

Melrose Ped/Bike Committee

Meeting Notes December 7, 2016

Guests: Erin Zwirko, Planning

Attendance: Andy Paul, Tom Blazej, Dan Krechmer, Ellen Katz, Liz Foulser

Notes: Gabrielle Watson

Upcoming dates

- Next Ped-Bike Committee meeting: January 3rd 7 – 8:30, Mayor's Conference Room
- Traffic Commission discussion of 25 mph ordinance change (TBC): Wed., Dec. 21, 5:30 pm Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall.
- Sustainable Melrose meeting is March 14th, 7:00 in Mayor's Conference Room

Action items:

- Gabrielle to circulate draft list of 2016 Ped-Bike Committee accomplishments (attached); Let Gabrielle know if there are any missing items
- Gabrielle to add photos of some highlights & share with Mayor's Office and Aldermen
- The Committee should update the bike network in January/February, to supplement our recommendations for the CS prioritization plan, including potential separated bike ways, changes to roadway, etc. Anyone interested?
- Discuss over the Winter what road treatment pilot projects to explore. All are invited to make suggestions. We will agree which to propose and work with Elena to make any needed preparations such as informing residents, ordering materials, etc.
- Gabrielle to send around updated Middle School/High School Study Project scope from David Watson (attached)
- Liz will request Kara email Melrose School Superintendent Cindy Taymore to help identify MS/HS school administration liaison for the project.
- Gabrielle to reach out to Sargent Goc to invite his involvement
- Dan (??) to reach out to PTO or student body
- Gabrielle & Dan meet with Elena to explore city receptivity to bike sharing program, and agree next steps.
- Put MassBikeBikeability assessment presentation from Richard Fries on the agenda for January.
- Ellen will connect Lincoln PTO lead with SRTS representative Tim Pettus, and will reach out to Rob to see if he wants to be involved.
- Anyone interested should attend the Traffic Committee meeting on 21st 5:30 in the Aldermanic's Chambers.
- Next month we'll discuss a process for generating committee public statements & have a Social Media boot camp for tweeting, Facebook, the web site, etc.
- The next Sustainable Melrose meeting is March 14th, 7:00 in Mayor's Conference Room
- Start a list of projects & activities that people could get involved with
- Ask JRA if they'd come do a tune up day at a Farmer's Market
- Ask JRA if they have events we can promote

2016 Look-Back

We reviewed a draft summary of accomplishments in 2016. We celebrated with light refreshments. Highlights include the new Complete Streets policy, a number of new bike lanes on DCR and Melrose City streets.

Action Steps:

- Gabrielle to circulate draft (attached); Let Gabrielle know if there are any missing items

- Add photos of some highlights & share with Mayor's Office and Aldermen

Complete Streets

Update from Andy, with info from Elena Proakis-Elis: The State gave the full amount of money for hiring Beta to support the Complete Streets Prioritization plan. City staff have begun to collect data on roadway pavement. Note this will also be used for 2017 roadway paving program. The city will be giving the Committee a list of paving streets in the Spring so the Committee can provide inputs on possible striping changes.

The layers of data in the GIS database will be used to identify gaps and needs. Complete Streets Working Group will meet in Jan or Feb to review. Schedule is to finalize the CS prioritization by April, 2017 in order to make the May deadline for submitting it to the state for funding.

Discussion: We have various inputs coming in: Bikeability assessment, Middle School/High School Study Project, MAPC bike route recommendations.

Action Step:

- The Committee should update the bike network in January/February, to supplement our recommendations for the CS prioritization plan, including potential separated bike ways, changes to roadway, etc.

Elena is receptive to testing temporary treatments on roadways (eg. bike lanes, cross walks, etc.). If the committee wants to propose one of these, Andy can bring it to Elena.

Action Step:

- Discuss over the Winter what road treatment pilot projects to explore. All are invited to make suggestions. We will agree which to propose and work with Elena to make any needed preparations such as informing residents, ordering materials, etc.

Master Plan

Update from Erin on progress: Still underway. There is a request for appropriation for additional \$25k to Board of Aldermen complete the work. Hoping it will be available in the Spring, 2017.

Lynn Fells Parkway High School Study Project

We have an offer through Mass In Motion to receive technical assistance from David Watson, former ED of MassBike, to help a Melrose study alternative safe bike routing to & around the High School/Middle School area. Liz Foulser, Dan Krechmer, Gabrielle Watson and Steve Leibman will participate from the Ped-Bike Committee. Other Committee members are welcome to join. The study will likely kick off in January and will involve community meetings & discussions with City, School representatives, and other stakeholders as alternatives are developed.

