

BTF Meeting June 12, 2007

Attendance

David Rathbone, Philip Grymes, Craig Walker, Billy Tiller, Del Sudkamp, Colleen Carboni, Melissa Taylor, Ruth Cartlidge, Philip Pugliese

Education

Police Bike Patrol

David has identified some interest among Hamilton County Park Rangers for the development of a bike patrol. Currently there are no bike patrol officers for Hamilton County Parks which would include the Tennessee Riverpark, Chester Frost Park, and Enterprise South Nature Park. The concensus is that officers who are bicycle trained can better understand user conflict issues on these facilities and will have the proper perspective for training and enforcement.

Officer Eaves with the Chattanooga Police Bike Patrol is an IPMBA certified trainer. We will investigate the possibility of hosting a training session here.

Pedicab

There is a new pedicab service in downtown Chattanooga. Philip has been in contact with the owner to enable drivers to participate in a special BikeEd course. Our goal is to ensure proper operation of these vehicles and to maintain a positive image for cycling in Chattanooga.

BikeEd Courses

David has reconfigured our BikeEd offerings which have been posted online. A new StreetSmarts course had been scheduled for the 2nd Saturday of each month. This course follows the LAB "Need to Know" outline with basic traffic and bike handling skills. We will develop a flyer for this course and begin promotion soon.

SRTS Summer Bike Camp Update

We currently have 4 students registered for the July 16-20, Bicycle Summer Camp for students age 10-15. The course is free for students participating in the SRTS pilot project. For others, the tuition is \$50.00.

Bike to Riverbend

Bike to Riverbend is underway and on track to exceed last year's numbers. Thanks to all of those who have been able to help out in setting up and manning this operation.

Bike2Work

Bike2Work is working well in our new location at the Walnut Street Square. Del Sudkamp designed a new banner which has been placed on the Walnut Street Bridge and represents our sponsors well. Craig Walker, who is interning with Outdoor Chattanooga, is developing a video PSA for Bike2Work which will be completed later this month.

BTF Focus

The last item discussed was the function of the Bicycle Task Force (BTF). The BTF was originally formed as an advisory committee of the Transportation Planning Organization. Over time the BTF began advocacy and education initiatives that were outside the scope of their charter. After

discussion, it was moved and seconded to refocus BTF activities on the TPO agenda. BTF meetings would be set to match the TPO Executive Staff calendar (currently every other month) to specifically review the TPO agenda and identify issues and opportunities as related to the Bicycle Master Plan. If passed on second reading, BTF will continue to advise the TPO on cycling issues as they relate to transportation projects. Efforts will continue to support bicycle advocacy through Bike Chattanooga, which will be formalized to continue the advocacy and education functions. Everyone that normally attends the BTF meeting needs to attend the July 10, 2007 meeting to discuss this very important proposal.

Also, the TPO will be beginning a new Long Range Transportation Plan cycle soon. We need to review all areas of our bicycle planning area for any changes to this important document.

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