

BTF Meeting Minutes May 13, 2004

1 Attendance

Philip Pugliese, Colleen Carboni, Ben Taylor, Marty Brown, Del Sudkamp, Annie Powell, Jean Smith, Cheryl Shouse, Daisy Blanton, R.C. Hoff, Karen Rennich, George Krauth, Melissa Dickinson.

2 Bike2Work Summary

Our first Bike2Work on May 7th was a success. We had about 40 people in attendance (we have over 30 registered commuters so far -- remember our goal is 100!). CARTA was in attendance with a demonstration bus and bicycle racks as well as their Rack & Ride sponsor, Owen Cyclery. Our next steps are to work on additional sponsorships and the selection of a grand prize for our October giveaway and to get in front of local employers to explain the program. We would also like to use this as an opportunity to promote our BikeEd classes as well. Please take an opportunity to ride CARTA with your bike and visit our local sponsors. A complete list of sponsors and photos from our first event are now posted at www.bikechattanooga.org. We have had good press recently (2 News Free Press Articles, WRCB report of Bike2Work, WDEF TV on at least three segments, WDEF radio are ones that I know of). We also had the opportunity to have a table at the 3 State 3 Mountain registration fair and also at the Chattanooga Market that following Sunday. Listen to WUTC on Tuesday, May 18th, at 1100 a.m. as Colleen Carboni will be interviewed. Our next Bike2Work event is Friday, June 4th.

3 Bicycle Rodeo

It's time, again, for Bicycle Rodeo at the Tennessee RiverPark! We could use assistance with a number of duties ranging from set-up around 8:00 am, to registration, helmet fitting, bike maintenance, safety education, skills course, goody bag check-out, refreshments, volunteer tent, parking, and take-down at 2:00 pm. This annual event is designed for elementary school age children. Children bring their bikes and helmets (or are provided with one, if needed) and learn about bicycle safety as they ride through a skills course. They must visit a number of educational tents in order to receive all check-offs and a goody bag. A bicycle license, including the child's picture, and free refreshments are provided. Volunteers receive a free t-shirt and refreshments. If you are interested, please call one of the coordinators for additional details: Cheryl Shouse, 209-8203 or Becky Campbell, 778-6691.

Cheryl also reported that Commissioner Henry is working with local law enforcement and Chief Parks to promote motorist education. This may be an opportunity for us to include bicycle safety information as well.

4 North Brainerd Plan

Karen Rennich and George Krauth from the RPA were present to discuss a discrepancy between upcoming recommendations for the North Brainerd area plan and bicycle facilities suggested by the Bicycle Facilities Master Plan. As noted on the map below, the Bicycle Master Plan recommends a bicycle facilities connection that runs along Midland Pike from Woodmore Elementary. In an effort to connect directly with the Brainerd Levy Greenway,

the Bicycle Plan diverts south to Pawnee Trail, a narrow residential street. It then crosses North Moore and doglegs slightly to North Moore Lane which dead ends adjacent to the levy.

After reviewing the area with Karen, we both agreed that it appears to be more optimal to keep bicycle facilities along Midland Pike (sidewalks are to be recommended as well) to offer a more direct connection between the elementary school and the Brainerd Recreation Center and High School as well as the Brainerd Levy. Some type of traffic device could be placed at the intersection of Midland Pike and N Moore to facilitate crossing. The entrance to the Brainerd Recreation Center already includes a wide drive and sidewalk which terminates in a parking area with bicycle racks. Beyond this lot is an existing gravel road which connects to the Levy. With the recreation center as a current attractor, and the existing (gravel, possibly paved in the future) connection to the Levy, Midland Pike seems an obvious corridor. The only concern raised would be any closure of the Recreation Center roadway (there are gates, current rec ctr hours are 10 am - 7 pm and 7 am - 7 pm in the summer). Noting this concern, the consensus was to recommend amendment of the Bicycle Master Plan as needed at a later date to coincide with the North Brainerd Plan. This would present a unified front as capital requests are made for bicycle/pedestrian improvements. It was also recommended that the BTF maintain an ongoing list of potential Master Plan amendments as road construction and other events impact original recommendations. These amendments would then be presented to the TPO and local governments as needed.



5 City of Chattanooga Wellness Program

Jean Smith from the City of Chattanooga was present to introduce the city's campaign to promote active living among its employees. This could represent an excellent opportunity to promote BikeEd and recruit new Bike2Work commuters. We will continue to explore how we can participate in this program. The issue of bicycle racks available for city employees was discussed. Ben Taylor has about 20 racks available for installation. Please advise any recommended locations.

6 LCI - BikeEd Plan

As we now have 9 local League Cycling Instructors, it is time to begin planning our marketing and educational plan for the remainder of the year. A planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 25th, at 12:00 noon, in the DRC. Suggestions are certainly welcome on how best to proceed.

7 TDOT Long Range Multi-Modal Plan

Karen Hundt is our local steering committee member for the TDOT LRMMP. Melissa prepared a map of all local state roads to gather input from members of areas of concern. Improvements for a suitable east/west corridor are of primary concern as well as routes north of the River into Hamilton County. Once this map is updated, it will be distributed for further comment. Please advise if you have any specific areas that need to be addressed.

Remember you can now visit www.bikechattanooga.org for more information about the Bicycle Task Force and bicycle advocacy in our area. Register for Bike2Work, record your commuting mileage, and participate in our online forum.

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