

Melrose Ped/Bike Committee

Meeting Notes September 7, 2016

Attendees: Erin Zwirko, Liz Foulser, Jim Meuse, Ellen Katz, Mark Remollino, Steve Leibman, Andy Paul, Gabrielle Watson

Action items

- Gabrielle: Send a note to committee describing responsibilities of the committee representative on the Complete Streets Working Group, and look for a volunteer to fill that role.
- Gabrielle: Create sign-up to make sure that we have enough volunteer staff for Victorian Fair
- Andy: Send committee feedback regarding Lynn Fells (east of Main St) striping plans.
- Ellen: Solicit more input from committee members on prioritization plan.
- Steve: Confirm next meeting added to google calendar
- Steve: Work with Ellen on organizing content of prioritization plan; prep for delivery by end of month.
- Steve: Gather all our latest thoughts on bike network, hand off to Jim for a map refresh.

Important dates

Sun Sep 11: Victorian Fair

Thu Sep 15 (tentative): 8:30am Master plan advisory committee (contact Erin in advance if attending)

Tue Sep 20: 7pm Sustainable Melrose (ground floor conference room, City Hall)

Sat Oct 1: Melrose Swap Day

Wed Oct 5: Bike/Walk to School Day

Wed Oct 5: **5:30pm** Monthly Ped/Bike Committee Meeting (City Hall). Note alternating early/late start times.

Wed Oct 26: Master Plan public forum

Agenda

- City report from Erin Zwirko and Complete Streets
- Victorian Fair
- Swap Day
- DCR Plans

City report and Complete Streets

BETA (<http://www.beta-inc.com/>) has unofficially (to be confirmed) been selected as the Complete Streets consultants.

Ped/Bike committee needs to designate somebody to be a member of the Complete Streets working group. Gabrielle to send a note to committee with expectations for the role.

Prioritization plan has to go through MassDOT (MassDOT is paying). There was an RFP and scope of work. GIS layer, gap analysis, objective data plus subjective data, and the product is the prioritization plan.

Gabrielle asked Elena about a study on Oak Grove bike access (we're still not sure what the study is about or the timing), funded by Wynn Casino.

Gabrielle and Elena collaborating on consultation for complete streets at victorian fair (asking attendees for feedback/suggestions on what residents want).

Master Plan

Erin reminds the group of the context behind the city master plan effort.

Public forum Oct 26, which is also deadline for releasing a draft document.

Complete document supposed to be endorsed by planning board by end of year.

Master plan advisory committee meeting next thurs a.m. (9/15 at 8:30am) MAPC scheduled to present transportation chapter. Includes "infrastructure and public facilities".

To be confirmed. Erin hasn't yet seen transportation chapter; since planning office hasn't had a chance to see anything yet, they might have to push off the date. This is a public meeting, so anybody can attend, but would be an observing guest with no formal opportunity to speak up and provide feedback. If somebody wants to attend, please let Erin know in advance (and check to confirm that the meeting is still on).

DCR repaving and striping on Lynn Fells Parkway

Andy provides update:

Andy and Terry kicked off monthly infrastructure call with Elena. Plan is to do it monthly, one week prior to the ped/bike meetings.

Three things covered in their first call:

1. DCR
2. Tremont St
 - a. North of Lynn Fells
 - b. South of Lynn Fells
3. Ongoing paving projects.

Paving a series of streets just north of Lynn Fells and east of Green Street. No changes to design (e.g. no new sidewalks).

Hope is that once we have prioritization plan we can advocate for sidewalks in relevant locations. Currently, the typical process is to just ask abutters, and in this case DPW concluded that no sidewalk work is necessary.

Repaving Tremont St. north of Lynn Fells to Melrose St. Same geometry (one lane each direction plus parking on one side), but adding sharrows.

Lynn Fells Parkway:

Committee has comments for the Green St to Saugus plans, though consensus is that they're way better than existing conditions, and generally pleased. Andy sending that feedback tonight (Sep 7). Most notable items:

- missing crosswalk(s) in the plan.
- Asking for some sort of bike accommodation between Main St and Green St eastbound.

Completed paving and striping in front of high school.

Once we have the eastern section complete, then sit down with city and try to think outside of the box to come up with ideas for dealing with high school area. Liz reiterates that this is a complex problem area with new people every year (sixth grade parents; newly licensed high school student drivers).

Victorian Fair

Got JRA cosponsorship for Victorian Fair. Will be supplying something to raffle off / give away.

Public open hours 11:30 - 4pm

Gabrielle to create sign-up mechanism to ensure we have volunteer coverage, including setup and teardown.

We have a table (shared). Focus on two things:

1. Complete Streets. Prioritization plan. Kara Showers and intern produced a Complete Streets brochure. Poster sized map for providing feedback.
2. Gabrielle and Carol and Kara came up idea to have clipboards with papers for fair attendees to fill in "I would walk more if...", "I would bike more if...", "I would take public transportation more if..."

Bike parking: Weather makes a big difference. Current forecast 60% chance of rain. Liz cutting estimate to 50 bikes.

Complete Streets

Ellen:

Elena has invited the committee to give input regarding what we consider our priorities, and this will be given to the consultant who will be creating the prioritization plan.

Both overall plan and some details, but make sure that the details align with the general principles and are well justified. Should align with network, etc.

Ellen put together some preliminary ideas.

Organize suggestions by cost ranges.

Make sure we look at pedestrian and cycling crashes. Point out that we think it is important to be able to readily access this data when people are making infrastructure decisions.

On-road pilot project:

Potentially the block of Main between Sylvan and Oak Grove access.

Feasibility study for path on commuter rail right of way.

Elena eager to get prioritization plan done soon, so we should assume a fairly tight deadline to provide input.

Bikeability Assessment

Kara activating the process to get MassBike to come in and do a bikeability study (need to be a Mass in Motion committee to secure funding).

We should prepare an initial network to give them so that they know where to focus their efforts.