well enough.
- The corridor in north Minneapolis along Emerson/Fremont may be better as a band that includes the proposed North Minneapolis Greenway rather than a specific determined route since the Greenway may become the preferred north-south arterial bike route in that area.
- Why are the corridors in northeast Minneapolis not specifically identified? Several of these corridors do have an obvious specific route.
- Is there a connection to the airport identified? It's not clear on the map and would be a gap if not included.

We will submit more detailed comments as soon as we are able to review the draft study more completely. We look forward to working with the Metropolitan Council on the next step in the process to having a valuable regional bicycle plan.

Summaries of Discussions

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm and was chaired by Nick Mason. Following brief member introductions, the Agenda and January Minutes were accepted unanimously.

1. **BAC Reappointment Process** presented by Simon Blenski
 - Applications for appointment to the BAC are now online.
 - Applications are due by April 25.
 - We welcomed our newest BAC member, Kelley Yemen, the new Hennepin County Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, who will represent Hennepin County on the BAC.

2. **Engineering Subcommittee** Report from Paul Frenz – ***ACTION***
 - **Minneapolis Complete Streets Policy**
 - Anna Flintoff provided the subcommittee with an update on the city's Complete Streets Policy.
 - People were asked for input. Nothing is in writing yet.
 - **Protected Bikeway Planning**
 - Anna Flintoff also discussed an update to the Bicycle Master Plan on Protected Bikeways.
 - A copy of the update with a process timeline was distributed.
 - Public input will be sought this May/June with Council adoption projected for Nov/Dec, 2014.
 - Robin Garwood said the subcommittee requested that the city better coordinate with the County plan.
 - Robin also took issue with the fact that the document says that Protected Bikeways are more expensive to maintain than on street bike lanes.
 - **Regional Bike Plan Update– ACTION**
 - Don Pflaum and others presented the regional bike corridor plan (which he had brought to the full BAC last month) to the subcommittee.
 - Plan is being finalized now and will be made public in March.
 - Ethan Fawley expressed concern about key corridors in Minneapolis that were missing from the proposed map.
 - Ciara Schlichting said that any suggestions from the BAC should be made immediately as the map is being finalized this week.
 - Joe Bernard said the plan is very complicated and there was a general consensus that the BAC was not given the time needed to provide meaningful input.
 - Joe agreed to be part of a smaller group to go over the plan in more detail.
 - Georgianna Yantos endorsed Ethan's comments.
 - Several people expressed concern that the BAC was not included earlier in the process.
 - Ethan presented a motion that expressed concern about several specific corridors that were left off the proposed map.
 - Bob Hain added a friendly amendment that we looked forward to working with the Met Council further on this.
 - Gina Mitteco pointed out that she was involved in a study for the plan.
 - The motion passed unanimously with one abstention from Ciara.

3. **Winter Cycling Conference in Winnipeg** presented by Robin Garwood, Forrest Hardy & Shaun Murphy.
 - Forrest reported that Canadians have similar biking programs and paradigms as in the U.S. They have Safe Routes to Schools, Rails to Trails projects, cycle tracks, struggle with mode share.
 - Forrest gave a presentation at the Conference of some Minneapolis Public School programs for youth.
 - Forrest identified several themes at the Conference including:
 - Separate facilities for bikes (build protected bike lanes)
 - Prioritize key winter routes and communicate these to the public.
 - Robin said that Oulu in Finland was a great cycling city where, instead of removing snow, they flatten it in such a way to make it bike-able.
 - Robin hoped for a discussion of on-street bike facility maintenance but was disappointed.
 - The proceedings of the Conference will be published online, but aren't there yet.
 - Shaun reported that Winnipeg maintained a bike-able ice track on the river.

4. **Bicycle Boulevard Update** presented by Shaun Murphy
 - Shaun shared a detailed update of many of the improvements that have accompanied the conversion of streets to "Bicycle Boulevards."
 - The city has design guidelines for Bike Boulevards, which will be put online.
 - 10% of the City's 180-mile bicycle system are Bike Boulevards.
 - The streets Shaun discussed are as follows: Emerson Ave N from Weber Pkwy to Lowry, 5th St NE & SE, 22nd Ave NE from the river to the Quarry, Presidents/Stone Arch Boulevard, Bryant Ave S, the RiverLake Greenway (40th St E), and the Southern Bike Connection (17th Ave S between 24th & Minnehaha Pkwy & 12th Ave S from Minnehaha Pkwy to 60th St).
 - The improvements added to those streets include the following: signs that enable bikes to use one-way streets both ways, traffic circles at intersections (often replacing 4-way stop signs), bike-specific push buttons at traffic lights, bike path connections through traffic diverters, speed bumps to slow cars, signs telling cars to Yield, curb cuts for bikes, bump outs, and medians.

5. **Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Position** presented by Nick Mason
 - Joint letter from the BAC, PAC and Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition asked that the next Bike/Ped Coordinator have greater authority within Public Works in order to maximize their effectiveness.
 - Discussions took place with Public Works and Transportation/Public Works Committee on the City Council for reorganization within Public Works.
 - 1st meeting about the position with Steve Kotke and John Wertjes will take place on Friday, March 7.

6. **Announcements**
 - Nick Mason noted Shaun's key role in the amazing transformation of Minneapolis as a biking city during the past 8 years. He read the following proclamation from Mayor Betsy Hodges and presented it to Shaun:

“Whereas Shaun Murphy has served the City of Minneapolis as the City’s first Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator since 2011, and previously as the City’s Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Project Coordinator since 2008 and as the City’s Bicycle Intern since 2006, and

Whereas Shaun Murphy gave generously of his time, knowledge, energy and leadership to the City Public Works staff, Bicycle Advisory Committee, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, neighborhood groups, numerous community partners, the City Council, and the Office of the Mayor, and

Whereas Shaun Murphy showed unwavering commitment, willingness and ability to understand and respond to the concerns of not only the bicyclists and pedestrians but of the greater community, and

Whereas Shaun brought an innovative vision to the approach of making Minneapolis a world class bicycle and pedestrian friendly city by focusing on evaluation, education, encouragement, enforcement and engineering, and

Whereas Shaun Murphy may think that bringing consensus among elected officials, community members and Public Works staff is so challenging that the thought of running an 80-acre organic farm in Wisconsin is an easier alternative, and

Whereas I commend Shaun Murphy for his legacy of passion, dedication, and outstanding public service given to the City of Minneapolis for the past 8 years, Now therefore, I, Betsy Hodges, Mayor of the City of Minneapolis, do hereby proclaim February 26th, 2014, as Shaun Murphy Day.”

- Robin Garwood provided a quote from Council Member Cam Gordon, that “We could not have asked for a better first Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator than Shaun Murphy.”
- Nick Mason: the National Bike Summit is next week in Washington, DC. Sixteen people from Minnesota will attend. Let Nick know of any Minneapolis suggestions for Keith Ellison or the Center by the end of this week.
- Nick: the Minnesota Bike Summit will be on Wednesday, March 19. Initiatives for the Legislative Agenda include Safe Routes to Schools infrastructure funding, the MoveMN campaign, vulnerable road user laws, update to legislation to require a driver who hits “something” to stop and investigate, funding for MN Metro and Regional Trails, and state statute changes about requirements to ride on the right.
- Paul Frenz: Current designs for Nicollet Mall seem to have abandoned the idea of a protected bike lane. Nick suggested we get some project folks to update us. Joshua encouraged us to provide input on the online survey.
- Bob Hain: we should get updates on details about Washington Ave downtown.
- Joshua Houdek: MoveMN “Transportation Day” at the State Capital, Thursday, March 13, 1 – 5 pm with a rally at the Rotunda at 4 pm.
- Robin: There will be a party for Shaun tomorrow at Gluek’s at 5:30 pm.
- Robin: When both the Washington Ave and the Franklin Ave Bridge projects were passed by the City Council, they directed County and Public Works staff to report back to the BAC to work out details.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Gepner.