

CCMPO Pedestrian/Bicycle Committee Meeting Notes – June 30, 2011

ATTENDEES:

Peter Keating, Bryan Davis, Chapin Spencer, Nicole Losch, Christine Forde, Michael Hechmer

AGENDA

- 1) Brief review of project updates
- 2) Performance Measures in Bike/Ped Plan – review data
- 3) 2012 Bicycle/Pedestrian Summit
- 4) Stolen Bikes
- 5) Looking Ahead - Role of the Committee

MINUTES

1) Brief review of project updates

Discussion about the project updates, focusing on the A List project and B Priority List (see MPO_Bike-Ped_Proj_Tiers_30June2011.xls). It seems that our prioritization effort and tracking of progress has helped some projects move forward and has kept staff and others informed and involved. Discussion about the role of our regional organization for leading regional/inter-municipal projects – can the MPO/RPC take the lead for projects such as Muddy Brook, Main Street Bridge over the Winooski, Queen City Park Road/Shelburne Rd crossing, etc.? We have recently entered that role for other projects and could potentially be project manager for these bike/ped (and likely other) projects as well. We could also take the lead on applying for funding on behalf of municipalities.

The state is working to get the statewide bicycle/pedestrian program up and running, so we can use our efforts to help municipalities consider potential projects and help apply through that program.

2) Performance Measures in Bike/Ped Plan – review data

Staff has worked with partners (thank you!) to compile baseline data for the Performance Measures included in the 2008 Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan (see pp 67-68, Ch 5, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.ccmpos.us/library/bikeped/"](http://www.ccmpos.us/library/bikeped/) }). These measures were included as a way to measure progress in meeting the Plan's goals. See 2008 Plan Performance Measures 30June2010.xls.

Here is some guidance on reading the spreadsheet:

Taken directly from the Regional Bike/Ped Plan are six goals with specific performance measures tied to each goal, along with the responsible party and the data collection cycle (see gray column headings). The “Discussion” column includes any relevant direction for staff, thoughts on wording of performance measure, or helpful notes for staff in preparing data. The “Who” column indicates the staff person or organization contacted to prepare data, and the “Comments” column indicates which worksheet contains the specific data sets (see worksheet

tabs at bottom of spreadsheet), updates on data collection, etc. The “Status” column is self explanatory.

A few specific notes:

Third measure, “Percent Change in the number of non-Enhancement and Bicycle and Pedestrian projects that include accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians”: there was discussion about the wording of this measure, as well as the subjective nature in determining what constitutes bike/ped accommodations or improvements. For example, if a road is repaved, is that an improvement/accommodation? The group decided that if the road has shoulders, then yes, without shoulders, then no. **Christine will continue reviewing the TIP project list to clarify which projects do or do not provide accommodations/improvements.** It may be possible to add a “notes” column to the TIP to see if a new column for bike/ped accommodations should be added to the traditional TIP spreadsheet.

We are waiting for 2010 Census data, as well as recent National Household Travel Survey data to complete the “share of work commute trips” and “change in percent of commute trips” performance measures (under Goal 4). **Bryan will continue working with Dave Roberts to compile this data.**

“Bicycle and pedestrian use of shared use paths and other bike/pedestrian facilities” under Goal 4: Countywide bike/ped data for a number of years is available on the CCMPO website, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.ccmpto.us/data/bikeped/"](http://www.ccmpto.us/data/bikeped/) }. Click the “station ID” listing to download the data is in a zip file. Note that counts with a percent under the “Estimated Daily % Bikes” column will open a new webpage with an easy-to-read bar graph showing the data. Staff will continue to update the other data pages to this newer format. Data is typically is collected on an “as requested” basis but the MPO/RPC is collecting annual data on a number of specific paths to create a rich dataset. Regional Planning Commissions from across the state are uploading their data to a VTrans website (currently password protected).

The “Education & Encouragement Table” lists programs recommended in the Regional Bike/Ped Plan; staff has made some notes on their progress in our region but will continue to update.

Additional info and suggestions to this workbook are welcome. This will become the baseline for future data collection on the cycles noted.

3) 2012 Bicycle/Pedestrian Summit

In March 2010 we held a successful bicycle/pedestrian summit at St. Michael’s College. It’s time to begin planning for a spring 2012 event – recruiting project steering committee members, considering the summit format, potential topics/ideas, keynote speakers, possible venues, etc. **If you are interested in helping to plan the summit, contact Bryan,** { [HYPERLINK "mailto:bdavis@ccmpo.org"](mailto:bdavis@ccmpo.org) }.

4) Stolen Bikes

Discussion about number of stolen bike postings on Front Porch Forum and what could be done to streamline the reporting and make it easy to reconnect folks with their bikes. Chapin reported

that Local Motion is rolling out an online stolen bike registry in the next few weeks. Stay tuned for the public announcement.

5) Looking Ahead - Role of the Committee

This meeting wraps up our effort to prioritize regional projects and collect data for the Bike/Ped Plan performance measures. Moving forward, the committee can help with summit planning, update to the Regional Pedestrian/Bicycle Plan (next year), and working on policy and structural issues for municipalities. Committee meeting attendance has fluctuated since we reconvened some 18 months ago, and when we ramp up efforts to update the regional plan we will likely update the committee membership - the MPO/RPC is open to suggestions for new members which could include folks from the health field, AARP VT, bicycle businesses, local officials, advocates and others. **Please send your suggestions to Bryan: { [HYPERLINK "mailto:bdavis@ccmpo.org"](mailto:bdavis@ccmpo.org) }**

Other business

Chapin provided an update on Friends of the Island Line, created in response to the recent flooding. Beginning this weekend waterfront path users will be able to walk their bikes on the currently closed sections: Lakeside Ave north to Maple St, and Starr Farm Rd to North Ave Ext. A bank account has been created specifically for funds to help repair the causeway and there are a number of fundraisers happening in the next couple of months. Discussion about Fish and Wildlife suggestion to expand the cut to allow for more water flow between the lake and bay.

At a recent meeting of Island Line stakeholders there was discussion about submitting a Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant request to FEMA to help fund repairs and prepare the causeway to withstand future flood events. The MPO/RPC may help with a coordinated grant application.

Adjourned 10:30 a.m.