

Melrose Ped/Bike Committee

Meeting Notes November 2, 2016

Attendees: Gabrielle Watson, Steve Leibman, Ellen Katz, Katie Moore, Paul Moore, Sargent Goc. Kara Showers, Ryan Williams (new resident – welcome!), Alice Gotlieb,
Regrets: Dan Krechmer, Andy Paul, Liz Foulser

Action items

Bike Sharing. Committee is looking for anyone interested in supporting process to get bike sharing in Melrose. We have one person already interested. Please let Gabrielle Watson and Dan Krechmer know if you are.

Safe Routes to School. Committee is looking for parents willing to reach out to school principals and request that allow Safe Routes to Schools representative to conduct a survey in their school. We are also looking for a point person on SRTS, ideally a person with kids in elementary school. Please let chairs know if you're interested in leading on this.

Upcoming dates

- **Next Meeting:** December 7 at 5:30
- **Aldermen's meeting on 25 MPH ordinance:** 11/14/16 (Various members attended and spoke. Gabrielle read excerpts from Committee letter. Passed 10 – 1)
- **Transportation commission meeting on 25 MPH ordinance implementation:** Dec 21, 5:30

25 MPH Ordinance

Ellen recounts Board of Alderman meeting discussion to lower speed limit to 25 mph, unless otherwise signed. Board votes to proceed November 14.

Sgt. Goc commented that "Volume on certain roads may dictate different speeds."

A letter was submitted by Ped/Bike Committee to Board of Aldermen. In summary:

"We are supportive of the notion adopting the 25 mph speed limit... however, studies we are aware of indicate posted speed has little effect on behavior."

Agreed to revise and adopt statement authored by Steve L. previously. Send & read at upcoming Aldermen's meeting on 11/14.

Melrose Crash Data

Sgt. Goc opens by stating that the current data collection method is incomplete. In 2016, 125 - 180 were reported by the public. When combined with crashes investigated by officers, he estimates 425 - 450 total incidents occur yearly.

6 officer responded pedestrian accidents
2 reported cyclist accidents

Sgt. reports great response to activities undertaken as part of Click it or Ticket Grant account where officers were dedicated for limited time to enforcing current traffic laws.

Melrose has one Full time day traffic officer on motorcycle, working 9 AM - 5 PM.
All others are deployed as sector officers. Expectation is that In between calls for service officers will choose a location to monitor.

SgtGoc said records are all manual, kept in boxes. Would be willing to allow someone to review to compile historic data base on crash type and location, which would be valuable for Complete Streets Working Group. Elena Proakis-Ellis is in touch with SgtGoc on this.

Sgt. Goc gave a summary account of the 2 recent deadly crashes on Howard St. and Lime St. No determination as yet on speed as a factor. Night time low visibility was a factor in one, and late afternoon glare in the other.

Safe Routes to School

Tim Pettus presented an overview of Safe Routes to School. He stated partnerships with Melrose Schools are characterized as "not very active".

He is interested in Lincoln School Walking School Bus. Walking together as a group increases safety, improves attendance, and utilizes parent volunteers effectively.
He recommends conducting a survey to determine the safest route to school. Requests assistance in obtaining response from principal. He requests better contacts with parents throughout all schools in Melrose. He suggests adding Safe Routes to School as an element of the formative Complete Streets document.

Gabrielle asked about 5th graders teaching 2nd graders component. Tim confirmed the existence of such a program.

Action: Committee is looking for parents willing to reach out to school principles and request that allow Safe Routes to Schools representative to conduct a survey in their school.
We are also looking for a point person on SRTS, ideally a person with kids in elementary school. Please let chairs know if you're interested in leading on this.

Infrastructure Update (from Andy Paul email, read by Gabrielle)

- * Tremont St. line striping (completed last night)
- * List of streets for next year's paving program is likely to be available around February
- * Complete Streets technical assistance funding update – the state may be cutting back on the \$50K technical assistance grants so we're waiting to find out how much we'll be getting (we had already submitted our application for the full \$50K with our consultant's scope of work)
- * Striping of Lynn Fells Parkway (I think I forgot to mention that DCR has told me that the bike insignia are scheduled to be painted on Tuesday night, weather permitting)
- * Complete Streets Working Group – I'd like to know who the Ped/Bike Committee is proposing to be the group's representative and I will check with Gabrielle
- * Complete Streets public feedback – we now have GIS layers that summarize the data

collected at the Victorian Fair, Farmer's Market, and Complete Streets public meeting held last spring. I am leaving a copy of this map for Gabrielle to pick up if she has a chance prior to your committee meeting next week.

Complete Streets Update

Scope of Work (SOW) was submitted

Prioritization plan shared???

Complete Streets Working Group will have various representatives from police, planning, traffic, public health. Ped-Bike committee has one seat on Working Group

Begin in early 2017, infrequent meetings

Decided: Committee proposed main contacts and alternate: Andy Paul & Mark Remolino

Bike Sharing

Gabrielle and Andy attended Move Together conference and learned of Zagster, stating that it requires a 10 bike minimum cost 20k. Gabrielle reported out on conversation with Zagster representative on what is involved with exploring bringing bike sharing to Melrose. Steve Leibman provided additional information. Because it is unlikely the City would provide funds, private sponsorship (with advertising on bikes) would need to be solicited.

Action: Committee is looking for anyone interested in supporting process to get bike sharing in Melrose. We have one person already interested.

Social Media& Communications

Mark will present a Social Media primer at the next meeting.

We will also discuss protocols for developing official Committee statements and posting information and positions on the Committee web site, Facebook, Twitter accounts.