



CITY OF COLUMBIA
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

June 8, 2020
4:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Virtual meeting using conferencing technology
Columbia, SC

EMILY BEASLEY • PAMELA BYNOE-REED • SUSAN J. FORREST • CHRISTINA GALARDI
FRITZ HAMER • CHASE KEIBLER • GEORGE KOKOLIS • BETSY NEWMAN • CHARLES ZACHARY PIPPIN • RIP SANDERS
RACHEL THOMASON • BARTON WALRATH • CYNTHIA WATSON • CHRYS ZOURAS

In the interest of public health and as authorized by City Council Ordinance 2020-032, the City of Columbia Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) conducted a virtual meeting using video conferencing technology on **Monday, June 8, 2020 at 4:30pm.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:34pm. Committee members in attendance were: Bart Walrath, Rachel John, Chrys Zouras, Betsy Newman, Zach Pippin, Susan Forrest, Christina Galardi, Rip Sanders;

City Staff: John Fellows, Shane Shaugnessy, Leigh Deforth

Also in attendance: Elizabeth Marks, David Anderson

II. REGULAR AGENDA

- a. Minutes: Rip Sanders made a motion to approve May 18, 2020 Minutes, and the motion was seconded by Bart Walrath. Walrath asked for a minor correction include Susan Forest as an attendee at the last meeting and a motion to approve the Minutes with the correction was approved by unanimous vote.

- b. Updates:
 - Report from Co Chairs –Walrath: Walrath updated the Committee on his delivery of the BPAC letter to City Council with revisions to address the Change.org petition and push button activated pedestrian intersection crossings. Fellows has not received any updates back from Council since the letter was delivered to them. Walrath noted that Kokolis suggested putting together a one page report summarizing what other cities are doing during COVID with respect to bike and pedestrian issues.

 - City Planning Update – Fellows

- Fellows attempted to schedule subcommittee meetings and coordinate via zoom, but had issues connecting members. He suggested each of the committees should reach out to other committee members and find a time to meet.
- Reminder from Fellows – BPAC will be meeting virtually throughout the summer (at least July & August).
- Change.org petition – Fellows anticipate a proposal to be discussed among City Staff and Council to include:
 - a. Bike boulevards
 - b. Residential shared streets
 - c. Third item
- Bike Month summary – Christina Galardi sent a sheet on engagement via Facebook page; Columbia Compass engagements were also forwarded.
- Marketing & Education has gone through procurement, Fellows will be working on trying to set up some preliminary meetings to get that consultant going.
- Public meetings – Calhoun project may be coming; the penny tax program will be transferring funds to the City.
- Washington & Marion projects – there hasn't been much new to update, except that there may be an informational meeting sometime this summer.
- South Main project – additional costs due to utilities have delayed the project a bit.
- Greene Street bridge – moving forward, it will eventually have bike lanes that will connect to Huger Street and down to the river.
- The County is moving forward with greenway projects and will continue to move forward with Gills Creek project.
- Walrath asked for an update on the Bike Ped Planner position, Fellows indicated all positions have been paused at this time by the City.

c. Outreach Projects

- Open Streets – Galardi

- Galardi noted that part of the Projects & Initiatives subcommittee scope was reevaluating projects; Galardi offered to reach out to neighborhoods to see what their thoughts were. Both Cottontown and North Main were interested in a follow up conversation, but they wanted to make sure they were in line with any guidance from the City as far as holding open streets events right now. Fellows indicated he would check with the City, and Galardi noted they just wanted to make sure to align with the City's guidance.

- Bike Month – Fall of 2020 – Outreach Committee.

- Galardi noted that she wanted to make sure to align with the City on this program and would be happy to re-reach out to folks who might be interested in helping to plan activities. Fellows will reach out to see if Staff has an understanding of what the fall might look like city-wide.

- Bike and Pedestrian Counts Fall 2020 – Shaughnessy

- Shane Shaughnessy noted last year the counts were the second and third week of September; Staff would likely plan for the same weeks. In the past, mainly City Staff and BPAC members have volunteered. Counts are a 2 hour time frame in the morning on weekdays and on Saturdays. Press usually goes out early August. Shane noted if anyone has any questions, they can email him or Fellows. Susan Forrest asked if this involved only BPAC members, but the City are also looking for volunteers from the public. Forrest indicated volunteers from BCBS might be interested, and she would be happy to work with outreach to them. Christina Galardi mentioned that selling points might include that this is a more accessible type of volunteering for folks during COVID.

d. Strategic Planning for the subcommittees

- Walrath mentioned the Chairpersons are asking subcommittees to meet between now and the next BPAC meeting in July and report back on their subcommittee meetings.
- Zach Pippin is moving to Projects & Initiatives Subcommittee. Rip Sanders will work to gather the Policy Subcommittee in the next month. For Marketing Subcommittee, Rachel Thomason indicated she'd be happy to organize a meeting.

e. Other Topics: Walrath's Projects & Initiatives subcommittee is focusing on their strategic plan. What seems to be rising to the surface is getting a score card and developing measures that could help with that scorecard.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Elizabeth Marks discussed Calhoun Street from Bull to Harden, safety wise.

V. ADJOURN

Walrath made a motion to adjourn at 5:38, Rip Sanders seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.