

## SALT LAKE CITY

### BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### Minutes of the October 17, 2016 Meeting

Present from the Bicycle Advisory Committee were David Brooks, Denise Hunsaker, Elicia Cárdenas, Jason Stevenson, Josalyn Bates, Nora Pincus, Shaun Jacobsen and Todd Hadden.

Absent from the Bicycle Advisory Committee were David Parrott.

Also present were Phil Sarnoff, Dave Iltis, Elliott Mott, Amy Lyons, Jason Hamula, Laura Hanson, Richard Menke and Eliot Setzer.

The meeting, held at the Transportation Division Office, 349 South 200 East, Salt Lake City, Utah, was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Elicia Cárdenas.

Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests – Elicia welcomed everyone and everyone introduced themselves.

Public Comment – Dave Iltis said that 300 South looks really good so far, he's assuming there are more changes that are going to happen. He feels it would be really nice to see 1100 East have a bike lane all the way to South Temple and isn't sure why it doesn't already. He thinks it's the best job that could have been done given the constraints but is appalled that SLC decided to ignore the Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan and not have a protected and/or buffered bike lane, especially between 600 East and 900 East on 300 South. He doesn't know if the BAC took a stance on that but said they should have; and if they didn't he hopes they will take a stronger stance among things like that in the future because this has been slated to be a marquee route for Salt Lake City for many years. He believes that both 700 South and 100 South should have had bike lanes when they were resurfaced as both streets are wide enough. He believes this is a violation of the Complete Streets Ordinance and that the Committee should be making sure that doesn't happen again. Phil said Bike Utah's Youth Bike Education program kicked off last month and there are still some openings for this fall and into next spring. Trying to schedule time during the school day is a challenge but if the Committee members know any schools who are interested, remind them of the program. Bike Utah is hosting their Dinner and Bikes event on November 18<sup>th</sup> at Tracy Aviary. Tickets will be \$30 at the door and will probably sell out quickly. There will be a vegan, gluten free meal available for \$20. Elly Blue, author of "Bikenomics" as well as Joe Biel, the documentary film maker of "Aftermass: Bicycling in a Post-Critical Mass Portland" will be attending. Becka asked if any Salt Lake City schools are included in the Youth Bike Education program. Phil said there are quite a few and named off several. He will send Becka the complete list. David Brooks recently found out that a lot of schools let out early on

Fridays and asked how difficult it would be to do the program after school. Phil said they have done that and are flexible about the times.

Approval of Minutes– **Motion:** Shaun Jacobsen moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2016 meeting with corrections. Jason Stevenson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Big Jump (follow-on to the Green Lane Project) – Letter of support?

The City has a limited number of letters of support that can be submitted but are asking partners in the project to indicate a willingness to contribute to be a part of a leadership team. This would be basically like a steering committee and Becka thinks that would be appropriate for the BAC. If they would commit to being on the leadership team, that can be included on the application. The Big Jump is a project of People for Bikes, and the idea is to focus on building low stress bike networks. They are focused on building a network and Salt Lake City has identified their focus area as being from 300 North to 1300 South and from Redwood Road to 200 East. Shaun asked what being on that Committee would entail. Becka said it would be making the community connections, doing the education and outreach work to get more people on bikes and then to assess the project as well. The City already has both infrastructure currently and infrastructure that is planned and funded that they will be including in their application. Elicia asked the Committee if this is something that they would be willing to participate in if SLC is selected, if they would be willing to put in the time and volunteer to sit on the steering committee and participate in those events and meetings and help guide the Big Jump Project. Shaun asked if Becka was envisioning the entire committee or a sub-committee. Becka said it would probably just be a couple of people on a sub-committee to attend meetings and bring information back to the entire committee from time to time as an agenda item. She said if they serve on the leadership team they would be interacting from representatives from UTA, UDOT, SLCo and some of the west side community council type organizations, so it will be a mix between agency folks and the community. Elicia thought this would be a really good opportunity for some of the people who are more experienced and have expertise in things other than infrastructure to really have an opportunity to use those parts of expertise that they have as a committee. David asked what type of staff support they would have. Becka said that in addition to the Transportation staff being engaged if they are chosen, there will be staff from the Big Jump/People for Bikes Organization that will be providing technical and organizational support. David and Denise volunteered to be on this sub-committee. Becka let them know it is a three year project, and said she doesn't need specific commitments from specific people at this point, just a commitment that the Committee will participate.

