

## SALT LAKE CITY

### BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### Minutes of the October 20, 2014 Meeting

Present from the Bicycle Advisory Committee were David Brooks, Denise Hunsaker, Jason Stevenson, Scott Lyttle, Shaun Jacobsen, Suzanne Stensaas and Todd Hadden.

Absent from the Bicycle Advisory Committee were Elicia Cárdenas, Jason Hamula and Mark Kennedy.

Also present were Becka Roof, Amy Pufahl, Dan Bergenthal, Phil Sarnoff and Kevin Dwyer.

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 Scott Lyttle.

Welcome and Introduction of Guests – All Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

#### Public/Open Comment

Phil Sarnoff invited the Committee to a fundraiser for Bike Utah which is being held at 300 South State Street at 5:30 on Wednesday, October 22nd. Kevin Dwyer wanted to follow up on a Jordan River Parkway bridge near the State Fair Park that is in need of a repair. He also wanted to see if the City can have some divots repaired where concrete has deteriorated on 900 South at the I-15 underpass right where the 9-line ends and becomes an on street protected bike lane. Kevin felt these were dangerous conditions for cyclists. Dan Bergenthal said he has reported the needed bridge repair to the Parks Division and will follow up with them to see when they anticipate this being complete. Dan will also check into who could repair the 900 South trail. Phil suggested that the BAC, Bike Utah and the SLC Bicycle Collective send a letter to the City requesting these needed repairs.

Approval of Minutes – Motion: Jason Stevenson moved to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2014 meeting. Denise Hunsaker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Announcements and Connections

Jason Stevenson went to the Discover Broadway event on Saturday and enjoyed seeing the number of Green Bikes on the street. He also had his son in the bike trailer and said it was pretty easy to get around on the protected bikeway with the trailer. It went really well and he hopes that the long term goals of turning some hearts and minds in the

business community was helped with an event like that and that perhaps more are needed. During the ridership scavenger hunt David had a lot of opportunity to speak with people that were enjoying the bike route and with many business owners. He said it seemed that in general a lot of the business owners were pretty content with it but there were a few that were talking about the cleaning device getting stuck often because of the gap between the curb and the raised part. Becka said that is something the City is aware of and needs to be figured out. The lip going between the asphalt and gutter is deep and it's even more of a problem on the section of the street that was milled and overlaid. They are going to take a look at the specs and see what can be done. David also said that he had heard from the Salt Lake Couriers that there were several bicyclists hit by vehicles in front of their business. Becka let him know that there have been two bicycle accidents with a police report on 300 South and one was in front of the Salt Lake Couriers. She said they are looking into possible causes and may be adding some delineator posts to ensure that vehicles are not parking in a specific no parking area which would limit the visibility of cyclists. The second crash was a vehicle that veered out of its lane and in addition to hitting a bicyclist in a section with a conventional bike lane, also hit a parked car; this was unrelated to bikeway design. Transportation is paying attention and making adjustments if needed. Todd told the Committee that there is a Wasatch Choice 2040 conference at the Salt Palace on Thursday which is \$25.00 to attend. There will be people there talking about Green Bikes, bike paths and other cycling related items. There is also a UDOT conference at the South Towne Expo Center next week with several presentations about bicycling. Anyone can attend the breakout sessions for free but cannot go into the vendor area or to the luncheon unless registered. He will send a list of the sessions in case anyone is interested in going. Shaun recently used the bikeslc maintenance request and the UDOT click n fix for the first time. Transportation responded to him immediately on one issue but he has not yet heard back from UDOT. Becka had heard that they may not be getting those reports quickly. Phil said UDOT wants as much feedback as possible and will follow up with his contacts there to see if they received Shaun's request. Shaun also asked Phil if there was any legislation that he was aware of regarding use of cell phones while driving. Phil said there was none that he was aware of but if it were in action it would be with the Utah Department of Public Safety and he would be happy to bring that up with them. Suzanne feels like there are things going on in the community that they are not made aware of. She would like the City to try to do better keeping the Committee up to date on issues they are aware of so the BAC has time to review plans in time to enact changes they may feel are necessary. She would also like someone from the City to update them on master plans that are coming out, specifically if they are related to biking, pedestrians or alternative transportation. Denise received a request from the public last week asking why TRAX can't add a car just for bicycles. Todd said he had heard that UTA was considering doing that on the Red Line. Shaun told them that they would still need to have some seats and be able to accommodate handicapped but that they were hoping to have cars with more space for bikes. He believes that UTA is also considering taking a seat out in each car to add a bike hook so one additional bike can fit. Scott let the Committee know that they are going to try and start meeting earlier in the month so that the agenda and minutes can be sent sooner.

