

Cambridge Bicycle Committee, March 11, 2015

Notes by AO: Ari Ofsevit

CS: Cara Seiderman
MP: Michael Proscia
IS: Ingrid Schorr
MS: Melissa Shakro
CH: Catharine Hornby
JW: Jim Wilcox
JG: John Goodman
JL: Jen Lawrence
MN: Matt Nelson
JA: Jon Adams
KH: Katherine Howitt
PS: Peter Stokes

I. January Minutes approved

II. CPD/Bicycle Theft Initiative

CPD got GPS devices for a “bait bike.” And bait bike stickers to put on regular bikes. Prototypes/feedback. Bike theft has decreased in places where this has been used. JL: hope is that a few people steal a lot of bikes and they can get caught. There are about 360 bikes stolen every year in Cambridge. Bike. Discussion about stickers, question marks (Bait Bike vs Bait Bike?).

III. Committee Activities

A. May bike ride May 16

B. Fresh Pond Day kids bike event

JG: We should have a brochure, and we’d need someone with graphic design capabilities to do so. Can we reuse an old template? CDD has an intern who can help with it. If anyone wants to make a sticker (\$20 for 250) they want 8 weeks of lead time. So we’d need that in the next couple of weeks. Maybe something with CRLS? We have 12 sites where Tom Magliozzi hung out, and we’re working on the map for it. And anyone with good sponsor ideas let us know. RS: will contact Flatbread and Whole Foods.

CS: JG and CS met with MN and Sgt Kale and other CPD officers to discuss ride management. They prefer Sunday to Saturday, morning to afternoon, pinchpoints aren’t the end of the world as it forces the group back together. Agreement that this is a bicycle ride and discourage inline skaters. Very young children who have a hard time keeping up on small bikes. Separate events at Fresh Pond Day (May 30) for young kids. Help from

the bike committee members would help. Combine with existing Fresh Pond Day bike rodeo/ride. Come up with messaging about the kids bike ride.

Ride day logistics: 4+ people at the back of the ride to help with sweeping. Pro Ambulance does not have a bike EMTs. AED on a bike?

C. Bike month outreach

JL: Lots of outreach events this spring. Two specific projects: one with council on aging and public health: barriers to biking 50+. Hosting a series of bicycle workshops bookended by barriers to access to biking as commuting with a variety of community centers, Jen will email information. Other projects: breaking down barriers in immigrant communities and for women. Everything is free and open to the whole community. CPD with bike week and CRTMA, events every single day the week before the ride. Stuff for rides would be good. Free helmets at bike workshops.

May 6 is bike/walk to school day, city has a safe routes to school coordinator now.

MN: last year CPD gave 1768 flyers on bike week, other media; will be doing more this year.

JL: Hubway station campaign: 5 languages, come and join your community with ads targeting immigrants, women, etc.

IV. Projects, Planning, Operations

A. DPW

JW: Slow start to construction: 2-3 feet of frost subsurface. Update to five year road plan. Presentation in April on agenda. Potholes are being filled, report them on iReport.

5-year streets and sidewalk plan discussion set for April meeting.

B. Snow Removal

AO: Bike lanes on the past-Porter part of Mass Ave? If you notice anything, email David Soares. Discuss in April.

CH: Is there a point at which we get rid of space savers, DPW doesn't pick up space savers until they're done with snow. CPD will actively tow for obstruction of travel lanes. Tow yards are full even at \$85.

5 sections, in each section there are 25-40 pieces of equipment and 4-5 supervisors. Plow to clear for emergency access (top priority), main streets close to pavement. First blizzard was 7 AM Monday to 3 PM Wednesday. Then hauling operation (bus stops, schools, main streets narrowed to lost travel lanes), temporary no parking, 8 PM to 9 AM. Hauling

6 days per week Jan 26 to March 6. Pedestrian operations around schools, major squares, city buildings, crosswalks. Bike racks not cleared.

C. Infrastructure updates

JW: Kirkland Street is upcoming.

Pearl Street unresolved. Nothing new; conversations internally slowed with the snow and Brian's passing. Actual construction is the same no matter what the street markings are. Separate meeting for discussions on Pearl. Lots of community discussion. Committee should have longer conversation before putting out a statement in support of something.

D. Development Projects

Mixed use development on First Street (near mattress factory). Green space and public passage. Generally okay except for distance from bicycle parking to Parcel A. Built out to sidewalk, and new zoning doesn't allow parking on sidewalk unless you can prove that there is nowhere to put it on your property.

CH: Worth commending their work, while noting that there are long access distances to one building.

Consensus: will write a letter in support of the project. CH will write the letter and say nice things, look to see if the 480' distance can be mitigated, consider more short term spaces near building A, and some covered spaces in that area.

V. Announcements

Participatory budgeting (via Megan Ramey): participate! Some projects: build a mini-park where kids can learn to bike. Additional bicycle fix-it stations. Check it out.

Future meetings: Who comes when. MN: CPD comes in May? Bicycle enforcement at outreach events didn't write any tickets: education.

MN/CS: Cyclist killed in crash today. We don't know much now, investigations of fatalities can take a while.