**Motion:** Shaun Jacobsen moved that the Committee commit to participating in the Big Jump project. Todd Hadden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Becka said she will list representatives from the Bicycle Advisory Committee as part of the leadership team.

### Connection: Jordan River Commission

Goatheads & Weevils – Laura showed the Committee pictures of puncture vine, more commonly known as goatheads with a weevil in it. The plant and the weevil are native to the Mediterranean region. It is believed that the plant was brought here in the late 1800's caught in the wool of sheep that may have come over with the Basque population. The weevil was first introduced in the United States in the 1960's in Texas. It hasn't established in our area as they thrive in areas where the climate is warmer in the winter and typically freeze in the winter. There are two different kinds of weevil, one burrows into the seed and one burrows into the stem. They come in a little cup of about 250 and each cup is \$80.00 which makes each weevil about \$.30. They only eat goatheads and their entire life cycle is about 30 days. Since they are available to the Jordan River commission around July 1<sup>st</sup>, they are able to get 3-4 life cycles out of them before they freeze. Ideally in a warmer climate, the population keeps growing until there is no more weed problem. This is just a seasonal treatment in Utah since it freezes here. The Jordan River Commission has been fortunate to get some grant funding, Salt Lake City has purchased some weevils themselves and last year and this year, they were able to release 25,000 weevils around the Jordan River. The adult insects burrow into the seed or stem to lay eggs and the larvae eats the plants preventing either the seeds from growing into plants or the plants from being as robust with smaller seeds. They have been monitoring and working on a citizen science monitoring project to calculate the plant cover and see if there is a reduction in the plant cover over time and to break open some seeds to see how many have evidence of seed damage. So far in the places where weevils have been released, 30-40% of the seeds have evidence of insect damage. There are decades of seeds in the soil and the seeds are viable in the soil for about 10 years so even though they started this three years ago, they've got a way to go to get through them all. In places with a lot of goatheads, they hit hard with a combination of volunteers, the weevils and some pre-emergent herbicide applications in limited areas. They're seeing some reduction and therefore hopeful that it continues to be a good solution. Shaun asked if there are any other entities in the State using these weevils. Laura said the State Parks is using them on Antelope Island and Snow Canyon. In the places where it doesn't get below 32 degrees, the weevils drop to the ground and go into a dormant/hibernating phase. So they are working with USU to explore putting them in a refrigerator to see if they can be kept alive over the winter and if they can keep some of them alive, it will reduce their costs. David asked if they could use climate controlled greenhouses. Laura said that may be more expensive than buying them each year but that would be a good option to look into. They just got a grant to work with the U of U and the correctional system who will be growing some plants for restoration projects. Having them raise insects is not a bad idea either. Josalyn asked if there are any negative effects to the weevils. Laura said there is not that they're aware of, they've been used in the US since the 60's and the only impact is a reduction in the target weed and cost. Elicia suggested she contact the Master Naturalist Program. Dave said that as of February, goatheads are now a statewide noxious weed. Laura said that may open the possibility for some state funding. Elicia asked how they can get the committee to support their effort. Laura said multiple times per year they try to get the cycling community to help pull weeds. There are a lot of complaints but not a lot of people show up. If there is a way to motivate their networks, that would be helpful. They can

also help share information about the annual weevil release. You can adopt a weevil on their website for \$.50.

