

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)

Board Retreat on February 27, 2024, 4:00 PM

BAC Members Present: Frank Devine (Chair)

Kristen McSorley (Vice Chair)

Tammy Brock

Juan Contreras Juarez Lauren Patterson

John Pinnix Nate Steinhauer Matt Weschler Cayla McAvoy

BAC Members Absent: Aaron Cook

John Holmes

City Staff Present: Paola Bula Blanco, CDOT

Julian Burton, CDOT Dave Campbell, CDOT Elina Shepard, CDOT

Meeting notes:

- Discussion and adoption of the board January meeting has been postponed until full board meeting in April.
- A motion has been introduced by Lauren Patterson to draft a letter to the City Council by the end of the week of February 26th emphasizing the importance of investing in the Vision Zero programming. A separate letter will be drafted advocating for more bike lanes in Charlotte. Mat Weschler seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Attendees broke out into 3 groups to discuss:
 - Bike budget and priorities
 - o Quick wins for 2024
 - Increasing visibility for bicycling
- Bike budget and priorities

- Reviewed CIP bond cycle funding and project programming capacity in future years
- o Reviewed cost escalations for current and project CIP projects
- Reviewed current bikeways and active bike projects
- Discussed high level priorities: group likes priorities on Neighborhood Bikeways, more Separated Bike Lanes and Uptown Cycle Link. They want to see bike access to transit added as a priority
- Quick wins for 2024 [see photo of notes below]
 - Curb cuts and ramps at endpoints
 - Automate walk signals with lights (no more beg buttons)
 - Daylighting intersections
 - o Safe routes to school signage, partnering with neighborhoods
 - Bike parking
 - o Bike camera detection along bike routes
 - Vertical elements miles improved (upgraded bikeways)
- Increasing visibility for bicycling [see photo of notes below]
 - o Increase bicycling presence on CLT social media
 - Posts per month
 - Route reels, alternative routes
 - Show day to day bike use (1st choice)
 - o Regular bike ed classes
 - 3 education classes attended by BAC
 - Focus on East Charlotte
 - Leverage local partnerships
 - Better collaboration w/ community
 - More open communication with bike orgs
 - Inviting orgs to BAC mtgs/events
 - Know what community is doing and work together
 - Long term goal to get Charlotte on National Cycling Org lists
- Bike progress dashboard discussion:
 - CDOT has a tracking of projects system in place that among other things includes "living ends" (dead ends that could potentially be reopened for a better bike and pedestrian connectivity, stay closed for cars). Board members as well as members of the public brought up ideas of what else could be tracked and reported out.
 - Lauren Patterson: connectivity to transit, locations where bikeways are connected to transit (e.g., rail station and bus routes). First and last mile connections.
 - Matt Weschler: a metric that would speak to accessibility, e.g., how many people are within a comfortable bike ride distance from grocery stores, banks, etc.

- Frank Devine: miles of protected bike lanes excluding County greenways. Another metric suggestion for the dashboard is improvements made to the connectivity between bike infrastructure and important destinations.
- Lauren Patterson: when creating a dashboard might need to provide some context for the public of what the city has accomplished and would need to explain the value of the metrics to the community.
- Eric Zaverl (Sustain Charlotte): a number of improved intersections that have been upgraded from unprotected ones. Another metric that would be helpful is a mode-share, e.g., how much people are biking vs using cars.
- Cayla McAvoy: a metric that would speak to the congestion mitigation efforts, e.g., by choosing to commute by bike, these many minutes saved not sitting in traffic.
- Lauren Patterson: a metric that would speak to the health benefits of biking, e.g., how much amount of biking results in how much fresh air consumption.
- Tommy Brock: a metric that would speak to the integration of traffic signals to allow for an easier and safer commute for cyclists.
- Frank Devine: a number of bike projects that are in different stages of development cycle: projects in design stage, funded projects, projects in construction phase, etc.
- Juan Contraras Juarez: a number of after school bike programs.
- New members of the BAC board Juan Contrares Juarez who will join Engineering and Infrastructure subcommittee, and Cayla McAvoy who will join Education and Encouragement subcommittee.



