



CHARLOTTE
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 26, 2021
6:00 PM

BAC Members Present: Liza Pratt Veda Evans Angela Stoyanovitch
James Lee Lakisha Hamilton Caitlin Tobin
Eoin Sheil

Members Absent: Alane Paraison Michael Trivette

Staff Present: Will Washam Keith Sorensen Keith Bryant David Harrison
Bruce Jones

Agenda item #1 Call meeting to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Agenda item #2 Intro of members and guests

There were no members of the public at this meeting.

Agenda item #3 Review and approve minutes

Veda Evans motioned to approve the minutes, Liza Pratt seconded the motion and the September minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda item #4 Monthly reports

Chair's report: The City has done a lot of great work around the Vision Zero Action Plan. Ms. Tobin would like to review the action plan update for this year when it is done and ready. The SMP had a couple listening sessions in August.

Staff report: The Parkwood bike lane grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was held despite a rainy day. Mr. Washam gave background on why this facility was built, the ped/bike crashes, and fatality. It is part of three projects that came out of a study. Due to the rain the BAC ride did not take place afterwards as planned. Veda Evans asked if there is another section opening soon with a similar type event. The 5th/6th Street ribbon cutting will take place this winter. Mr. Washam talked about bike lane sweeping; staff are asking other cities how they do it, frequency, does it vary by street/bike lane type, etc., built in or separate line item, staffing? James Lee asked for an example of the most innovative idea? Denver sweeps their 15 miles of bike lanes once a week! Dallas only has 27 miles of bike lanes total. Ms. Evans asked about

greenways. She also asked about how other cities sweep protected bike lanes. Do they use specialized equipment? Mr. Washam brought up BAC reappointments; some members have terms that are ended but are eligible for reappointment, a lot of new members came in midterm, replacing a member that resigned. He instructed those members to resubmit their application. But let him know if they do not wish to be reappointed. November 8th is the City Council meeting when they will be considering these appointments, so Chair recommendations need to be made by the end of this week.

Agenda Item #5 Subcommittee reports

Engineering & Evaluation: Ms. Tobin shared and discussed the letter of recommendation to Council on bike facility spending and asked if the BAC has concerns about funding? She just wants to make sure everyone is onboard. She was not looking for a vote this night, just more of a heads up and discussion point. Eoin Sheil asked for a draft version to be sent out and shared with the BAC so members can send feedback and incorporate.

Education & Encouragement: Ms. Evans brought the new members up to speed on what the subcommittee does. She gave background and overview of goals, accomplishments and initiatives thus far, and hopes for the future. The subcommittee has been tasked with looking at what is the next big initiative? Something like OS704 maybe? Let's see what the community is thinking about some of these projects, public engagement. And make sure it's not just what the BAC wants.

Agenda Item #6 New business

Bruce Jones reminded the BAC he presented back in the springtime but wants to give the group an update. He started with an overview of Envision My Ride. CATS is building a better bus network for passengers to improve frequency and service. Mr. Jones discussed route structure, a shift away from the hub and spoke with more cross-town routes. CATS is now looking at how we can improve speed and reliability, capital improvements, better connections between modes for bikes, peds, etc. How can we improve the passenger experience while waiting at bus stops as well? COVID put a damper on some plans to ramp up service but they are looking post-pandemic now. CATS asked riders what's important to you? On-time and reliable service, real time info on next bus arrival was the feedback. Mr. Jones presented some of the initial recommendations from the public. They will build upon the high-frequency network, 15 minute or better service, including enhanced bus stops and amenities. Advanced green lights to stay on time. They are looking at what additional features to implement to improve service. The agency will identify mobility hubs, similar to park and rides. They are also looking at first/last mile connectivity, on-demand and micro transit, ten min neighborhoods. CATS is working with the Kittleson team on planning. The minimum will be to have an accessible boarding pad. The overall goal is to analyze which corridors we can best roll out these improvements most easily and to reap the most benefits and equity. They have narrowed the list down to fourteen total routes and want to further narrow down to four radial routes and one cross-town route. Mr. Jones shared the timeline and dates/times for open house at CTC and an online open house will be up soon as well.

Ms. Stoyanovitch asked what kind of feedback was received on taking bikes on and off the bus. She said it feels like the bus only lanes have not been working as well as hoped, especially for cyclists. Bruce Jones replied we did do an initial survey to see how cyclists like the bus/bike lane but have not done an updated/follow-up survey. They do want to make sure we do have conditions for cyclists to feel safe. CATS wants to build these out in the future dedicated corridors. James Lee said he can ride from Matthews to downtown faster than the bus. He said the Central Ave bus-only lane is dangerous for cyclists and thinks it's a bad idea. Mr. Lee wants more frequency. Mr. Jones said we did the pilot on Central but took out the bus-only lane because it was not successful. They are now looking more at how can we improve the boarding experience. Long-term they would like to have no bus route that operates at more than 30 minute headways. Will Washam asked how bike share was considered, last mile connection? CATS had a partnership with Lyft, but needs to moving forward.

CLT Streets Map

Will Washam gave a little background before David Harrison presented. The Charlotte Streets Map is open for public comment. The City has a lot of planning efforts going on right now. The 2040 Policy Document is part of the Comp Plan. The Policy Map, Streets Map, UDO, were all defined, and their purpose and importance explained. The Policy Map is how the City will grow and how it will look, what will go where. Place types were discussed. The Street Map defines what is a street? All components from building face to building are included. Cross sections were shared. Center space could be a turn lane or a median, planted or just concrete. It's important to provide for bicycling on thoroughfares because of land uses. Behind the sidewalk could be street trees or an amenity zone. These are the elements that make up a street cross section. Staff mapped a vision of our multimodal street network city-wide. Blue Line is TOD from transit corridor adopted in 2019 in advance of the overall Street Map work. This is important because it supports the UDO, a mapped version that supports all the visions combined. Street classification or street type is the basis. Recommended number of lanes is provided for anticipated capacity needs, appropriate bike facility type, etc. Standard bike lane verses buffered bike lane verses protected bike lanes and shared use path. These will be the most prevalent recommendations throughout the city for bikes. This is not intended to be a block by block design. Exceptions can be made within context to make sure it's the right facility type for that street segment. It is not a map showing specific projects, nor is it intended to define priority investments for each street. Rather it is intended to make streets safer and more comfortable for all road users. Mr. Harrison encouraged everyone to visit the website to attend online community engagement sessions. He showed how to make comments on the map and shared planned dates for adoption.

Ms. Tobin thanked Mr. Harrison and told the BAC they will review for official comments. James Lee talked about the need and importance of making Charlotte's streets more bike friendly. David Harrison said he the Streets Map will apply to all major streets. Ms. Tobin will include links to all materials. Will Washam is to follow up with email to the group.

Agenda Item #7 Member topics

None.

Agenda Item #8 Confirm next meeting and adjourn

The next BAC meeting is scheduled for November 23, the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50PM.