



**City of Concord
Transportation Advisory Committee
Bicycling Committee**

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 4, 2013 – 6:00
Central NH Regional Planning Commission

Call to Order/Introductions

Committee Members Present:

Craig Tufts (chair)
Dick Lemieux
Robert Baker

Committee Members Not Present:

Tim Farmer
Andy Baldwin
Greg Bakos
Jeff Warner (City staff representative)

Guests/Friends of the Bicycle Committee: None

TPAC Bicycle Committee - Review / Accept Minutes

The meeting minutes from January 7 were discussed and approved.

Bike Routes In and Around Concord

Craig reported that the routes that had been recorded on Google Maps have accidentally been deleted. We aren't quite sure how this happened, but Jeff is working to re-create them. The routes are still available on Map My Ride. It was discussed that the Google maps version of the routes would be used as the primary source for sharing the rides, but that links to the Map My Ride version would also be available for those who want more information.

There was discussion as to whether the "Tour the Parks" route could or should be altered to avoid Birch Street and instead take Iron Horse Rd. Birch St is scenic with views of the community gardens and open space, but also has a dirt surface that can be bumpy washboard. Iron Horse Rd is a nice road for bicycling. It was decided that we should consider adding in the option of Iron Horse Rd and that portion of Birch St are unpaved in the route description. We will review this when the Google maps are up again.

Spring Bike-Ped Counting Program

The National Bike-Ped counting program is scheduled for May 7-9 this year. The idea is to have multiple cities across the country conduct counts on these days to create a snapshot of bicycle-pedestrian activity nationwide. Concord should participate in this. In the past, TPAC has created a map of desirable count locations in the city and began to prioritize them. This map should be revisited at the next meeting.

More importantly, counts will likely need to be conducted manually, and the group discussed possible options for finding volunteers. The group brainstormed potential sources for volunteers that included St. Paul's School, Concord High School, Scouts, YES team (if they are around in spring), Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, post a comment in the Insider or GSW list serve. Craig will do some more digging for potential volunteers.

TPAC-B also decided to communicate with TPAC-Ped to see what they had planned for counts and to double up on the effort. Craig will contact Jeff regarding this.

Paving Program

The State Department of Transportation released it's paving program for the 2013 season. This is important to bicycles as it offers an opportunity to comment on lane striping and road surface conditions. The only section in Concord outside of the Interstates is a very short section of rt. 132. It was assumed this section would be striped the same way the portions of 132 were striped after being re-surfaced last season. The group noted that 132 in Canterbury is also due to be re-surfaced, and TPAC requested if the CNHRPC could communicate with the town to see if bike shoulders were a possibility. Craig agreed to assist the town if they are willing. To our knowledge, the City has not yet updated its paving program.

Main Street Updates

TPAC discussed the progress of the Main Street Redesign project. The group discussed the presentation made to City Council recently, including the renderings. The group felt the bicycle parking design appeared to meet the general standards TPAC-Bike put forth as a recommendation. The placement of some of the racks seem less than ideal in some of the renderings being often not near a crosswalk entrance. The group decided to keep an eye out for when more details regarding the exact type of rack and their placement would be determined. The group may have comments at that time. TPAC-Bike still plans to use the guidelines produced after the January meeting as the basis for its recommendations.

New Business: Bicycle Friendly Community application:

Dick asked when Concord's Bicycle Friendly Community status would expire, and when we would need to re-apply. The term is good through 2014, so we will need to re-apply next year. We should continue to be thoughtful about tracking improvements in bicycling conditions as the time to re-apply draws near. The application took a long time to complete so an early start would be wise.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm