

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2016, Town Hall Room 408 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted by Kristin Schreiber

Present: Cynthia Snow, John Dempsey, Bryan Decker, Don McNamara, Tommy Vitolo, Kristin Schreiber, Nathaniel Fink, and Sgt. Brian Sutherland

Public: John Harris, Anne Lusk, John Bowman, Jaime Dasque, Alisa Plazonja, Richard Nangle

Hubway Update—Andy Martineau, Planning and Community Development Department

- *Motivate* contract up next April, may still remain, but will be under new agreement
- It is challenging to accomplish this contract operationally and to build consensus among parties involved (Brookline is smallest Hubway participant of communities involved)
- Would like our input on scenario planning that would make bike sharing work better in Brookline

Suggestions/Discussion:

1. More stations, higher density of stations
2. Balancing stations (i.e. at a lot of peripheral stations, there is never a bike in AM, and never a dock in PM)
3. locations not visible or accessible- Coolidge Corner hidden, need to cross traffic to access
4. Possible locations: around Emerald Necklace, Browne St (near park)
5. Year round service
6. In seeking funding, consider not only title sponsorship, but also municipal or private donor funding
7. May need to take away some parking spaces for future stations--will be strategic about where.

Decisions/future actions:

1. BAC will provide letters of support as needed (via Transportation Board)
2. BAC will put bike sharing more prominently in our Green Routes Bicycle Network Plan
3. BAC might serve as a home to the Hubway committee

Babcock St Update

Two options appear to be on the table at this point:

1. 2 way protected cycle track, single lane of traffic going one-way
2. Retain 2 way traffic with sharrows and traffic calming

Discussion:

- Parking is retained in both cases
- Next going to Transportation Board for Public Hearing on April 13th

- Based on feedback from two community members from Naples Rd who attended, it would be good for Transportation to post plans for this project and publicize the hearings on it more widely (i.e. not just residents of Babcock)

Bicycle Comfort Scale/Transportation Demand Management for New Developments

- Reviewed the final rough draft with committee members, OK'd to move forward
- Decision made to notify/submit to Transportation Board
- Caveats discussed in the letter to be added prominently to the scale itself, including that this is a rough draft meant to communicate concepts and priorities, and that we would like to stay involved in the development of the master plan integrating pedestrian, bike and transit amenities, as well as in the implementation of bike-related projects that come out of this.
- Once re-formatted for presentation to, we will recirculate

Vision Zero—Nathaniel Fink

- A national road safety policy developed in Sweden in the 1990s
- Central tenet: there is no acceptable level of fatality/serious injury in the roadway system
- Proven safety measures should be implemented to accomplish this goal
- NYC the first major metro area to adopt this; Boston and Cambridge now have adopted this as well
- Focus on safety, rather than maximizing traffic speed and convenience
- Involves Engineering, Education, Enforcement
- This focus may help integrate bicycle, pedestrian and transit efforts
- One suggestion is since this is very much in line with the philosophy of complete streets, we should focus on getting complete streets adopted and then work towards vision zero

Green routes update

- Hammond St, application to Emerald Network submitted for technical assistance from Livable Streets (Intersection of Hammond and Woodland, may be recommended for a road diet according to Todd Kirrane)
- Other places that may need attention for bicycle accommodations:
 1. Repaving on Newton St--unclear which part, and how long a stretch
 2. Selectmen's committee on new hotel where gas station was at intersection of route 9 and Brookline Ave will affect Route 9 (leading to Gateway East), River Road and Brookline Ave

Bike parade

- Don has helped to update the website
- Bike safety checks will be offered by 4 sponsors: Landry's, My Bike (new shop on Boylston St), Urban Adventours and Ferris Wheels (JP)
- Will have posters and cards soon

Beacon street update (Marion St to Westbourne Terrace)

- Advisory committee meeting was held last week, and they deferred decision about funding the bike lane; one suggestion that lane be installed on temporary basis and evaluated
- Need to determine what the metrics will be for success
- There will be a Capital Subcommittee meeting to further review this, which Todd Kirrane, Cynthia Snow and a Transportation Board representative will attend
- As this goes forward, should continue to mobilize advocacy
- Possible that reconsideration of a curb-side bike lane might be possible (protected by parked cars and wide enough for fire equipment)

Report on Climate Week Bicycle Activities

- Bike tour of local bike accommodations was well attended despite rain (16)
- Rain shut out the bike safety checks
- Panel on Complete Streets stimulated some cooperative discussion between complete streets, transit, bike, and pedestrian interest groups