

DRAFT Notes from Bicycle Committee meeting 1/13/21

Attendance

Committee Members: Randy Stern, Gloria Huangpu, Amy Flax, Jon Anjaria, John Ellersick, Dien Ho, Mark Boswell, Julian Astbury, Alison Harris, Todd Robinson

Staff: Greg Hanafin (CDD), Cara Seiderman (CDD), Stephen Meuse (TP&T), Jim Wilcox (DPW)

Public: Michael O'Hearn

December minutes approved.

TP&T - Stephen Meuse

- No new projects since last meeting
- Work on Binney/Galileo between Broadway and Sixth Street to create separated bike lanes

DPW - Jim Wilcox

- Inman Sq utility work
- Gore St utility work
- Current Chapter 90 contract includes Park Ave.; Webster; Chestnut St ([Community Meeting on Jan. 21](#))
- Next year's Chapter 90 will include Green St., Maple Ave, Center Street, Scirappa, Walden St (between Sherman and Garden)
- Miscellaneous sidewalk contract will also so surface paving improvements some existing bike lanes where pavement is in poor condition

CDD - Greg Hanafin

- Working on updating bike facilities chart on CDD website based on numerous projects from 2020 that were discussed at the December meeting
 - Also crosswalk on Mass Ave at Windsor with cycle track curbed protection approaching the crosswalk
- Question on DeWolfe Quincy contra flow lane as it approaches Mt Auburn. Should be no left turn for cars when cyclists can proceed contraflow. Stephen will confirm signals are operating as intended.

Bike Plan community needs survey

- Community survey on barriers to biking, what can the city do to help more?
- 9/17-10/20/20 online plus 11 in person events, and yard signs in parks
- Results:
 - 305 responses to survey
 - 92% live in Cambridge, students/MIT area likely underrepresented due to COVID
 - 94% had biked in last year, 85% of these would like to bike more, 50/50 among those who had not biked in the last year
 - All ages wanted to bike more, skewing to younger riders who want to bike more
 - Highest number of requests were for more separated lanes and a better bike network. In image below: Left column - what limits your biking. Right column, what can city do.

Rank	Code	Number of Responses
1	Lack of safe spaces/separation for bikes	152
2	Lack of a connected bike network	45
3T	Dangerous intersections	18
3T	Bad weather/winter	18
5T	Bad/aggressive drivers	16
5T	Not safe for kids	16
7	Vehicle speeds	14
8T	Vehicles in bike lanes	13
8T	Poor road surface conditions	13
10	Lack of secure storage/theft	11

Rank	Code	Number of Responses
1	More protected/separated bike lanes and paths	121
2T	More connected network/more consistency	28
2T	More bike lanes	28
4	Enforcement for drivers	24
5	Enforcement and accountability for cyclists	13
6T	More bike signals	12
6T	More bike parking	12
8	Driver education	11
9T	Better road and bike lane surfaces	10
9T	Better wayfinding and signage	10

Building Projects

- Completed construction: MIT dorm that includes significant improvements to grade crossing at Pacific/Albany/Vassar St
- 51 Vassar St - MIT Schwartzman College of Computing, adjacent to Grand Junction Path
- 269-301 Vassar MIT dorm - right where current Fort Washington path crosses to Vassar St, also adjacent to Grand Junction Path
- Alewife Park redevelopment – [community meeting on January 21](#)
- Tobin Montessori and Vassar Lane Schools – nothing new at this time
- MIT Volpe, not received final plans yet from MIT
- Main St between Albany and tracks, research center – plans expected soon

2021 Committee Work Plan

- Google sheet that can be used for members to sign up for projects. Major categories:
 - Development projects review, in various parts of the city
 - Pretty well defined in spreadsheet what is needed from the committee
 - City Infrastructure projects
 - Community Rides
 - Outreach
 - How to do this, what the steps are, still needs definition. What does success look like?
 - Bike plan still in editing stage. Bike committee input has been given over the past years. There may be useful committee outreach associated with it when the plan revision is complete, which is expected in “early spring.”
 - Article for “Getting Around Cambridge” brochure? About 1/3 of a page in length. Need a deadline for the next edition. Amy Flax volunteers to write something on seniors biking in Cambridge.
 - Add something about encouraging employer bike benefits
 - Data Analysis
 - Other ideas, carried over from 2020 but not done
 - Greg will send a link to committee members