

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2017, Town Hall Room 408 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted by Kristin Schreiber

Members Present: John Bowman, Kristin Schreiber, Bryan Decker, Jacob Meunier, Tommy Vitolo

Members Absent: Mark Lowenstein, Cynthia Snow

Public: Casey Uy (Brookline resident), David Kroop

1. April 2017 meeting minutes approved as circulated
2. Bike Parade (May 21, 2017): John Dempsey has been busy planning; volunteers should arrive at 10:00 at Amory (KS to bring table); still need food trucks (several members will talk to potentials) which would park on Amory (roughly 11:30-2:30); John Dempsey is checking with previous volunteers but needs parade marshals; consider potential handouts for kids
3. Babcock Street: 3-2 Board of Selectmen decision upheld Transportation Board approved plan. Prominent concerns were emergency response; fire safety emerged as a priority; future may bring other opportunities for further improvement and should reiterate safety for bicyclists and pedestrians.
4. Discussion of Capital Improvement Project Procedures: This year's project is Centre Street bike lanes; will discuss future projects in coming months and develop an array of various-sized future planned projects
Related item: Kara Brewton is designing mitigation fees for new Traffic Demand Management in Brookline and would find it helpful to have an estimate of cost of bicycle projects currently in our Green Routes Plan. John Bowman has tabulated many of these projects and presented this list and his initial estimates. Decision made to present an edited version of this list (to identify extra-large projects) to Kara (copies to Todd Kirrane and Josh Safer) with the caveat that it is not really our role as an advisory committee to estimate project costs, that we don't necessarily have costing expertise, and we would like to get this input from the Transportation Board and staff.
5. Hammond St.- The planned meeting to engage the community in discussing bike and pedestrian improvements in this area had to be cancelled because of scheduling conflict. Discussed whether to postpone community workshop due to potential confusion regarding traffic flow with proposed 9th new school until after that decision is finalized. However, any changes to Hammond Street will be a lengthy process with many opportunities for community involvement, and the importance of getting involved early in the potential renovations of this area was emphasized.
Decision: Include Hammond St. discussions early and often, and in multiple locations for meetings. Begin with early June community workshop, if possible
6. Beacon Street Bike Lane –The procedure to evaluate the success of this project is now posted on Transportation Division website; members will review.
7. Gateway East (report on 25% design hearing)- Reviewed Cynthia Snow's written summary and other comments; decision made to ask Transportation Board to send the following recommendations to DOT:
 1. Eliminate one traffic lane westbound from River Road (where many vehicles turn right onto River Road) to Brookline Avenue to widen the sidewalk at its narrowest point while also maintaining the cycle track.
 2. Simplify the complex and awkward crossing of Brookline Avenue to facilitate transition for cyclists going west and to allow smooth entry for those coming from Brookline Avenue and turning right onto the cycle track westbound along Rt. 9. For example, on "pork chop" island

consider smoothing the cycle track curve and/or making the bike crossing wider to avoid the sharp left turn onto the cycle track after the crossing.

3. Extend the cycle track on Washington Street to Station Street (with break for entrance of bikes from eastbound Boylston and northbound High st)
4. Clarify the path for bicyclists going from High Street across Rt 9 to Brookline Village by adding dashed striping/better marking going northbound from High St. across Rt 9 onto Washington heading into Brookline Village.
5. Put a cycle track (not just a bike lane) on the reconfigured Walnut Street.
6. Consider using right travel lane for the “floating” bus stop (especially westbound side) so that bike lane does not have to jog but can go straight behind the island where buses board.
7. Add green carpet and multiple stencils to bike lane on Washington southbound between Station St and intersection with Rt 9
8. Soften angle/ widen turn from separated bike lane coming from Walnut towards Boston as it enters Rt 9
9. Improve timing of signals throughout the corridor, such that bike signals do not restrict bikes during green phase for cars.
10. Extend green carpet to intersection with Rt 9 on westbound Walnut St (until it becomes a separated lane)

8. We will discuss new Hubway locations at next meeting. Jacob Meunier will bring suggested locations as a starting point for discussion

9. Will ask Todd Kirrane when bike corral in Coolidge Corner is coming back

10. Next meeting: Monday, June 5, 2017

2017 meeting dates, all meetings in Room 408, Town Hall: (First Monday of the month unless noted):
WEDNESDAY, January 4; February 6; March 6; April 3; WEDNESDAY, May 3; June 5;
WEDNESDAY, July 5; August 7; WEDNESDAY, September 6; October 2; WEDNESDAY.
November 1; December 4