

**2022.3.14 BPAC Minutes
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Virtual meeting**

Attendees:

BPAC Members: Eldon Boes, David Bouk, Zack DesJardins, Jim Durham, Bob Hartt, Casey Kane, Josephine Liu, Erin Meter, Ken Notis, Mike O'Neil, Mary-Jane Roth

Past Members/Guests: Bill Campbell (Commission on Aging Liaison) Kristin Donley, Serdar Jorayev, Brantley Tyndall (Virginia Bicycling Federation)

City staff: Jane Davis (ACPS)

Meeting called to order – Ken Notis at 6:30 pm

Guest speaker: Jane Davis and Kristin Donley, Alexandria City Public Schools, Teaching “ACTIVE” Transportation

- Pedestrian education (Ped Ed) began as a pilot with elementary school students in 2017
- Taught virtually 2020 class at all elementary schools
 - 1,256 students passed all seven post-course questions in 2021!
- Goal is to target with second grade students (some schools teach other grades too including 6th graders)
- Course helps with left and right identification, identifying traffic signs and signals, and lists ways to play safely outside
- Naomi Brooks Elementary School created a scavenger hunt to help children find things on their walk
- Last day of the unit is a mock town (Tucker Town, Lionville), students practice as pedestrians including mock traffic lights, students scoot around as cars and walk as pedestrians
- Piloted in 2022 a middle school pedestrian education curriculum
 - Reviewed pedestrian safety skills
 - Create their own walk audits
 - Complete travel tally surveys for Safe Routes to School
- Staff tried to make this more real for the students and invited Alexandria Families for Safe Streets's Mike Doyle to discuss his experiences as a person who walks
 - Very interactive presentation generated a lot of questions
- 600 students thus far this year participated in pedestrian education
- Staff plan to expand to George Washington Middle School next year as well as drivers education in high school
- Question from Eldon Boes, what happens with the walk audits? Staff will collect them going forward.

- AFSS showed near-miss app and data from Francis Hammond Middle School which connected closely with the kids' arrival and dismissal times
- Question from Casey Kane, have you considered sharing this with the private schools in the city? Staff volunteered to do so.
- Credit to BPAC for getting Safe Routes to School funding for ACPS
- Schools with BITS (Bicycling in the Schools) for next several weeks
 - piloted in 2016 in Mt Vernon Elementary School, BPAC raised \$5,000+
 - BPAC applied for a grant in 2017 for part-time Safe Routes to School co-ordinator
 - Third graders are taught how to ride bicycles
 - 25% of students have never ridden before
 - 50% self-assessed themselves as uneasy riders
 - 95% of them improved
 - Skills taught
 - Straight line riding
 - safety skills such as quick stop and scanning
 - rules for roads and trails
 - Helmet checks
 - ABC quick checks
 - Broken into three groups
 - Beginner, intermediate, and advanced groups (intermediate group only happens with enough volunteers)
 - Beginner riders try to find their balance when riding or scooting
 - Intermediate riders practice straight line riding, riding with one hand, turning and braking
 - advanced riders go around courses
 - Students also assess partners on skills
 - Middle schools
 - In 2005, bicycle education was piloted in middle and high school
 - From 2010 through 2020, bicycle education sporadically taught by instructors
 - Alexandria City High School does off-campus rides at the end of the curriculum
 - 7th grade and 10th grade do more traffic safety focused course

- [Bikeology](#) curriculum
- For 2021/2022, shared calendar with volunteers (must be BPAC member)
- Email Jane and Kristin if you are interested in volunteering
- How to volunteer and get a badge
 - Complete an online form, takes 10-14 days
 - Classes are outside and mask-wearing is based on personal comfort
 - BITS Sign-up: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mKtGAPlwj-HRfNzlcES91fCfvBBZF6CEBztH-6cP2SbE/edit?usp=sharing>
 - CPS Volunteer application: <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/volunteer>
Be sure to include a note that you are a member of Alexandria BPAC and let Jane know when you have applied. She can help ensure expeditious handling of your application
- Jim asked about whether all elementary schools this year? Yes, all 17 schools will get it this year (elementary through high school).

Project/Event updates:

- CHIP update
 - Had a meeting and will have a couple of folks from healthy Alexandria to move forward to their next steps, two people from the CHIP team will meet with Partnership for Healthier Alexandria (PHA) to update progress and request assistance from PHA members
- Upcoming Walks and Rides – Josephine
 - March 26 woman's history walk, 10-12 women-owned businesses
 - April 3 Green Buildings ride as part of earth day
 - April 6 National Walking day to talk about how to walk to run errands, will start at Eisenhower Ave Metro and walk by Wegmans

Subcommittee Reports

- Infrastructure subcommittee – Ken Notis, Chair
 - Walked with city manager earlier this month
 - Sent another letter about complete streets staffing issue
- Education subcommittee – Eldon Boes, Chair
 - Bike rodeo for April 24 at Earth Month
 - Randy Cole and Eldon are teaching bicycling classes three Wednesdays at Casa Chirilagua, one showed up with a bicycle, trying to find 4-5 bikes, small to medium adult sized riders
- Communications – Judith Fogel

- No updates

Boards and Commissions Updates

- Commission for Aging
 - Sent a letter asking for funding for Complete Streets staff
- Last month's Traffic & Parking Board was city's plan to change a no turn on red to "when pedestrian are present" along Seminary Rd
 - Suggested speaking up when things come up or speak up in general, city listens to loudest voices

BPAC Business items

- Prefer to stay on zoom for the time being, April and revisit in May, polled participants
 - 17%, 4 in person
 - **75%, 13 will meet in-person but prefer to meet via Zoom**
 - 1 says not attend in-person meetings
- Vests, ordered 24 vests, ACPS has Safe Routes to Schools Vests
- Treasurer's report: \$15,913.63 balance
 - Helmet purchases, \$360 for 24 helmets (16 in stock today)
 - Working on obtaining banners and logos
- February minutes approved
- Well Ray Festival
 - 2019 BPAC participated, planning one for 2022, June 11, 2022
- New business items
 - Bike to work day for 2022, city is not hosting a pit stop at Market Square, having smaller pit stops at bike shops
 - Carlyle, Del Ray and Fairlington center, typically for BPAC volunteers
 - City asked BPAC to provide input on city's Vision Zero and Complete Streets inputs, not design but content (i.e. difficult to find projects, no single place for projects)
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- Speakers suggestions
 - Alex Carroll for May
 - Jim Durham for June to discuss legislative updates

Confirmed speakers

April: Ludwig Gaines, WABA's new executive director and long-time Alexandrian

July: Councilmember Kirk McPike

Could offer both Zoom and in-person

Public Comment