

## Regional Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee May 23, 2017

Present: Andrea Garland, Liz Belcher, Jim Lee, Lindsay Webb, Kelly Fomenko, Renee Powers, Jerod Meyers, Jeff Collignon, Pete Peters, Andrea Garland

Staff: Rachel Ruhlen, Amanda McGee

Others: Priscilla Cygielnik

Garden City Greenway: Priscilla Cygielnik told the story behind the Greenway.

Bike Route 76: Amanda McGee reported that the study is underway. The report is being written, but there is still time to [complete the survey](#) or forward it to people who have biked this route in Botetourt and Roanoke counties.

VDOT Local Programs Workshop: Liz Belcher reported that she and several others attended. Future funding is switching to alternating years between SmartScale and the rest of it (RSTP, HSIP, TAP). It is all the same application so it is easy to switch an application from one funding source to another. VDOT provided helpful information about the timelines of these grants and the contact people.

Parkway car-free day: Barbara Duerk had requested this item be discussed but as she wasn't present, instead Liz Belcher updated us on the Cox Service Hero contest. Barb is one of three nominated (the others are from Virginia Beach and Fredericksburg). Cox will donate \$10,000 to the charity of the winner's choice. Barb has chosen Friends of the Parkway. You can [vote for her](#) once per day.

Response from Transportation Technical Committee to request for clarification of committee's purpose: Several months ago, we brought up whether the Bicycle Advisory Committee (as it was then called) should take on pedestrian issues as well. This committee felt uncertain about that and furthermore was uncertain as to its mission, and requested that the Transportation Technical Committee consider the issue. In researching the history of this committee, staff discovered that it appears only the Transportation Planning Organization work plan, and it is listed there as the Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee. Due to full agendas, it wasn't until the May meeting that the Technical Committee could discuss it. Several of them reiterated that the bigger question was what is the purpose of the committee, and that the question of bike or bike/ped was secondary. There was also discussion of whether the committee was needed at all. Because today's meeting was outside in the pouring rain, we delayed discussion of this topic until a future meeting. Andrea Garland commented that in a recent APBP listserv discussion, the consensus seemed to be that large cities have separate bike and ped committees, but smaller communities like Roanoke tend to have a single bike/ped committee. Regarding the issue of whether we should have a committee at all, the status of Roanoke City as a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly City is contingent upon there being a bike/ped (or bike-only) advisory committee (not necessarily with the TPO, however). Amanda McGee commented that the Regional Commission could benefit by being able to tap into the expertise on the committee.