## Update on Committee Membership/Vacancies

There will be one TAB member, 2 BAC members and a couple of Transportation employees who will be looking at applicants to fill the open BAC spots. They will be using the same pool of applicants who originally applied and Becka will be setting up a time for this committee to meet and go through those applications soon. Past members can still participate in work groups if so desired as they are allowed to have members of the public assisting. Scott suggested that in the future they begin looking to fill openings several months in advance so they are filled by the time there is a vacancy.

## Committee Workgroups

### Infrastructure work group – Input on 500 North design

Suzanne sent a response letter regarding Mike Barry's 500 North design proposal to the Committee for review prior to this meeting. The draft she sent basically said that the City's idea of diagonal parking with a bike lane behind it would be dangerous for cyclists. The infrastructure work group was concerned that if you have a bike lane in that location, vehicles backing up may not be able to see cyclists for the first 15 feet. Suzanne said she would rather keep the current parallel parking for better visibility however; if the City needed to add additional parking there, the next best option would be back in diagonal parking. If diagonal parking is added whether it be back in or front in they would like a bike lane between the curb and the parking spaces with a bumper to keep vehicles from parking in the bike lanes. Scott suggested they clarify their recommendations as to be clear and concise as there appear to be several possible options. After some discussion the Committee decided that their suggestions in order would be, back in angled parking with a bike lane or continuing with the current parallel parking.

Motion: Jason Stevenson made a motion to send a letter from the Committee to Mike Barry with the suggestions they made, in order, with small explanations for each suggestion copying Robin Hutcheson, Becka Roolf and Mayor Becker. Shaun seconded the motion. The motion passed with a majority, Denise Hunsaker voted against.

### Sidewalk policy work group – Recommendation on bicycling on sidewalks downtown

Shaun sent a draft recommendation to the Committee however he said the more he looked at this issue, the less clear the solution is. He has received a few complaints from pedestrians regarding bicyclists on the sidewalks. He said that the fact that it isn't really enforced may indicate no need for change but being a bicyclist and BAC as a subgroup of bicyclists their agenda is to promote safety for bicyclists and to get as many people riding as possible. Suzanne thinks it is better not to have an ordinance that is not enforced but believes senior walkers might disagree. Shaun believes at this point it may be a failsafe in case the police want to enforce it. He pointed out that most of the GreenBike stations are on the sidewalk in this area and that many tourists aren't even aware of this ordinance. Becka thought a reasonable option might be to look at specific

corridors rather than the entire Central Business District or look at specific times of day so cyclists can't ride on the sidewalks during peak pedestrian hours. There was some discussion about the ordinance and its history. Becka said whatever decision is made; Transportation would like better signage or sidewalk stencils so people aren't getting tickets for not knowing. Jason asked if revoking this ordinance would help with the American League of Bicyclists friendly community's application but Becka didn't believe it would affect it either way. Suzanne said if you want more families downtown for events, people living downtown and riding Green Bikes then you need to let them people ride on the sidewalks. The issue of speeding cyclists on the sidewalk came up and David and Suzanne felt like speed limits would be good. There is an ordinance that says segways have a sidewalk speed limit of 8 mph which the City has thought might also be appropriate for bicyclists on the sidewalk. Todd felt that would encourage those who wanted to ride faster to stay off of the sidewalk making it safer for pedestrians. Shaun would like to see the ordinance regarding bicyclists speed on the sidewalk to include the entire city and not just the Central Business District. Phil indicated that this may be a broader conversation and suggested they speak with Jason Mathis with the Downtown Alliance along with any other groups that may have an interest in the revocation of this ordinance including possibly having an open house or community event to acquire feedback.

**Action:** The proposal was referred back to the work group for further consideration. The work group will circulate the idea to several other organizations (Downtown Alliance, Downtown Community Council, others) for additional perspective and then bring a new proposal to the full committee at a future meeting.

**Motion:** Todd Hadden moved to adjourn the meeting. Jason Stevenson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

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