

Melrose Ped/Bike Committee Agenda

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 5:30 – 7:00

Mayor's Conference Room (City Hall, 2nd Floor. Access via accessible entrance at back of City Hall)

Guests: Kara Showers, Mass In Motion

Present: Cindy Chabot, Maizie Frakt, Austin Frakt, Dan Krechmer, Rob Callahan, Ellen Katz, Tom Blazej, Ryan Williams, Gabrielle Watson

Notes: Dan Krechmer

1. Update on MassBike Bikeability assessment – Complete Streets is major activity. Townwide look at gaps in bike/ped system. Draft from Richard Freiss soon. Plan will include high level recommendations, possibly some specific routes. Action – Gabrielle contact Richard.
2. Update on WatsonActive MS/HS Ped-Bike study project- Also funded by Mass in Motion. Study underway. David Watson doing study. Had kickoff meeting. Outreach to students in HS and update on plans. Critical streets and intersections and policies will be reviewed. Key routes to campus, bike parking. WalkBoston is supporting also. Kickoff had reps from HS, City, B/P Committee. Will reconvene group to review draft ideas. Figuring out how to have student representation. Don't know date for next meeting at this point. Findings will fit into prioritization.
3. Update on parks inventory study (Kara) – Mass In Motion grant to do recreational facility assessment. Accessibility, Signage, Physical Environment, Amenities. Gather information and come up with next steps. Hand out has findings – lack of bike racks, 60% don't have signs to identify, limited lighting, limited amount of multi-generational equipment, no working water fountains except dog parks. Can order bike racks with Mass in Motion grant. Discuss complete streets connection to parks and schools.
4. Infrastructure & Complete Streets Update (Andy) – Prioritization plan will be used to identify projects that could receive Complete Street grants. \$400k in potential funding. May 1 and Oct 1 to submit for grants. Tier 1 is complete streets policy – done. Tier 2 is prioritization plan - consultant on board. Feed back by 2/10 on projects. Don't need specific solution. Will be giving consultant GIS data, transit ridership, crash data, data for destination, public input maps (Vic Fair, etc.), recommendations, HS information, Mass in Motion Parks inventory, etc. Anticipate 15 projects already developed in house, information from Bike/Ped, data will eventually narrow down to 20 projects. BETA will analyze data turned over on 2/10 and provide their findings at meeting on 3/27. Five year plan maps with State plan. Will have short-term elements to be done over 18 months. List can be modified and updated over time. Some projects State-funded (need to be locked in), others local, more flexible. Just finished needs assessment for paving, will be available soon. Can look at streets scheduled for work, will give committee a chance to respond. Action – list will be submitted to group for feedback on projects by Monday. Andy will consolidate and send back to group on Monday for final comments. Final comments due back to Andy by Wednesday 2/8.

5. Priorities for 2017 - brainstorm & get leads for each initiative – will do this next month. Be thinking of great fun and meaningful things to do. We'll be looking to focus in on a few important things.

- Events
- Infrastructure
- Planning & Policy
- Outreach (Web site, FB, Twitter, etc.)

6. AOB:

- Safe routes to school update (Rob) – Thurs 2/2 Tim Pettis State Safe Routes to School coordinator will speak at Lincoln PTO. Will put out parameters for SRS program. Looking for parent involvement but not clear how much time commitment is involved. Goals – increase walking and biking to school, environmental benefits. Organize groups to walk to school together. Take turns as chaperons. Pedestrian safety lessons offered – need volunteers to teach. Action – send out list to group, ask about survey.
- Bike sharing program update (Dan) – Still in process. Talked to Elena, Zagster, Lexington, which is in process of installing Zagster station. Lex 1st going to tourist market at Visitor Center. Talking to businesses along Route 2 about stations for employees. Action – will reach out to additional communities and submit report by next meeting.
- Melrose Energy Committee mtg 1/26 update (Ellen/Gabrielle) – Mayor has made a commitment to Net zero greenhouse gases by 2050. Household heating and transportation are biggest generators. Ideas from brainstorm at MEC meeting: build out charging stations for electric vehicles, hopefully solar and wind powered. Bike sharing. Melrose Energy Challenge – had targets for various energy efficiency activities. Got \$34k grant from National Grid. Will convert senior van to excel hybrid technology. Community solar.
- Elections next month
- Mass in Motion Grant – healthy choices.

Upcoming Dates:

- March 13: Healthy Melrose
- March 14: Sustainable Melrose meeting, 7:00 Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall
- March 15th: Traffic Commission Meeting – Discussion about speed limit and position of Bike/Ped Committee – Action – create facebook event from Melrose Bike/Ped page and strategy for attending meeting.
- March 30th: Melrose Master Plan 1st Draft Public Meeting, Memorial Hall. See Melrose Forward Facebook page.

Next Month:

- Elections
- Group brainstorm on priorities for 2017: events, infrastructure, planning & policy, public outreach
- Proposal on process for generating public positions/statements (Ellen)