



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Community Representatives:

*Ken Carlson, Chair
*Tom Lamar, Vice Chair
*Enid Kumin, Secretary
*Alex Anderson
Emily Balkam
*Mark Chase
Charlie Denison
*Alex Epstein
*Alan Moore
Brian Postlewaite
*Brandon Stafford
*Sara Wasserman
*Ian Woloschin

Ex-Officio:

Skye Stewart, Office of the Mayor
Maryann Heuston, Board of Aldermen
Commissioner Stanley Koty, Department of Public Works
Terry Smith, Traffic and Parking
Deputy Chief Stephen Carrabino, Police Department
*Mike Tremblay, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Dev.

*present

Day/Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 6:30-8:00 PM

Location: Academy Room, Somerville Police Dept.

Procedural, General Business & Updates (25 minutes allotted)

1. Guest introductions and sign-in sheet: Sara Yearson, Ted Lester, Lena Webb, Kevin McGrath, Alex Frieden, Steve Nutter, Greg Shill and Ted Feldman.
2. Acting Secretary: Alan Moore
3. VOTE: Approve April minutes - Tom motioned, Enid seconded, all approved, quorum met. **APPROVED.**
4. Meeting time/date: Proposal approved to move meeting to 3rd Thursday at the SPD Academy Room, Deputy Chief Steve will check room availability. Proposal to move starting time to 6 pm not well-received and dropped. Next meeting June 15.
5. Sara Wasserman's departure to Winthrop: Sara was thanked for her great service, especially on the education team; she reported that Katie Pierce has agreed to take over the leader responsibility.
6. Vulnerable Use Law (Mike and Alex E.): In addition to City owned vehicles which are already regulated, city contractor vehicles over 10,000 pounds will have to meet requirements for side guards and mirror or side turn signals.
7. "Burning Questions":
 - Ian asked about removing parking on Park St. during upcoming construction.
 - Ken reminded all that we've asked the City for a misleading wayfinding sign on Dane St. to be removed.
 - Ken asked if the City's street paving list could be added to Mike's regular "City Report"
 - Ken suggested distributing flyers on to residents and other users of Beacon St. regarding the new protected bike lanes.
 - Steve Nutter reported that there is a Wed. 24th \$1/beer fundraiser for the Boston Cyclists Union

Memorial Day weekend bike ride to Montreal

- It was asked if the Beacon St. protected bike lane could be different color than the sidewalks
 - Alex (A) suggested having a Somerstreets “festival” on Beacon St. to educate all users on the protected bike lane.
8. Other City Report issues:
- Bike Friendly application **Action - Mike will share sections of the application to the teams to fill in “their” information**
 - Upcoming meetings **ACTION – attend:**
 - **Thursday Somerville Ave. meeting at Argenziano school on the sewer separation project protected bike lanes from Union Sq. to McGrath highway**
 - **Tuesday May 23 meeting on Powderhouse Circle**
 - **Resistat: Ward 7 Monday**
 - **Resistat: Ward 1 Tuesday**
 - **Resistat: Ward 2 May 30th, especially Website Ave.**
 - **Resistat: Ward 4 June 1**

Project Deep Dives (35 Minutes)

1. Central Broadway (Central/Main St. to McGrath/Route 28) - Mike presented some cross-section ideas for reallocating road width with paint and no overall reduction in the number of lanes. Maybe contra-flow on Marshall. Tried to really minimize any parking removal but some parking “flipped”. Some ideas of bus and bikes sharing through or turning lanes. This project will be done this year. **ACTION to all: give comments to Mike by June 1**
2. Webster Ave. Ken summarized recent Committee efforts to improve bike and pedestrian conditions on Webster from Prospect Street to the City Line. Protected two-way bike lanes were proposed. Six residents attended the second recent meeting with residents and were supportive. At the Ward 2 Resistat meeting on May 30, some of the proposals will be presented by the City (by Brad), and parking removal will be discussed. The City is not in favor of the one way proposals. Monthly parking will likely be offered in the multi-level garage by ProPark. The City has engaged Cambridge for cooperation on their section of Webster. **ACTION: Need to get many Ward 2 people especially those who live on Webster to show up at the May 30 meeting and support.**
3. Neighborways/Contraflow – Mark again presented on the plan for gathering data on Gilman and Hancock streets for possible future contra-flow and building out a network of neighborways in Central and East Somerville without any parking removal (if possible). First contraflow pilots will be Newton St. in Union Sq. in 2017. Possible designs for pavement markings were shown as either green sharrows or double yellow lines. 10th Avenue in Vancouver shown as example of eventual treatment. Help is still needed from SBC with traffic counts. Plans will be presented to the Traffic Commission (which approves plans very quickly with minimal discussion) in June. **ACTION all: Help Mark collect data.**
4. Powderhouse Blvd. – Recent meeting on 2-way cycletrack went well.

Team/Committee Updates (25 Minutes)

Encouragement Committee

- Alex A. reported on the great kick-off event (panel, attendance, pizza, etc.) for Bike Month at Aeronaut. How to get more cyclists (and non-cyclists) next year.
- **ALL-Volunteer to help at the Whole Foods breakfast on May 26 (and future breakfasts) and the Rush Hour Challenge on June 5, especially am. [See volunteer sign-up sheet.](#)**

Enforcement Committee

- Greg is preparing a letter to send to Lyft/Uber about parking in bike lanes and the possibility of creating/utilizing loading zones as done in other cities.
- A letter on clearing of snow from principle bike routes in winter to the City is being circulated and will be sent before August. Ken will review.
- Crash survey Google form is being finalized to supplement the official State vehicle crash report which is not always appropriate for bicycle crashes.
- The SPD will increase police presence re: bike lane parking on Beacon St. near Washington St./Kirkland St. intersection.
- Suggestion of flex posts to delineate the bike lane on Highland coming into Davis Sq. and keep cars from traveling in the bike lane.
- **ACTIONS: Alan to summarize to Engineering Committee the challenges and suggestions for flex posts to delineate the bike lane on Highland coming into Davis Sq. Ken to set up a meeting between the Enforcement Team and Traffic and Parking.**

Meeting adjourned at ~ 8 PM. Ken did an amazing job facilitating this new meeting format.

Respectfully, Alan Moore