

Minutes

City of Columbia Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

June 16, 2014

Submitted by Keith Gosselin

The Committee met from 4:30-5:30 PM at City of Columbia Offices, 1136 Washington Street, 6th Floor Conference Room

Present were: Natalie Britt, presiding; Mary Roe, Michael Juras, Tim Malson, Gordon Langston, Keith Gosselin, Will Haltiwagner, Eileen Blyth all appointed. City staff members John Fellows, Dana Higgins, and Lucinda Statler. Guests included Jean Crowther, Senior Planner, Alta Planning and Design (<http://www.altaplanning.com/people/jean-crowther/>) and Corinne Donahue, Senior Transit Planner at CDM Smith (<https://www.linkedin.com/pub/corinne-donahue/38/711/148>)

(Topics in bold and responsible parties/questions are underlined)

1. **Bike Month Activities**

Natalie Britt

Appreciation was given to Mary Roe and Tim Malson and others for their efforts organizing and contributing to successful Bike Month activities: Bicycle Skills Clinic & Tour de Cure Mayors Bike Ride, Bike to Work Day, and Ride of Silence.

2. **Skateboarding**

Natalie Britt, Others

Councilwoman Devine asked the Committee to weigh in on the [Ordinance proposal 2014-055](#) which was discussed in the May 20th City Council meeting ([minutes](#)).

It was mentioned that merchants were worried about noise after 10PM as well as pedestrian safety. It was thought with the addition of new student housing that this problem would exacerbate.

Consensus was that positive steps should be taken prior to prohibiting skateboarding. Skateboarding was thought to be an active livable-city activity and that a vibrant city needs to encourage all forms of pedestrian engagement.

Action item for **Keith** to compile recommendations. Natalie and Mary would review and forward to Councilwoman Devine.

3. **Committee Engagement**

Natalie Britt

Keith and **Mary** are drafting actionable items for Committee members to expand BPAC engagement. Natalie mentioned a study of pedestrian issues related to the Soda City Market on Saturdays as an example. Other possibilities can be found or can be added to the Committee working website under Action Items.

4. Plan Columbia

John Fellows, City of Columbia



John presented the Plan Columbia initiative, including workshops between June 24-26 (<http://weplantogether.org/2014/05/attend-the-plan-columbia-workshop-june-24-26/>), which culminates in the first full rewrite of zoning ordinances in nearly 40 years. Following the workshops, there would be planning work through the winter with public input forums to follow once new ordinances are ready for review. McDale Bride Clarion (<http://www.clarionassociates.com/about/team/cincinnati.php>) is the contractor assisting with the project. The projects overall time span is 2 years.

Upcoming events – all at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center:

June 24 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Workshop part 1 Tell us about strengths and weaknesses of places throughout Columbia.

June 25 (Wednesday) 9:00 am – 12:00 pm 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Drop-in Talk one-on-one with the planning team and see work in progress.

June 26 (Thursday) 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Workshop part 2 Shape preferences about the character of our community.

Richland County is also reviewing its zoning ordinances.

5. Master Plan Update

Lucinda Statler, City of Columbia
Jean Crowther, Alta Planning
Corinne Donahue, CDM Smith

Lucinda is the City of Columbia project manager for the Master Plan update. She mentioned several PR efforts were underway for announced late July sessions:

Public Meeting- District 1		
29-Jul 5:30 pm- 7:30 pm	Eau Claire Print	3907 Ensor Street
Public Meeting- District 2		
30-Jul 11:30am- 1:30 pm	Capstone (Campus Room)	898 Barnwell Street
Public Meeting- District 3		
30-Jul 5:30 pm- 7:30 pm	MLK	2300 Greene Street
Public Meeting- District 4		
31-Jul 5:30 pm- 7:30 pm	Woodland	6500 Olde Knight Parkway

Ms. Crowther and Ms. Donahue updated the group on the Walk Bike Columbia Master Plan.

They updated the team that work has begun on quantitative background analysis including: collisions, 911 calls, transit level of service, bicycle/pedestrian availability. This includes a review of planning documents as well.

Focus groups are underway in parallel and they have added a survey to the Master Plan website (<http://www.walkbikecolumbia.org/>). Related to focus groups, several have been scheduled around various themes. Mentioned:

- Bike culture
- Health
- Equity
- Transit
- Neighborhood
- County/State agencies
- College/University
- Tourism/Business/Attractions
- Employers
- City Staff/Support Services ie. Campus Police

Ms. Donahue mentioned inclusion of Comet in the analysis and noted recent efforts the Comet was making to standardize bus stop locations. John updated the group on another effort by the Comet to upgrade bus signage.

Discussion was had that University and City planning and transit efforts should be coordinated (Clemson was offered as an example), that the Vista/Main St. trolley initiative should be reexamined, and that a cab analysis should be undertaken.

Ms. Crowther is updating City Council on July 15th. Updated project and information and documents will be posted at <http://www.walkbikecolumbia.org/>.

Adjourned 5:30