

SALT LAKE CITY

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 20, 2016 Meeting

Present from the Bicycle Advisory Committee were David Brooks, David Parrott, Jason Hamula, Jason Stevenson, Nora Pincus, Scott Lyttle, Shaun Jacobsen and Todd Hadden.

Absent from the Bicycle Advisory Committee were Denise Hunsaker, Elicia Cárdenas, Josalyn Bates, Ken Yonemura and Mark Kennedy.

Also present were Becka Roof, Amy Lyons, Elliott Mott, Heidi Goedhart, Sgt. Pascadlo, Robin Hutcheson, Alexis Verson and Andy McKerrow.

The meeting, held at the Transportation Division Office, 349 South 200 East, Salt Lake City, Utah, was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Todd Hadden.

Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests – Todd welcomed all attendees and everyone introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes– **Motion:** Shaun Jacobsen moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2016 meeting. David Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Bikes on Sidewalks

Robin Hutcheson / Becka Roof, Salt Lake City Transportation

Robin acknowledged all the work the committee had done on this issue. She recognized the several past committee discussions about possible changes to the ordinance, and the committee's recommendations. While that discussion is not yet over, she said that the City is going to be observing the current ordinance for no bicycling on sidewalks in the downtown, as part of a "pedestrian first" approach to downtown. Robin said there has also been some discussion about how bicycling on sidewalks has been functioning citywide, and she said Transportation feels strongly that the ordinance should not be touched, citywide, but that the pedestrian first approach is appropriate for downtown. The City wants to move forward under our current ordinance structure, but in the most fair way possible, with the best kind of public information that we can. What we don't want are frustrated cyclists because they are being cited for something that they were not aware of the rules. What we do want is people taking advantage of the great infrastructure in our downtown. We want drivers to be aware that bicyclists will be in the roadway. We want pedestrians who feel secure and feel like they always have the right of way on the sidewalk. We want to work with you on the very best way to communicate these things: to drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians. We want to avoid going straight to enforcement. First we will do education and some tactics to help us

better manage this situation out there. I hope we will have your help in finding a way forward so that bicyclists know what the rules are and aren't getting cited by surprise. Robin said that there is a lack of education, signage, markings, and outreach for the ordinance we have today, and that this is a part of the hostility in the user groups. The Transportation Division will be working on that.

Shaun asked if there will be changes to placement of GreenBike stations, and Robin indicated that station placement would not change, but that we may work with GreenBike as an education channel about walking GreenBikes on sidewalks.

Elliott asked if walking bikes on sidewalks is OK. Robin said yes.

Becka said that Robin has asked for a short list of recommendations around communicating the current ordinance, and she wants to get the committee's input on the ideas so far. She said the Transportation staff had done some research and compiled some of these recommendations before the Bicycle Advisory Committee was formalized. Becka indicated that the City held off on implementing these recommendations, because they planned to bring this topic to the committee for discussion, and wanted to respect that. There had also been discussions about bikes on sidewalks with the prior informal committee. She said that Transportation is now dusting off these recommendations, with education as the foremost approach. She said that the City does have signs out there that say what the ordinance is, but many people don't see the signs. A number of other communities have done stenciling on the sidewalks, with messages like "walk your wheels" or "walk bikes on sidewalk" and similar messages around skateboarding. She showed several examples, and some models from other communities, and said that the stencils try to be "friendly." Becka said there are many points of entry to a sidewalk, but the initial suggestion is to paint stencils at the corner ramps: about 150 corners within downtown. We could do it at every driveway approach, but this seems like overkill. We would like to set the tone that you are permitted to have your skateboard or bicycle with you, but it's the active use that is not allowed.

Several committee members gave suggestions, including that stencils could also say "ride in the road," especially if there is a bike lane; the skateboarder should look hipper, maybe including a hat; develop messages to bicyclists that it is faster / more efficient to ride in the road; include an explanation that there are more pedestrians downtown; and again a suggestion to work with GreenBike. Heidi suggested that the driver education could be included, that would promote bicyclists as legitimate users of the road. Elliott suggested making friendly flyers for bike racks where many bikes are parked. Becka said that paid social media can be a good way to get the message out.

North Temple Complete Street Study

Alexis Verson, Salt Lake City Transportation

Alexis is managing a small study on North Temple from 400 west to east of State Street. It is a technical analysis exploring a couple different designs on how to close that gap in a much larger regional network that already exists. She showed them a map and gave them the City's time line. This issue is currently on open city hall and she encouraged

everyone to take the questionnaire online. The City is looking to improve transit stops and access, pedestrian movement including crosswalks, sidewalk enhancements, business access and bicycling facilities along the corridor. It's really a complete streets approach. This is a federally funded project, using TAP funding with matching funds from the city. The technical advisory committee includes: Transportation, Planning, Engineering, WFRC, UTA and UDOT. They have also reached out to various outside stakeholders. A lot of people do not feel safe traveling on North Temple as a cyclist, particularly east bound. Alexis went over the questions that are on open city hall and what feedback they've received thus far. At the end of the summer, Transportation is asking for two alternatives. This is just a study looking at what could be possible and what they could pursue funding for in the future. Becka said when you look at the current low stress bikeway downtown, this is a gap area. There is also a gap going towards City Creek.

