

Bath Bike and Pedestrian Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

In Attendance: Lawrence Kovacs, Tim Blair, Travis Wolfel, David Comeau, Anne Dunham, Steve Balboni, Haley Blanco, Carl Zeis, John Swenson, Ben Averill,

Agenda

Approval of February 20th, 2019 Meeting

- Minutes Approved

2019 Budget Timeline Update

- City Manager conversations happen next week
- Committee will wait to hear from Lee about how conversations go regarding budget and determine what if any additional steps should be taken to discuss further with City Council and others.

Bike Racks and Bike To Work Month

- Carl has completed the current version of the bike rack inventory
- The committee will post on the blog
- Ben may include a mention of the bike rack map in the April Newsletter. There may be other opportunities to post other articles in the newsletter.
- Kevin will present the Pop-Up opportunity with the Transportation Committee (next transportation committee meeting) and will reach out to Bath Savings about using their parking lot.
- Bike to work month activities discussed, including Pop-Up Bike Rack
- Haley will reach out to Amanda at Visit Bath to discuss collaboration for Bike to Work Month.

Newsletter update

- Awaiting article from Kevin
- Awaiting a biographical article from Kevin
- Infrastructure piece will be included
- Are there studies that can be included? (link to study results)
- Bike Route (Lawrence will send to Anne)
- Aiming for April, but running a little behind so may be sent out a little later.

- eNewsletter Articles will be posted to the new Bike-Ped blog
- Link to the new Bike-Ped blog will be emailed to the committee prior to next meeting.

Walkability and Sidewalk Discussion

- Committee had a discussion about how we might define “Walkability”
- Brainstormed how or whether we might develop criteria for which streets should have 0, 1 or 2 sidewalks?
- Discussed how a walkability score can be based on access to destinations
- Need more discussion and thinking around what other indicators would be used to assess walkability (e.g. perception of safe, comfortable, and pleasant places to walk)
- We also discussed the potential value of doing citizen-based or MDOT supported walking infrastructure assessments. Questions were raised about the level of effort and whether the findings from these assessments would actually influence City budget decisions.
- Infrastructure Committee will develop a list of roads that absolutely require 2 sidewalks and will evaluate what criteria are present there as a way to continue this discussion.
- In developing criteria for 0,1, and 2 sidewalks we will want to incorporate data e.g. expected pedestrian counts/usage as well as interconnectedness.
- This conversation will continue at the next meeting.

Other Items

Steve updated as that there has been a request to locate a bench on Congress Ave to create a resting point on the walking path (across the street from The Salvation Army, not far from the Shaws entrance). The Committee is in support of this. Steve is discussing with Lee to identify next steps.

Next Meeting

Next Meeting might be scheduled at a different time than usual given the April vacation break. Kevin will be in touch with the Committee to identify the date for the next meeting.