Tulsa Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Minutes

Aug 2, 2018

Location: Growing Together Tulsa - 18 S. Lewis Ave.

Members Present	Institutional Advisors Present		Guests Present
Mitch Drummond	Philip Berry	COT Planning	Elaine Meek
Ken Graham	Isaiah Persson	Tulsa Health Dept	Jonah Panther
Sarah Kobos	Arianna Noel-Place	Tulsa Hub	Ryan Pierce
Nathan Leigh	Brent Stout	COT Engineering	
Larry Mitchell	Shelby Templin	ODOT	
J.D. Walker	Jane Ziegler	INCOG	
Members Absent	Institutional Advisors Absent		
Adam Vandenburg	Nick Doctor	COT – Mayor's Office	
Lauren Wagner	Tracy Nyholm	COT Traffic Ops	
	Gary Percefull	Tulsa Public Schools	
	Daniel Sperle	Tulsa BikeShare	
	Tim Stendel	Tulsa Police Dept	
	Robert Swain	TPS – Law Enforcement	

The meeting was called to order by chairman, Larry Mitchell. A quorum was present.

The minutes from the July meeting were approved with one correction: The Southwest Blvd recommendations were approved by consensus and will be forwarded to the City of Tulsa.

Larry Mitchell announced that Lara Webber from City of Tulsa Communications Department will start mailing meeting notices and emailing Nathan Leigh, BPAC Implementation Coordinator, about upcoming street design meetings. Nathan will share them with BPAC and we can put them on our Facebook Page.

Larry said that Officer Tim Stendel had knee surgery and will be on light duty for 4-6 weeks.

Arianna Noel-Place reported that the Tulsa Hub received a Pathways to Health Grant for \$1000. They are partnering with Casa de la Cultura on a "bike rack mural" project. The plan is to work with Hub clients and staff to build prototype bike racks. Currently working on a design. Artists will decorate the bike racks. The plan is to start in east Tulsa and then roll out bike racks to other areas. Hoping to get some funding from TyPros. They estimate the bike racks will cost about \$500 each.

Sarah Kobos gave an update on the Tulsa Transit Connecting Progress Plan.

The consultants met with the project team twice over the past several months. They also held public meetings and asked people to answer a survey.

Their goal was to re-organize the routes to make them more efficient. Today, there's a lot of redundant movement in and out of downtown because all the routes end up at the Denver Ave. station.

The recommendation is to make it more of a grid system, with transfers. They tried to balance frequency versus service area. Trying to prioritize high ridership areas, job centers, and destinations, while adding more evening routes and more routes on Saturday. This means reducing some of the service areas.

Elaine Meeks said that it's frustrating because Tulsa Transit needs a long-term plan and adequate funding. If you look at the proposed funding moving forward, it will be basically the same as today, or actually less, due to inflation. This plan doesn't do anything to address that.

Kobos said that in their defense, Tulsa Transit has needed to reevaluate their routes for years, and that was the goal of this particular effort.

Larry Mitchell suggested that we should set up a sub-committee for anyone interested in transit and what we can do.

Ken Graham gave an update on Bike Oklahoma and the OK Bike Summit.

Bike Oklahoma membership is up 12% this year to date. Membership si only \$20 / year. Duespaying members can get a special Oklahoma license tag to support bicycling. New design coming soon.

Ken attended a webinar from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center about "Conducting a Bicycle Road Safety Audit." See pedbikeinfo.org for more info. Webinars are excellent and free.

BikeOK is working with various groups around the state: ACOG in OKC, ODT Active Transportation, ODOT, and groups in Edmond, Norman and Stillwater. There's a BPAC forming in Pryor.

The OK Bike Summit will be November 3, 2018 in Edmond at the Community Center. Registration is \$10.

Ken also represented BPAC at the quarterly meeting of the River Parks Authority User Advisory Committee.

The Pedestrian Bridge will be closed for 3 years, including closing part of the west bank from the skate park to the pedestrian bridge.

West bank closing is related to remediation of Holly stuff, building whitewater flumes, and realignment of the bridge.

Also discussed the question of who is responsible for maintenance of the "bridge under the bridge" on 11th street. It's not River Parks. City of Tulsa and ODOT can't agree on ownership. The next RP meeting is Nov 7th at 7:30 am at 2424 E 21st. BPAC needs to make sure we have someone to attend.

Jane Ziegler gave an update on BikeShare.

This Machine officially launched last Friday with 60 bikes. By the end of phase one, they should have 160 bikes with stations on 11th Street.

New Operations Coordinator for This Machine: Rachel Scrivino

On a smartphone, download the BCycle app and choose Tulsa/This Machine.

If you don't use the app, you can use the kiosks (located at OneOak Field and Guthrie Green), or go online.

Currently, the service area is inside the IDL. If you leave the bike outside the service area, there's a \$75 fee.