Jordan River Trail Wayfinding – There is a wayfinding signage project for the Jordan River corridor. The project is being funded by a grant from the County Health Department. Their idea is to get people out and active using trails as a way to improve their health. It's currently really hard to find your way around the trail system. There are a lot of side trails and if you aren't familiar with them, you end up doing a lot of backtracking and taking a lot of wrong turns. The Jordan River Commission wants to follow the MUTCD standards which may also give them the possibility of getting transportation funding for this signage. The idea is to have a whole suite of signs that get people from trail heads, down the trail and make sure they know they're on the right trail, have a sense of distance, mileage, where they are in the system, and serve a bunch of other purposes. The scope of work does not include anything beyond wayfinding. She gave the timeline and said they are hoping to have a plan completed by December. They're working with the local governments to get input on destinations and signage type. The goals are: predictable, progressive, connect the pieces, be inclusive, legible, and easy to see. The standards & goals are to have the basic fundamental signage, a confirmation you're on the trail, map kiosks at the trailheads, pavement markings and mileage markers. They're thinking every half mile and mile for pedestal type markers and every quarter mile for pavement type markings with the goal of having everything look the same throughout the trail. They will start counting the mileage at Utah Lake. She showed the Committee pictures of some of the signs being considered. They would like something easy to maintain and graffiti resistant. There is a soft service equestrian trail that parallels the Jordan River in many sections which will be included in the wayfinding as well. We want this signage to go from Utah Lake/Murdock Canal to the Legacy Trail connection. Dave asked how much coordination is being done with the signage in conjunction with Davis County, the Pratt Trail and the current County wayfinding study. Laura said not enough yet, but that's something that has been brought up as a goal and they will work on coordinating these.

#### Public Utilities – SLC Water Reclamation Plant Planning Process

Salt Lake City Public Utilities is embarking on a planning process with regard to significantly changing the operations, and therefore the footprint of the land and the way that the water reclamation plant/waste water treatment plant functions in Rose Park. She has circulated this information to the Committee to see if anyone was interested in participating in that planning process. Elicia asked for feedback of who was willing to participate. Becka said Shaun, Todd, Mark and David Parrott were interested and that Josalyn had indicated interest but at that time, there were already four people. Public Utilities has indicated that there are some possibilities for making additional connections to either the Jordan River Trail or to Beck Street on land that is owned by SLC. None of these items are in the Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan but it could be an opportunity. This may mean that as part of this process they could have funding to do something now or that they reserve the future right of way as part of this process, the sub-committee members should be open to possibilities. Todd said he's under the impression that this area is an old existing superfund site from oil refineries so it has to be open space and it would be a good place to put a lot of trails. Elicia

thought it might be a good bike park. Elliott asked the location. Shaun said it's around 1200 West and 2000 North. Todd said its north of the Jordan River where it crosses Redwood Road and on the east side of Redwood Road. Colin will be representing SLC Transportation and will also be attending next week's meeting as he takes the lead on trail projects.

### Connections & Announcements

- Ken – 21st & 21<sup>st</sup> – Ken sent in his resignation as his schedule is not conducive to attending the BAC meetings. Nora and Josalyn offered to take over this project.
- Nora & Ken – Foothill Drive – Nora put together a draft comment letter on the 6 different alternatives that are being looked at for Foothill Drive. This letter has been circulated to the Committee and Nora welcomed any further comments. Elicia said it's very well put together and Shaun said it's very comprehensive. There was a discussion regarding which agencies this letter should be sent to. Dave Iltis said the letter should also be sent to all of the City Council members and the consultants that helped develop this set of options.
  - **Motion:** Shaun Jacobsen moved that the Committee send the letter as is. Josalyn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Todd – Transportation Advisory Board – TAB received a McClelland Trail update from Colin Quinn-Hurst. Todd also attended the State's pedestrian conference which discussed a lot of pedestrian friendly bicycle options.
- Lisa Pascadlo – SLCPD – Lisa was not present.
- Becka – Cemetery – Becka had circulated to the Committee this master planning process that is not directly related to cycling but has a potential bicycle connection. This is the Salt Lake City Cemetery which is up in the Avenues and is owned by Salt Lake City and is still an active cemetery where the public can be buried for a fee. They are currently determining how the community wants to use the cemetery going forward. This is partly from a financial perspective, as the cost of the graves does not cover for the cost of maintenance, they are looking at the property as partly a cemetery and historic park or something that is appropriately reverential but allows for uses beyond its core functions as a cemetery. Bicycling and walking on all the cemetery roads is something that has been identified as a primary opportunity. She met with the project team headed up by the Parks Division as well as their consultants and they are interested in knowing if there are some streets versus others that are more appropriate

