

CITY OF AUSTIN  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAC)  
MEETING SUMMARY

City Hall  
301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
September 20, 2012

PARTICIPANTS:

Chris LeBlanc – BAC Chair  
Jason Abels – BAC Vice Chair  
Tommy Eden – BAC

Allison Kaplan - BAC  
Ellen Gibbs - BAC  
Mike Kase – BAC  
Elliott McFadden - BAC

Sheila Molina - BAC  
Zachary Stern – Alt BAC  
Tom Thayer – Alt BAC

GUESTS:

Katie Larsen  
Doug McLaren  
Tom Fisch  
Joe Clemens

Rich Hollenbeck  
Preston Tyree  
Chase Norris  
Gonzalo Camacho

Jesse Duncan  
Tom Linehan  
Patrick Jones  
Christopher Stanton

STAFF PRESENT:

Nadia Barrera

Annick Beaudet

Sophia Benner

1. Introductions – Mr. LeBlanc begins the meeting with introductions
2. Review and Approval of August Minutes – Mr. Abels makes a motion to pass the minutes as is, Mr. Kase seconds. There is a short discussion on BAC applications and the election sub-committee. Ms. Barrera comments that the applications are due on 10/4 if the committee would like to meet after that date.
3. Items from BAC –
  - By-laws: Mr. Kase reads his proposed changes to the bylaws. Mr. Eden asks about the 2/3 majority. Mr. Kase clarifies that it builds upon the existing language in the by-laws. Mr. Abels states that he does not mind Proposal 1 because it allows BAC members to review the proposed amendments at the meeting. Mr. Thayer states that on his Planning Contact Team, he uses the process outlined in Proposal 1. The group generally prefers Proposal 1 and Mr. LeBlanc will submit his amended changes before the next meeting.
  - Mr. Abels mentions concerns about street lighting on traffic calming measures at Woodrow. There are some concern that the traffic calming measures seem that they may be dangerous. Ms. Beaudet states that she will address this issue with the Transportation Department and will report back to the BAC next month. Ms. Sheilanova states that in her experience Woodrow is quite dark.
4. Items from Staff – 6:50-7:55  
Safe Routes to School – Katie Larsen – Ms. Beaudet introduces Ms. Larsen. Ms. Larsen introduces Mr. Linehan. She begins her presentation discussing her work on safe routes to school. Mr. Linehan reminds the group that he asked the City via the BAC for more advanced information in regards to the planned street resurfacing. Mr. McFadden asks if there has been any SRTS programming. Ms. Larsen responds that there has not been. Mr. McFadden states that a 20 minute wait is also not attractive for parents. Mr. McFadden asks if there has been any attempt to engage the issue at a Superintendent level. Ms. Larsen

states that they have been working with AISD staff and would like to begin to provide materials to principals for future training. A discussion ensues about driving in the bicycle/shared parking lane on Shoal Creek Boulevard. Ms. Beaudet will ask about more details about that policy. Mr. LeBlanc asks about why Treadwell and White Horse were not tripped for bike lanes even though they were not included in the Bike Plan. Ms. Beaudet responds that in general staff will follow the Council approved Bike Plan. She also states that the advantage to Treadwell not having a centerline means that staff is not precluded from including bicycle facilities because we do not have to wait for additional resurfacing. Ms. Beaudet states that staff is currently engaged in amending the Bike Plan to include cycletracks and certainly would include the recommendations stated here by Ms. Larsen. Mr. LeBlanc asks if there is a threshold for requiring bike lanes. Ms. Beaudet states that there are thresholds included and the Plan also considers the FHWA tables for the criteria for bicycle facilities. Mr. LeBlanc confirms that every street that has been striped with bike lanes have been included in the Bike Plan. Ms. Beaudet confirms that is the case. Mr. Clemons states that an amendment stating that any neighborhood that would like to have a safe route to school would be considered for bicycle improvements, rather than specifying specific segments or roadways. Mr. McFadden reminds the group about the childhood obesity epidemic, test scores, and good faculty is more important than motor vehicle access to the school. Ms. Beaudet states that the Bike Plan at this time is certainly a barrier, but it is not a critical barrier. Ms. Beaudet states that AISD planning for transportation is another issue. Mr. Jones asks if the City has any feedback on AISD's transportation plan. Ms. Beaudet states that the City does not to her knowledge. Ms. Beaudet states that the City does, however have a resource in Ms. Chris Moore, the Manager of the Child Safety Program. Ms. Kaplan asks what worked at other schools such as Zilker. Ms. Beaudet responds that with a plan, funding, the City, and the neighborhood group working together in agreement we can enact change. Mr. Kase asks if Ms. Larson has done work with Boltage to encourage cycling to school. Ms. Larson responds that there was not buy-in at Gullett and there was not staying interest at Lamar Middle School. Mr. Linehan states that a bike/ped specific member of a neighborhood groups would be helpful. Mr. LeBlanc states that the BAC could do more to represent their neighborhoods. Ms. Barrera will review the communication in regards to the sidewalk and handicapped parking installed near Lamar Middle School. Mr. Tyree states that there are many schools in the City have amended their transportation plans to accommodate bicycling and walking and that we should use those schools as examples. Ms. Gibbs states that we would like to wait to hear back from Ms. Beaudet. Ms. Beaudet states that another good idea would be to speak with Ms. Lee Austin, who was a transportation engineer for AISD. Perhaps we can have Ms. Austin present to the group and/or a representative from AISD.

- Trash in Bike Lanes – Sophia Benner – Ms. Beaudet states that about 16% of existing bike lanes do have residential frontage. Ms. Benner gives her presentation.

#### 5. Announcements/Adjourn –

- Mr. Comacho announces the VeloTexas conference October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Beaudet announces Think Bike October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, the cycletrack amendment to the Bike Plan, the delegation to Holland next weeks, and the Bond election brochures.
- Ms. Kaplan states that MetroRapid had their grand opening ceremony this morning.
- Mr. Abels announces the 30<sup>th</sup> annual full moon ride at 2am, meeting at the Pfluger Bridge.

#### 6. Mr. Kase motions to adjourn and Mr. Abels seconds