There's also a "geo fence" area near the official bike racks (you can see this on the bike computer). If you don't return a bike to a location inside the geo-fence area, there's an extra \$2 fee.

Jane Ziegler gave the INCOG update:

They tested the Eco bike/ped counter against a manual counter. The Eco counter was not correct. They will do more testing and adjust the settings until it's working right. They won't be distributing the counters until they figure it out.

A new HAWK beacon has been installed at Hwy 20 and the Osage Trail. A HAWK beacon is used at pedestrian/bike crossings to stop traffic. It's only activated when someone needs to cross.

Larry Mitchell discussed the status of striping progress downtown.

The buffered bike lane on 3rd Street was supposed to be on the westbound/uphill side. It was striped wrong. Kurt Kraft said on July 3 that they were aware of the issue and it would be corrected.

Because of this issue, we've asked that striping plans be made available online so we can see them before they're installed.

Larry expressed frustration with the status of downtown striping and other bike priorities.

Less than 1% of the GoPlan has been implemented.

BikeShare launched without bike lanes.

The striping on 3rd Street is not only incorrect, it's actually dangerous because it's been abandoned in a half-complete state. Where the bike lanes stop, it creates dangerous blind spots. Larry is meeting with Councilor Ewing and Nick Doctor next Wednesday to talk about what's holding this up. It's designed and funded, so why isn't anything happening? Vanessa Hall-Harper has said that she will put us on the City Council agenda whenever we want.

Jane Ziegler said to let her know when we get on the agenda so she can come and show support from INCOG.

Phil Berry suggested inviting bike store owners and business owners like Fuel 66, etc, who really want bike infrastructure.

Jane Ziegler recommended that we should first ask to speak at a committee meeting instead of presenting at the normal City Council meeting. Easier to have a dialog.

Nathan suggested that we need to present to the full City Council at least annually to give a "State of the Bike/Ped" update.

Larry Mitchell presented a list of priorities for consideration and status updates:

High Priorities:

Downtown striping

Work on the third-tier GoPlan projects

Develop BPAC's "ask" for financing in the next tax package and discuss with City Councilors Meet with City Councilors and the Mayor annually

Get COT striping plans online/available for review (requested in early July 2018)

Other Priorities:

Make handouts available at the time street design meetings are announced so there's time to review before the public meeting. (Requested early July 2018)

Work with COT to get advance notice for street meetings (done)

BPAC GoPlan funding for implementation of GoPlan/Speck Plan inside the IDL. Funding only for bike/ped infrastructure. (done)

Work on formalizing our arrangement with institutional reps. Clarify reps and delegates and how we reach consensus. (Mitch to-do)

Push for more restrictive distracted driver laws (Enforcement committee)

 Jane Ziegler clarified that this is for state laws. Let her know what we would like to see in our ideal world, only related to bike/ped issues.

Look into restricting/preventing right-on-red beginning with the intersections Chase Phillips has flagged as hot spots. (Enforcement committee)

Advocate for completion of the Mingo Valley Trail from 51st to 61st. This would include allocating GoPlan funding. (Implementation Committee)

Develop bike-friendly awards from BPAC – low priority (need someone to champion this)

Additional ideas from Mitch Drummond:

Advocate for bike/ped infrastructure at dangerous intersections like Mingo and Admiral to reduce crashes. (Implementation Committee, Jane Ziegler, Chase Phillips, Mitch Drummond)

- Can we add some of Nathan's suggestions into a priority list of stuff to add to the GoPlan?
- Jane Ziegler said that INCOG manages the GoPlan, but if we have specific recommendations, it should go to the City Engineering / Streets and Stormwater to be incorporated when they implement. The GoPlan is just the high-level document.

Work on public awareness campaign to reduce crashes and deaths. Need to think about a coordinated marketing activity with funding.

Advocate for a COT bike/ped coordinator (enable Jane to work equally with other cities for regional consistency in environment and regulations).

- Isaiah Persson: all the potential funding sources dried up. Mayor's office is fine with it, but there's no funding.
- Shelby Templin: OKC has this role in the Planning Department. John Tankard is about 80% dedicated to bike/ped

Nathan Leigh gave the Implementation update:

We met with Ed Sharrer earlier tonight and suggested changes to the Kendall Whittier Lewis plan to incorporate bike lanes.

Ed's plan already shows a road diet along with angled on-street parking. He was supportive of adding bike lanes on Lewis. A few places would need to remain parallel parking instead of changing to angled to allow space for bike lanes.

We may be able to do a traffic calming event here.

New business:

Elaine Meek said she would like to make a formal proposal at the next BPAC meeting to work on bike/ped safety.

Shelby Templin is working on US 66 as bike route across the state. (Four other states have done so recently). Needs data on economic impact of cycling.

Shelby Templin also said that dockless scooters were dropped in OKC by Bird recently. Mayor didn't know about it.

Next meeting: September 6, 2018 at 6:00 PM at Growing Together Tulsa

Meeting adjourned.