for bicycle use. They talked a little bit about whether or not this would be a good opportunity for a self-guided tour of the cemetery or for parents to go to the cemetery to teach kids to ride bikes. There can be a funeral service scheduled at the cemetery on any given day so there's some special attention that needs to be paid while also looking for opportunities. There is also some interest in developing a 5k loop for walking/running races which would be something different than what Liberty Park offers because you would have a chance to go up hill a little bit and could vary the courses. Nora said that there didn't seem to be a clear way into the cemetery and it would be nice if there was a way to enter from 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Shaun said that 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue is the natural entrance to the cemetery. Elicia agreed that a way into the cemetery from 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue would be great. Becka went over a map of the cemetery and potential trail options.

- Jason S. – McClelland Trail – Jason said there is a lot of construction going on up and down the trail and that some roads are closed. There are some cool red tiles across some of the roads where the trail crosses. It's great to see and there is also some social media going on about it. The neighborhoods are excited to see what happens next.
- Shaun – CIP Letter – Shaun has nothing else to add regarding CIP.
- Others – Nora said the Mountain Accord Process is happening right now and there are some questions about the ability to connect the Bonneville Shoreline from the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon to Millcreek. The current favored alignment would allow mountain biking on the shoreline trail but the County does not like that alignment because of watershed issues. As it is written, the Mountain Accord Bill will not allow mountain biking in that section from Big Cottonwood to Millcreek unless everything is changed. To get to the County's preferred alignment, it would require taking out 200 acres of existing wilderness and the Sierra Club has threatened to kill the bill over that. Elicia asked about the timeline. Nora said the bill is set to be heard in November but there's no way it's going to actually be heard this year, she thinks maybe if there was interest, the Committee could get someone to come in and give an update. Elicia said that would be something they're interested in and that they would like to support other cycling organizations. Becka said this is outside of the city limits but is something that is much used by many city residents. Todd said he thinks that would be a good presentation to have.

#### Trails Update: 9-Line Extension, McClelland Trail

Colin was unable to attend today so the 9-Line presentation has been postponed until next month. Becka gave an update on the McClelland Trail and said any input the Board has on the section of the trail between 2100 South and Fairmont Park would be very helpful. The City is basically looking at three options, Becka explained those options. She explained the different phases of the project and the background of the trail,

including that it is a canal corridor beginning at Utah Lake and is still used by some for irrigation. The Committee had some additional questions and it was decided to ask Colin to come to the next meeting to answer the outstanding questions.

#### Brief Follow-ups

- U to DT Bikeway - This bikeway is still under construction. If you're in the neighborhood, you'll see that there are completed bike lanes but they are not yet all completed. One of the challenges this time of year is the weather, and there have been some problems with resident's not moving their cars as well as the students ignoring the no parking signs and leaving their cars.
- 600 East Neighborhood Byway - Becka wanted to acknowledge the letter submitted by the Committee. Transportation is working on a response and are doing a staff review of the project. They have found some places where changes can be made and she will have a further report on a later date.
- BAC Vacancies - There are now four vacancies on the BAC. Becka has contacted the Mayor's office regarding filling those slots. If any Committee members have connections to people who might be interested in serving, it would be a good time for them to apply.
- 2017 Construction Season/resurfacing - Transportation has started to work on identifying streets likely to be resurfaced for potential design changes. Becka will be coming to the Committee with a list of likely candidates within the next few months to discuss possible bike related changes on those streets, such as adding bike lanes.

**Motion:** Todd Hadden moved to adjourn the meeting Denise Hunsaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

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