

2022.6.13 BPAC Minutes
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Virtual meeting

Attendees:

BPAC Members: Eldon Boes, David Bouk, Randy Cole, Mike Derby, Zack DesJardins, Jim Durham, Judith Fogel, Bob Hartt, Casey Kane, Josephine Liu, Michael Menchel, Ken Notis, Mike O'Neil, Mary-Jane Roth, Elizabeth Wright

Past Members/Guests: Jack Butler, Matthew Larson, Noah Sepsenwol, Patrick Wise

City staff: Lt. Delton Goodrum (APD), Kristen Donley (ACPS)

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

Lt Delton Goodrum

- Two crashes occurred in last 30 days involving people who walk and ride bicycles
 - May 7 at 9 am the corner of Pitt St and Cameron St. Two people drove in separate vehicles to the stop sign on Cameron St. A person walking was waiting to cross, crossed between the vehicles and one person driving pulled forward to the stop bar, hitting the person walking and causing minor injuries.
 - May 12 at 5 pm at Prince St and Dangierfield Rd. A person driving south bound on Dangierfield Rd, made a left onto Prince St and struck a person walking in the crosswalk. The person driving was cited for failure to pay full time and attention.
- Queen and Henry St
 - June at 1 pm. A person biking was struck by a person drinking. There were no injuries. Since the person biking was uncooperative with the police, no report was taken and the person biking wanted to be on their way.
 - APD typically only takes reports involving \$1,500 or more.

Guest speaker: Jim Durham, Virginia Bicycling Federation (VBF) Boardmember and BPAC Chair emeritus

- Introduction to VBF
 - VBF has a new president, Brantley Tyndall, and new board members
 - VBF board met in November 2021 to create a strategic plan and adopted guiding principles
- Legislative update
 - 2022 prioritization process & Action Plan
 - They asked people around the state what should be on VBF's radar
 - 2022 results from the legislative session

- SB116: \$500 fine for people biking not stopping at stop signs was withdrawn
- SB363: prohibits riding two-abreast from impeding normal and reasonable movement of traffic but exempts two-abreast from contributory negligence
- SB247: Vulnerable Road User bill was updated to clarify the language to improve its use
- SB251: bill to study increased bike/pedestrian funding failed in House sub-committee
- SB334: Vision Zero resolution failed in the House sub-committee
- Trails funding was highly successful
 - Goal was to double from \$10 to \$20 million
 - Gov Northam proposed \$230 million for several specific trails
 - Compromise bill included \$93 million with a new trails office
 - any jurisdiction can compete for this funding
- 2023 initiatives
 - Want state to commit to reaching Vision Zero by 2050 and 50% reduction by 2035
 - Ensure trail budget remains at \$41 million annually
 - Update Virginia 2011 State Bike Plan and 2004 Complete Streets policy
 - Pass “safety stop” and restore two-abreast legislation
- Connecting with VBF vabike.org
- Questions
 - Jim explained why two-abreast was banned after one year
 - Jim explained that a cyclist could yield to oncoming traffic or people walking and if there is no one there, they could go
 - Send Noah’s email

Project/Event updates:

- Well-Ray Event - Mary-Jane Roth
 - Success despite the rain
 - Lots of people asking about how to advocate for better infrastructure and volunteer events
- BPAC Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) update – Mary-Jane Roth

- No update as meeting was postponed to the 2nd Monday of (August 8)
- BPAC Social – Ken Notis
 - Will try to have a social in August
- Recent and Upcoming Walks and Rides – Josephine Liu
 - Black History bicycle ride, Sunday June 26, looking for marshals and sweeps, how to become a member on the website
 - Presidential history walk on July 4

Subcommittee Reports

- Infrastructure subcommittee – Ken Notis, Chair
 - Provided input to Mount Vernon Ave Complete Streets North
 - Asked for additional mid-block crosswalks and bike lanes (despite being out of scope)
 - Considering pushing staff to repave Mount Vernon Ave slightly early to get better mid-block crosswalks and bike lanes
 - VDOT proposed express lanes on I-495 adjacent to Alexandria
 - Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling propose a trail along the Beltway
 - Fate of the project is highly uncertain, lots of opposition from Marylanders and a lot of conceptual questions that VDOT was unprepared to address
 - Complete Streets Five Year Work Plan
 - Transportation Commission will get a presentation on Wednesday on this topic
 - VDOT is asking for input on Route 1 going to grade in Arlington County in Crystal City
- Education subcommittee – Eldon Boes, Chair
 - Taught bicycling in all of the elementary schools except for Douglas McArthur due to their swing space constraints
 - implemented a student, parent and PE teacher survey after the courses
 - Safe Routes to School position has gone away as the last day of school due to lack of internal support
 - PTA Council, all schools in east end of the city have 15 mph speed limits and schools in west end have 25 mph speed limits, BPAC may want to weigh in
 - VDOT funded Safe Routes to School and only gave city \$23k, no more Running Brooke grants, ACPS put in a budget request for part-time coordinator position

- Communications – Judith Fogel
 - Judith was the master of ceremonies for the Carlyle pitstop for Bike to Work Day
 - Both Mayor Wilson and Councilmember Chapman came and drew prizes-for people
- Transportation Commission-Casey Kane
 - King-Callahan-Russell intersection project: may begin in the fall
 - City looking to add right on red restrictions including Patrick and Henry St corridors
 - City will reduce garage prices below the street parking and the commercial vehicles will get increasing fines, Board encouraged Council to consider that system for private vehicles
 - Duke St in Motion bus rapid transit project next meeting is June 30
 - Holmes Run Trail Duke St bridge will be open by early part of next year

BPAC Business items

- Chairman's topics – Ken Notis:
 - Membership and Dues
- Treasurer's report: \$15,377.16 balance
- Secretary's report and minutes – Zack DesJardins
 - May's minuted approved

BPAC Business items

- Holiday party
 - will watch COVID numbers and potentially host it at a members' building

Public Comment