

## SOMERVILLE BICYCLE COMMITTEE

Joseph A. Curtatone

Mayor

Alan Moore, Chair  
Peter Coyle, Vice Chair  
Greg Palmer, Secretary

Jim Gallagher  
Ron Newman

Janice DeLory, Office of the Mayor  
Police Dept. (vacant)  
Dept. of Public Works (vacant)

Bob Trane, Board of Aldermen  
Traffic and Parking Dept. (vacant)

Stephen Winslow, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development

**MEETING MINUTES**    Tuesday, April 18, 2006, City Hall

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**    Alan, Peter, Greg, Ron, Jim, Steve

**GUESTS:**    Joel Bennett, Tyler Oulton, Wig Zamore, Ellin Reisner,  
Brian Postlewaite

**1. Minutes** - Alan called the meeting to order at 6:42 pm. The March meeting minutes were approved.

**2. Path extension, Cedar to Central** - General discussion about the impact of Green Line design timeline, 3 years estimated, and the design & construction of the Community Path (CP). Wig Zamore, of Somerville Transportation Equality Project (STEP), said the reality of the planning process in the state could affect how soon the CP moves forward. Both he and Steve thought the best thing to do was keeping pressing ahead, and keep the momentum going. Other suggestions were to increase visibility by attending and speaking up for the CP at state transportation public meetings, such as the 20 Year Transportation Plan, and land use and public transit meetings. Steve will talk to the City's transportation planner, Lisa LaPore, regarding what upcoming meetings to attend.

**3. Davis Square/MHD project** - Steve met with MassHighway (MHD) and Judith Nitsch Engineering (JNE), consultant engineering firm, about revised recommendations. He reports that the City is not in favor of a contraflow lane or raised path on Meacham Rd. or Dover St., due to parking spaces lost. A "bike box" at Holland and Dover will be examined, although one concern is that they usually work best where a bike lane is available to allow cyclists to access the bike box. Holland St., at present, doesn't have room for a bike lane. JNE should have completed plans for the entire project area in Somerville by June. Greg emphasized that while community input is important, the SBC must preview the plans before they are presented at other public meetings. Jim asked if the plans would address the drainage issues between Willow Ave. and Cedar St. Steve agreed that drainage needs to be examined. Greg showed a Photoshop illustration of what Grove St. could look like with an opening in the gate for bicycles. The next steps are to talk with the abutters, and consult with Ward 6 Alderman Gewirtz, city traffic engineer Terry Smith, and city public safety officials. Greg will also work with Steve and Terry on moving ahead with the on-road route signage for Davis Square.

**4. School St. striping** - Steve reported that the striping of School St., complete with "sharrows", will be before the end of the summer.

**5. New Committee members status** - Minona has had her interview with the mayor. Steve will email Tyler and Doris with information on contacting the mayor's office for interview appointments.

**6. Historic bike ride, Bike Month** - former SBC member Dereck Mangus has designed a poster; elected city officials will be invited to ride, and the mayor will be invited to speak at the start. Tyler offered to contact a local business about sponsoring a bike breakfast in May.

**At this point, Alan had to leave; Peter assumed the chair for the rest of the meeting.**

**7. DPW and street patches, potholes** - Greg asked that a meeting be set up with DPW regarding street repair and pothole filling procedures. Steve suggested speaking with Mike Buckley, and will contact him.

**8. Community Path public meeting** - Steve reported the April 6 meeting at the East Somerville Community School went well, although attendance was low- approximately 25 people. Ron Hendrick of Vollmer Associates presented the feasibility study for phase two, School St., to the Cambridge Line, showing various alternate alignments.

**9. Subcommittees** - Web site: Minona has been adding content to the SBC web pages on the city web site; the new URL is [www.ci.somerville.ma.us/bicycle](http://www.ci.somerville.ma.us/bicycle). SCAT: The half hour talk show will tape in May, and air in June; a local resident will tape short video segments to be used within the program. Magoun Square - Steve will find out what's happening on the traffic and streetscape project, and send out a mini-city report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

The next meeting is Tuesday, May 16, at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Palmer, Secretary