Connections: Heidi Goedhart, UDOT Active Transportation Coordinator

Heidi introduced herself; one of the programs that she is taking over is the Road Respect program. This program has traditionally been a bicycle tour going through the State of Utah and championing bicycles. This spring there were 7 Road Respects designated communities. UDOT is now trying to shift direction with this program and make it more comprehensive so that it's inclusive of pedestrians, skateboarders and child cyclists to name a few. Moving forward, the restructuring will include community planning, and getting local communities enthused about active transportation infrastructure. There's still a lot of coordinating that needs to take place with the Utah Highway Patrol and the Utah Highway Safety because they are major partners in this campaign. It's going to be really shifting focus and getting people to use active transportation within their community or being active and healthy on a daily basis. An over view of the Road Respect Program and where it's headed is pushing people to be more aware of bikes and pedestrians. Heidi will also be launching Utah's first Pedestrian Summit this fall. It's really a focus of mind to start addressing active transportation on a holistic scale. There is a BeFit program within UDOT Region II which is a bicycle facility implementation tool and it will be undergoing restructuring so that it will also be inclusive of pedestrian infrastructure and then being used so it's more of a standard of how UDOT approaches active transportation in each project.

Connections & Announcements

- Ken – 21st & 21st – Ken was absent.
- Nora & Ken – Foothill Drive – Nora was unable to do a bike tour of Foothill Drive and Ken was absent, there is nothing to report.
- Todd – Transportation Advisory Board – TAB is talking about the Foothill Drive redesign and the east bench. They are trying to get cyclists off of Foothill and Todd had suggested they make a bike path through the golf course.

Other – Shaun is planning a self support bike tour for Bike National Park day in September if anyone is interested. He asked what the timeline for the bike stenciling was. Becka said when they stenciled the road in 2012, they lasted most of the summer but the current stenciling that has been going down but is washing off sooner. Scott had the opportunity to be in Portland with a bike all weekend and he showed Portland's bike map. He proposed that SLC look at condensing their map to something like Portland's. It's much more user friendly and they clearly mark their districts. It was so easy to use as opposed to SLC's larger map that is hard to use while you're actually riding. Becka said the Mayor's office has also suggested a changed format so change may be afoot. David would like to get started with Biketoberfest but it all depends on what will be finishing around October. Becka talked to Colin about that and he said that the City wasn't going to be as involved this year and it's going to be in September. Becka said she would connect David and Colin to discuss this. Nora said the Save Our Canyons has a proposal out right now that would cut out a lot of potential connectivity from Lamb's Canyon to Millcreek Canyon if that's something anyone is interested in. Shaun asked about the planned route on the Foothill tour and Nora said she would follow up on that. David Parrot has been riding all of the different University routes. He used 200 South and his alternate 1200 East. Jason S was at the Bike Prom and said it is becoming really big. He was also trying to bike to Trader Joe's over the weekend and it was kind of hard, he ended up going down the sidewalk on 600 East. Lisa said the Police Department is right in the middle of their highway safety grant. She's been doing some spontaneous giveaways to people who properly answer questions and they are about to change from the education to the enforcement phase. Highway Safety has given her a three foot measuring tool to use through September and it has been interesting to see how far drivers really are from cyclists.

Bike Count

The City is still looking for more volunteers for the bike count if any Committee members are interested in participating. They are also adding a bike count on the 9-Line this year. Transportation is considering restructuring the bike count. All of the bike count locations were established in 2010 and those locations are not on the new bike infrastructure so the old route counts aren't very helpful. There is also new technology so they feel as though this is a good time to put the program on hold for one year to restructure and look at how it's functioning.

University to Downtown Bikeway

Becka Roof, Salt Lake City Transportation

Transportation has started some significant outreach on this project and is far enough along that there is some information they can show to the general public. Becka has already been putting door hangers out on the route. It is a fairly low key paint only bike way so they don't anticipate that it's going to have a great amount of impact to the street. Transportation believes the community will be quite supportive and are looking for their input. There will also be a couple of open houses to gain as much community input as possible.

Vacancy - Becka asked those who are due to renew if they would like to continue. Jason Hamula would like to focus on other things so the City will be looking for another member.

Motion: Nora Pincus moved to adjourn the meeting David Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

(A recording of this meeting will be available for one year)