

Ped Bike Notes

Wed October 3rd, 2018 7:00-8:30PM

City Hall Cassidy Conference Room, 2nd Floor

Enter from the ground-level entrance at the rear of the building
(opposite the parking lot)

Guests:

Martha Grover

Minutes Review

Ellen Katz: Proposal to add review and approval of prior meeting minutes
Accepted

Victorian Fair(Katz, Chiarenza)

Chamber of Commerce provided table and tent for the Valet Parking area. Had about 25 bikes – mostly families with bike trailers. Had been mentioned in Victorian Fair information and in newspaper articles
Need to develop a better way to connect people to the bikes, and make sure they come back . Taped tickets to the bikes. Could just simplify it by giving people a ticket for their bike, and they are responsible to come back at the right time. If you don't take phone numbers, just tell people we will leave the bikes on the sidewalk. Kara has the raffle tickets. Need a "Bike Parking" sign. Great to be by the National Drive Electric area. Need to pick up and return the bike racks. Had a Lime Bike with a sign from Community Development. Lots of interest from people in this.

Materials. Had poster of the North South Network. Jonah has. Should we store with Kara? Lots of interest in the Northern Strand path, places to bike. Jason Lewis came by.

Bike Ride. Great to have one. Steve Winslow from Bike to the Sea joined. Will get a debrief from Wilson when he's at another meeting.

Action:We Need an event Go Bag with the basics for events – sign-up sheets, tape, ties, pens, banner, fliers, etc.

Report from Citywide PTO meeting & outreach to CPSD & Kara Showers to explore more active SRTS efforts (Williams, Chiarenza, Foulser, Martha Grover)

At last city-wide PTO meeting, there was a presentation on Safe Routes to School. (Different from the Melrose PTO Inc.) The Superintendent of Schools is usually there.

Martha Grover was at the meeting and notes it would be useful to have someone who can help navigate PTO, and identify hot spots and opportunities and the best way to take initiatives forward. She has offered to play that role.

Jonah presented the North-South Bike Network report and highlighted some intersections that might be relevant to schools. There was interest in developing some detailed route design for access to schools, at the same level of detail as the North-South Plan. There is new MassDOT funding for this kind of work. Martha suggests that if there were interaction on a school-by-school basis to identify hot spots and solutions, it could be very productive. Jonah agrees that ideas could be generated, and should use the exercise as an opportunity to advance ideas.

Discussion of new Middle-school/High-school project

At next meeting, look at the Complete Streets Prioritization list to see which school-linked projects are already on the list. Jonah is also looking at the repaving schedule to see which schools are slotted for re-paving. Once the areas are identified, it would be ideal to go to the schools and spend some time looking at where the hotspots are, with parents and school administrators. Later, other organizations could be engaged to support the work, like Walk Boston, Safe Routes to School.

Action Step: Create a School Ped-Bike Access Safety Subcommittee. Jonah & Dan. Other Committee members who are interested are welcomed to join.

Lynn Fells/Melrose Street safety (crossing guard Community FB post) – can Ped-Bike Committee support safety efforts

This is our highest crash location.

This intersection is very difficult to control, even with the two crossing guards. Cars tend to ignore crossing guards. Jonah has some ideas for reconfiguring this intersection. Elena will be looking at correcting the parking signage to be consistent with what's legislated on the books. (There are similar questions about changing parking spaces in front of Wallgreen's on Main Street.) If remove the parking there, there are ways to improve the configuration of the intersection.

Would require access to traffic counts. If could get someone who has Synchro and could volunteer their time to get counts, could analyze the options. In combination with the Lynn Fells and Main, this could be a good projects to combine.

Action: ???

Opportunities to work with High School students on projects

Steve Marisolo, PE teacher, has 20 students who are interested in volunteering to do a biking projects. They could do traffic counts, some traffic engineering with the CAD design equipment and teacher the High School has, and is very popular.

Martha reports that a new environmental science teacher and the STEM teacher are both interested in working with students to get involved with community service projects in conjunction with local committees. The Environmental Science teacher is reengaging the "Green Team" of students. Proposed idea of having a night where community groups pitch ideas to the students, and students pitch ideas back. The STEM teacher proposed exploring STEM and GEM (Global Education in Melrose - languages) pathway projects for students, which involve community projects.

There is a physical education teacher at the high school that is interested in doing bike-related projects with his kids. Skills drills, bike rides. Potential to involve Melrose PD Bike Officer to go with the students. MassBike also offers ride support materials – can come to communities to lead rides.

Action: ???

Snow clearing ordinance (Moore, Krechmer)

Came before the board of Aldermen. Unclear whether there is political appetite for pursuing this. There are education & enforcement considerations that would require quite a bit of effort.

Katie Moore has reviewed the draft language. Would be happy to prepare a statement from the committee in support of it. Suggest we are supportive of the idea, but requires concerted communication, education and support.

Action: Ellen will contact Katie to encourage she prepare a draft for review at the November meeting.

Home for the Holidays, Sat. Dec 1: Possible Committee participation?

Ellen described the various activities that are developed by various community groups. People can go and visit the various events and exhibits. It's held Friday night and Saturday. Wondering if there would be interest in the Bike Valet, for hard core cyclists. It could be an opportunity to do some winter biking education.

Also, we should consider doing a bike route for Porch Fest. Cindy might be interested in that. Last week in September.

Action: Suggest ask Lauren Grymek at the next meeting what might be possible.

November Agenda

Meeting Chair: Cindy Chabot

Guest: Kara Showers, Melrose/Wakefield Mass in Motion Coordinator (TBC)
Lauren Grymek, Executive Director, Melrose Chamber of Commerce

1. High School/Middle School Campus Bicycle and Pedestrian Accessibility Project Final report – review, discuss, next steps.
2. Infrastructure Update
3. Winter Stroll – possibility for bike activity with the ped-bike committee.
4. Malden River Forum report, 9/27 (Various)