

Charlottesville Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Minutes from June 7th, 2018

5:00 PM- 7:00 PM

NDS Conference Room, 2nd Floor City Hall

Meeting Attendees:

Carl Schwarz

Niko Test

Dave Steakhouse

Peter Ohlms

Lena Seville

Mike Smith

Peter Krebs

Sarah Littlefield

Chris Gnsic

Amanda Poncy

Old Business:

Sidewalk/Bike Lane Closures (Amanda Poncy)

Amanda explained that there was a request to delay the discussion on sidewalk and bike lane closures. This subject will be addressed at a future meeting.

Updates on Assistant City Manager position (Carl Schwarz)

Carl noted that the position is currently tabled until further notice.

Follow up on Mayor's Bike Ride and Twilight Ride (Peter Krebs)

The Bridge PAI, BPAC, and PEC are supporting a social twilight bike ride on Thursday, June 21st to gain momentum in creating a social bike ride culture and to promote safe cycling. Peter asked for support and volunteers to help with the ride. Dave agreed to push outreach with the BRC to supply lights. Carl suggested informing the press for spotlight and recognition. Amanda mentioned VDOT UCI (Urban Construction Initiative) to do a city ride field trip. Carl brought up previous BPAC bike rides. Ideas were suggested for future rides and partnerships in September for Bike Your Park Day and for later in December to hold an illuminated ride event. Niko briefly highlighted observations from bike month events.

Updates on City Trails Projects (Chris Gnsic)

Chris discussed recent work efforts, goals, and projects. The objective with these projects is to compliment the current Rivanna Trail system and to make seamless connections between greenways and bicycle and pedestrian/walk lanes. Chris discussed the process of land acquisition. The North end of the city is the farthest along with land acquisition and project implementation is expected to be completed in 1-2 years. Financing for these projects is coming from VDOT. The bridge over the railroad in McIntire Park is currently under construction and a keystone in the 250-Bypass trail system. VDOT and NDS are working together to connect the bridge and the Vietnam Memorial to the interchange. There is still negotiation for a piece of land at the whale tail end of McIntire Park. There 250/Hydraulic study is examining ways to get from 250 to 29.

On the Meadowcreek system, the Greenbrier Bridge is to be rebuilt as a bike/ped bridge. There will be a pier or walkable dock trail system to get people up and out of the wetlands. City Council awarded to Parks and Recreation \$50,000 to design a tunnel under the railroad as part of this trail system. They are expecting to apply for funding for the tunnel in 2019, as this is a large scale financial project and there is hope that the county will partner with this project.

Water St. trail from 10th St. to crosswalk at Lexus Nexus brings the connection up to the Belmont Bridge. Rockland Ave. Bridge is part of the strategic investment area and the project has been picked up independently to incorporate bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure. Peter mentioned the need for a pathway on the North side of the RTF and to make the remote section less remote. Chris explains small alterations to projects such as closing up the holes in fences and removing invasive species in the area. On the river trail, there is a planned trail shift to reroute around a constant trouble area. The developers of Lochlynn Neighborhood are paying for a bike/ped bridge over Meadow Creek that should be built by November. There is also prioritization to connect Holmes Ave. to Rio Road. There are initial plans in the works to get Pen Park connected. Dave brought up safety concern involved with Rose Hill to Rugby to McIntyre Park connector: speeding cars and unsafe walking/biking conditions. A protection buffer was suggested and requested to be put into design plans. The beacon on fifth and Longwood Park are soon to be cut as single track trail that would meet at the bridge. VDOT is disowning bridging projects and the city is taking them over for re-decking work. Systems are reaching their cycle limits which allows for more understanding with how long bridge decking life span is and better functional material.

Project Updates (Amanda Poncy)

Two projects are out to bid: Jackson via Safe Routes to School, which includes a number of pedestrian crossings along Harris Road, and 10th and Page curb ramp improvements. Bids are due at the end of June for curb ramps improvements. The consultant team has been working on West Main Street and had a work session on April 11th with the BAR. There is set to be additional community engagement opportunities, no dates set yet. Garret Street stairs have implemented a bike rail and is near completion. However, there are issues with electrical connections for pedestrian lighting, so the project is not yet open to the public.

Other Business:

The Standards and Design Manual comments are due at the end of the month.

Upcoming Events:

June 14: Long Range Transportation Plan Public Meeting, 5:30PM-7:30PM, Water St. Center
June 21: Twilight Bike Ride, 7:30PM-10PM, the Bridge PAI