David Watson has sent an updated scope with inputs from Committee, including a possible expanded scope to include pedestrian access. Walk Boston may be able to support the project – David Watson has requested their support, we are waiting for their response. It's important relevant stakeholders are engaged before the kick-off.

Action Steps:

- Gabrielle to send around updated scope from DW (attached)
- Liz will request Kara email Melrose School Superintendent Cindy Taymore to help identify MS/HS school administration liaison for the project.
- Gabrielle to reach out to Sargent Goc to invite his involvement
- Dan (??) to reach out to PTO or student body

Bike Sharing Program

Dan & Gabrielle are meeting with Elena on 19th to see city's interest & level of support for exploring bike sharing. Dan will reach out to similar communities to find out how much it has cost them, and will reach out to Malden & Everett to see if there's a possibility of linking with their networks. Ellen wants to ensure there is an exploration of other vendors beyond Zagster.

Action Steps:

- Gabrielle & Dan meet with Elena to explore city receptivity to bike sharing program, and agree next steps.

Bikeability assessment by MassBike

Update on progress by MassBike ED Richard Fries on bikeability assessment: Richard is still working on a draft. We hope to have a presentation from him next month.

David Loutzenheiser, MAPC, has shared his thoughts on possible N-S bike routes that avoid Main Street. The Map is in the MAPS folder in the Planning & Policy folder in DropBox.

Next Action:

- Put MassBike Bikeability assessment presentation from Richard Fries on the agenda for January.

Safe Routes to School

Ellen reports the PTO for the Lincoln School is willing to invite Safe Routes to School representative Tim Pettusto a PTO meeting to discuss getting the school more actively involved. It is important to have parents of current students interested. Liz can go to the meeting and speak about the value of SRTS. Once there is a link to a school, then they would explore doing a SRTS survey and programming.

Action Step:

- Ellen will connect Lincoln PTO lead with SRTS representative Tim Pettus, and will reach out to Rob to see if he wants to be involved.

25 MPH Ordinance

Report-back from Alderperson's meeting, next steps with Traffic Commission: The ordinance passed 10-1 at the Aldermen's meeting. It will likely be discussed at the next Traffic Committee meeting.

Action Step:

- Anyone interested should attend the Traffic Committee meeting on 21st 5:30 in the Aldermanic's Chambers.

Committee Communications

We did not review the web sites, but members are welcome to check out these useful City website for information about Alderperson and Board meetings, agendas and minutes.

Calendar: <http://www.cityofmelrose.org/calendar/>

All meetings are listed here.

IQM2 Meeting Portal: <http://melrosecityma.iqm2.com/citizens/default.aspx>

This is most helpful for the Board of Aldermen meetings.

Action Steps:

- Next month we'll discuss a process for generating committee public statements; getting info out on website, FB, Newspapers, lists, etc. (Ellen with draft proposal) Ellen will also share a cheat sheet for reaching out to and getting information published in local papers.

Social Media Boot Camp

Next month we will have a session on how to post on Ped-Bike FB page, tagTwitter account, use the SeeClickFix[web site](#) and mobilap, and online portal for reporting pot holes, etc. called DPW [e-Gov](#) that you can link to from the [Melrose website](#).

Sustainable Melrose

Sust. Melrose is considering becoming a sustainable energy / climate action committee that is action focused. Want to collaborate more actively with related committees. Mayor Dolan was one of 14 local mayors who are part of the Climate Action Task Force, committing to becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

The committee wants to reach out and get new members in. New residents who are active and concerned. Thinking about doing a joint activity around Earth Day, bringing in a facilitator to identify projects people would like to get involved with, and have some activities they can link people in with. This fits well with what the Ped Bike committee would like to do, in terms of organizing meet-ups and activities, etc. Stay tuned for more information from Sustainable Melrose.

Action Steps:

- Next Sustainable Melrose meeting is March 14th, 7:00 in Mayor's Conference Room.
- Start a list of projects & activities that people could get involved with

AOB

Liz reports that JRA has expressed Melrose is "in their district," and they'd be happy to do things with us.

Action Steps:

- Ask JRA if they'd come do a tune up day at a Farmer's Market
- Ask JRA if they have events we can promote