

Bike / Ped Task Force Meeting April 19, 2018

Individuals Present: Barb Mee, Scott Dicken, Luke Atken, Charlie Menefee, Brendan Merzithew, Ritchie Rozelle, Adam Cabe – APD, Grace Curry, Claudia Nix, Tom Redinger, Anna Alsobrook, Terri March, Mike Sule.

Terri March – facilitated and Claudia Nix – note taker

Minutes of last meeting were reviewed and no changes requested.

No additions to the agenda

Barb explained that she needed input from the group on what was wanted on the bike lanes for Martin Luther King Avenue. Before she realized that bulbouts were already put in to make the distance shorter for pedestrians to cross the street and we could not put in a parking buffer for the requested bike lanes so now she needs to know what our group would prefer of three options. 1) cross section of a climbing 6' lane with 2' painted buffer and sharrows on the downhill sections or 2) 5' climbing lane with a 3' painted buffer and downhill sharrows or 3) keep it the same it was with 5' bike lanes and no buffer each directions. After much discussion the cross section #1 was chosen 6' bike lane climbing and 2' painted buffer. The lane change would occur near Hazzard Street. Tristan suggested the use of an Advisory bike lane where the changes were being made from climbing lane to sharrows.

Grace Curry reported from the Walk-Friendly Working Group that they had decided to work off the deadline for keeping our Silver status with the deadline being August. Our next meeting will be May 4th and it is hoped we will be finished with the survey by our June meeting. If anyone wishes to join the group please let her know.

Tristan Winkler, planner for the French Broad River MPO gave a presentation of the NCDOT's SPOT prioritization process. This was to help the group understand how transportation projects are chosen for funding and prioritization. The SPOT or P5.0 is data driven and suppose to be transparent however it is not simple. There is a 5 step process in determining funding of projects. There are three (3) different phases. The state level includes

projects such as Interstate hwy's. And state signed routes. All points to determine the prioritization are given by the state none from the local area. Projects compete for funds from all over the state. The 2nd area is Regional, these projects are for State Signed Routes. The points are given by the Regional districts of the NCDOT and projects that did not get funded from the state program can cascade into the Regional pot of funds. These projects compete with only others in the region. The third level is determined by Regional District and local MPO and project which did not get funded from the two previous level can be cascaded into it as well. This includes all local roads, transit, bike and ped projects. These projects only compete amount other projects in their division. Based on the scoring, the MPO recommends one of two programming scenarios. Tristan mentioned that hope to have the draft assigned by May 20th. The general public can give their feedback on projects through an on line survey at fbrmpo.org/survey2018. The final draft on the regional and division should be done by Oct 2018. There presently is about 24 million dollars approved for prioritization to Buncombe county.

Adam Cabe of APD gave the report for the Police Dept. He was the officer who answered the call for the pedestrian fatality this week which was a hit and run. They still have not caught the person driving the vehicle. The pedestrian was walking against traffic but was on the East bound ramp by the Fed X building by the Jeff Bowem bridges. There are no sidewalks there, through the security video at the thrift shop there they can see he was wearing dark clothes, the vehicle hitting him did stop but then went on and was a white truc. The pedestrian was wearing dark clothes and was in the road as there was no where to walk. He was still alive when the 4th car come upon him and called 911. It took EMT's 9 min to get there and he died in the emergency room. He is continuing to look for the driver of the vehicle that hit him.

Terri March reported on the Multi-Modal Commision. Most of their last meeting involved the draft Transit Master Plan presentation. A large number of general public was present at the meeting. There were a number of changes that were made after the listening session that involved Pisgah View Apartments. The final draft is expected at the coming MMTC meeting on April 28th. At that time they are expecting information on the Comprehensive Plan

and the plan for Charlotte Street, and Vision Zero which should include solutions which are low to no cost. The MMTC vacancy from Bike/Ped is still vacant. Although they did get some good candidates they really need more diversity and decided to repost the seat opening on May 1st in hopes of getting more diverse people applying.

Barb Mee reported about city activity. She is expecting to see a new ped signal at the intersection of Biltmore, Southside and South Charlotte. The Bike Share study will begin with a stakeholders meeting on Tuesday, April 23 at 9:00 or 10:15 AM Barb asked that folks RSVP to Kristy@frictionshift.com.

- Sidewalk activity at Wood Ave will be increasing for connectivity from the intersection of the shopping center with Target to the low income development on Future Drive. This will require many retaining walls.
- New Haw Creek Road is a Bond improvement. Sidewalks from Charlie Bullman park(Bell Rd) to Beverly Road on the downhill side will be happening.
- Ontieora Road Sidewalk are in process of being surveyed.
- The New Leicester Intersection sidewalk plans are let. They will be in front of Alan's Pawn and will cNC DOT's safety dept to come and share the sidewalk design with us hopefully for our next meeting.

Ritchie Rozelle shared the activities for this year's STRIVE event. It has been expanded into a regional event and for the whole month of May with each county having a week of events. Buncombe Counties events will begin on Friday, May 11 and end with the Strive Beyond Summit on Friday, May 18 at the Sierra Nevada Brewing Company. That event will have two panels on dealing with the Economy around Bike and Pedestrian improvements and the other will be dealing with the work force and aging transportation needs. Ritchie gave a brief overview of each of the events in Buncombe County. Fri, May 11 there will be a build a bike rodeo course that will be on the city owned lot across from Civic Center and be used at Open Streets on Sept 16th. Also the same day after work the Roll Outta Work bike ride will take place from the same location and end at New Belgium.

Monday, May 14 will be “Walk the Talk on Merrimon Ave” to experience the difference from a Complete St on Murdock with the dangerous Merrimon Ave.

Tuesday, May 15 6-8 will be a symposium on becoming a Bike Friendly Business at New Belgium. Bike access attracts loyal customers and happy employees.

Wednesday, May 16 6:45 is the Ride of Silence wear white and black armband and ride in silence to remember those killed or injured while riding their bike..

Thursday, May 17 will be Walk-On /Ride-On training event on how to ride the bus to downtown from various locations across town. More information on all these events will be coming and folks can go to: strivenottodrive.org to keep up with information. To register for FREE for the Summit go to Strivebeyond.org.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, May 17th at 5:30 pm.**