

Minutes October 16, 2003 Bike/Pedestrian Task Force (Please check homework at the end of this message).

Individuals present: Tom Redinger, James Latimore, Terri March, Tony Houser, Dwayne Stutzman, Elizabeth Teague, Dan Baechtold, Vicki Rowe-Currence, Claudia Nix

Members were asked to send their answers to the several questions before attending the meeting. Claudia compiled the answers on to sheets of paper and consolidated them into categories. The group then spent much time discussing the comments to determine the best wording for our mission statement. This was not an easy task. We wanted to determine the precise words to convey a clear mission statement. I believe we were successful. One of the best things about this process is although we had many different opinions and at times disagreed; we came to a workable conclusion and even laughed during the process. I thank all who were involved in this process, whether through added information or was present at the meeting.

The following Mission statement was chosen:

**“To Educate the public about bicycle and pedestrian transportation.  
To Advocate for the development and maintenance of safe, convenient and  
Inter-connected facilities.  
And to promote the benefits of walking and bicycling for individual and  
community health.”**

I am including the various responses to the homework questions so all who were not present will understand from where we came.

Responses to question one: What do you hope to accomplish as a result of the coalition's efforts?

- To see more bike paths (wider shoulders) on main roads in Asheville, so those choosing to bike as transportation can.
- Want to see more “greenspace” developed within the main “planning” of the city of Asheville as it grows.
- Community education & linkages to promote biking for leisure and commuting.
- Identify opportunities to educate to the general public & biking community regarding transportation issues & life quality issues.
- To have more pathways built & more connections made between sections of pathways for a workable system for transportation & recreation.
- Build community support for greenways, sidewalks & paths for walking & biking in a reasonable time.
- Increasing greenways in city/county & increasing use & safety of those using them.
- To educate, advocate & garner public support for biking and walking use for utilitarian & recreational use by users & motorists for shared use. (Respect for each other).
- To build interconnected facilities that are safe

2. How do you plan to accomplish these goals?

- Active support of this organization.
- Continued meetings to discuss issues & keep them on the surface of attendees minds.
- Provide guidance & identify through group discussion of effective ways to direct our lobbying efforts.
- Through media, established institutions & forums.

- Working w/city & county staff, state & federal officials, increase visibility of non-motorised transportation through awareness campaigns (strive not to drive, anti-defamations task force) to counter attacks like clear channel incident.
- Advocate/lobby for more funding & support from NCDot, local & state elected officials. Partner w/city to get funding & to prioritize & plan for bike & ped. Facilities.
- Develop a multi-faceted educational campaign w/media spots & flyers & classes. Continue working w/local staff & officials & the public to find funding & prioritize plans for facilities.
- Addressing safety hazards, connectivity & encouraging less dependence on car travel through incentives & awareness activities.

3. For whose benefit does your coalition exist? Everyone's answer was about the same. For everyone in the community whether they live or work or visit here.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm – 7:00pm** at the county training room. Please try to be on time and do your homework. Our homework for next time is to think about goals and committees on which you would like to see us work and is in line with our mission. If you will send them to me by the Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, I will have time to compile them before our meeting. This saves us a lot of time.

Thanks,  
Claudia Nix