

Regional Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee March 21, 2017

Present: Andrea Garland, Liz Belcher, Jim Lee, Carol Linkenhoker, Barbara Duerk, Anita McMillan, Christopher Blakeman, Michael Gray

Staff: Rachel Ruhlen, Amanda McGee, Cristina Finch, Dorian Allen, Jeremy Holmes (Ride Solutions)

Bike Route 76 study: Amanda reported that there will be a bike-through and a drive-through of Bike Route 76 in the region. The purpose is to document safety issues with photos and GPS, and document signs and where additional signs are needed. Carol will send VDOT sign layer file to Amanda to help with the inventory. Data collection anticipated to be complete end of May. Barb mentioned VDOT's cooperativeness with signage in the past. There had at one time been interest in designating an alternate route but that effort may have foundered. Amanda will look into where that effort left off and reviving it.

2017 Work Plan: Rachel reported that last time we met, we discussed the name of the committee—Bicycle vs. Pedestrian & Bicycle. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) lists it as Pedestrian & Bicycle. The committee had asked the Transportation Technical Committee to consider the issue, but it hasn't yet been possible. In the meantime, staff included it in the 2018 UPWP as it always has been (Pedestrian & Bicycle).

The committee discussed what to work on in the upcoming year.

- DRPT has requested a representative corridor be selected for a multimodal corridor plan, which would be a natural fit for this committee. There was interest in helping with this.
- A couple localities will be invited each meeting to give short presentations on bike/ped projects they have underway, with visuals if desired.
- Field trips were discussed last month. Franklin Rd is the newest, but there was already a tour of that. A 3-mode tour of Williamson (bike/ bus, and walk) is timely as it is under consideration for a contentious road diet. A visit to the Garden City Greenway could help identify where signage is needed.
- Updates on projects; Shane kept elaborate spreadsheets to track progress on specific projects.
- This committee always helps with fall bike counts. There is a need to strategically select locations, also to work with localities to get before & after counts when they are doing projects. This committee can help with this in July.
- Roll-on-roll-off bikes may not be on Roanoke trains, according to the assistant city manager, but everyone thinks there will be bike access to trains. Staff will look into this and determine what actions are available to this committee or individuals.
- SRTS grants for next year. Schools (as well as localities) could use training about SRTS grants. VDOT does a local programs workshop that includes SRTS training but for a broader audience VDOT might set up a special training. The local programs workshop is in the fall, that is a place to start. Identify schools with an interested principal or champion. Michael & Carol will send more info about the local programs workshop.
- Barbara said there is interest in having a car-free day on the Blue Ridge Parkway similar to Skyline Drive car-free day. Mill Mountain Parkway was discussed as an option. There is a lot of

interest in this idea. It is not clear what this committee specifically can do to facilitate this. Barbara will get more information from the group pursuing this.

Legislative Update:

Passed

1. Maintenance reimbursement of road diets. Currently, maintenance reimbursement is calculated on lane-miles, a disincentive for converting a 4-lane to a 3-lane road.
2. Automated 3-wheeled delivery vehicles <10 mph traveling on sidewalks.
3. Increase the required vision of new applicants for Driver's Licenses. \$2.2 million to replace 634 machines used to test applicant's horizontal field of vision. SB1229 Passed by.
4. Exempt Medical personnel from civil liability when they report persons who should not be driving to DMV.

Failed

1. All distracted driving & handheld device bills.
2. Prohibiting a Motor Vehicle from Passing in a Bike Lane.

Locality Updates:

Roanoke City:

Andrea reported she's looking into a road diet and bike lanes on Orange Ave from 10th to 20th where it is residential. She needs public input & support. Paving happens in May so there isn't much time.

Dale Ave from Vinton to 20th due for repavement (possibly to 13th on one side). The plan is to add bike lanes and at Fallon Park a pedestrian beacon.

BikeShare: Jeremy reported BikeShare will go live May 24 with 9 stations and 45 bikes. Coca Cola will be the 10th sponsor but not in time for May. 2nd phase with Coke and any additional sponsors will be ~July. The pricing is \$40/yr annual membership or \$3/hr. The name is Valley Bike Share-- simple generic name keeps options open for naming rights from a really big sponsor later on. Stations are:

1. Grandin Village by Co-Lab
2. Wasena near Riverhouse
3. Downtown where Patterson & Campbell diverge at West End
4. Lofts of West Station where Big Lick Brewery
5. Big Lick Junction community school
6. Old SW Heritage Hall on Mountain Ave near Wildflour - property owner is sponsoring station.
7. DRI sponsor location not determined, near Hampton Suites
8. Riverside 3 at Carilion Clinic, near Hospital on Greenway.
9. Southeast - Presbyterian Community Center 13th & Jamison, or at parking lot for Greenway on Riverland Rd (Bennington). Southeast neighborhood is a target for health access, focus is transportation.

Coca Cola wants to be downtown. As we get sponsors that are more regional, we can put stations more strategically and consider environmental justice neighborhoods. We are also trying to identify Vinton & Salem sponsors.