

AGENDA
City of Charlottesville
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Thursday, **January 4, 2024**; 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
[Remote meeting via Zoom](#)

Call to order [5:00 PM, 5 minutes]

a. Virtual introductions

Tommy Safranek
Herb Levy
Peter Fekety
Guinevere Higgins
Stephen Bach
Peter Krebs
Andy Orban
Josh Krahm
Kyle Rodland
Ben Chambers
Peter Ohlms
Ethan Tate
Tyler Miller
Jay Oschrein
Leonora Crane
Josh Carp
James Van Vranken
Claire Denton-Spalding
Natalie Oschrein

Approval of the Agenda [5:05 PM; 2 minutes]

Approval of Meeting Notes [5:07 PM, 3 minutes]

a. [Previous Meeting Notes \(December 7, 2023\)](#)

Public Comment [5:10 PM, 10 minutes]

Herb asks about leaf clearance on sharrows streets and bike lanes. He says that it's important for cyclists to be able to move over into parking spaces, but recently it's been impossible for piles of leaves (Park St and Monticello Ave were mentioned). Tommy agrees that it's an issue that needs looking into.

Updates [5:20, 30 minutes]

1) Kyle Rodland - Safe Routes to School Coordinator

- Kyle's still working on the list of SRTS priorities.
- He's been asked to make a presentation at the national SRTS convention; Cville is

- becoming a gold standard for other SRTS programs across the state.
- Guinevere asks about speed cameras: They are still “in procurement.” There’ll be more of an update soon; but it will still happen. It’s the top priority for City Schools for everyone’s safety and for crossing guard retention (they’re very vocal about needing speed cameras).

2) Ben Chambers - Transportation Planning Manager
a) 2023 Bike/Ped Master plan progress

This was an annual update that Amanda used to give; the last update came in 2021. The update only contains projects from the [2015 Bike/Ped Master Plan](#), so there are some projects that are no longer relevant, for various reasons, and other projects being worked on but not on the list.

Next year’s list will be similar but will have even more updates.

b) 2024 priorities

Sidewalks

Tier 1: Low-hanging fruit - within the next three years.

Tier 2: Bigger projects (whole blocks/streets). Need some consultants to understand the actual scope of the work.

Tier 3: Too big for the city to do by itself, so will need help from the state or federal level.

Will be moving forward with surveys and designs for Tier 1 and Tier 2 priorities. Will look into funding and scheduling for larger Tier 3 projects and coordinating with the city’s ADA Transition Plan. Working to prepare SRTS projects to be construction ready on the first day of the summer. Will be looking around late spring for feedback on the next academic year’s SRTS projects.

Sidewalk Priorities: Updated and re-prioritized the various lists of sidewalk projects. Paused the analysis to wait for the ADA Transition Plan’s results.

Will collect public comment on the final draft list of priorities in February; Mar/Apr will revise the list based on public comment; Apr/May will present the final list to Council.

Bicycle Infrastructure

They have taken an inventory of the city’s bike parking; they’re working on getting more long- and short-term parking, including working with the parking manager to add bike lockers to garages.

W Main: They’re working on a restriping plan for W Main that includes parking-protected bike lanes. Planning to hand over the plans in 6 months.

5th St SW: VDOT Road Diet to turn one southbound lane into a two-way cycle track. Working with VDOT to analyze traffic impacts and figure out how the junctions will work, but it's on VDOT's timeline.

Melbourne Rd: Need to figure out protected bike lane vs. shared-use path vs. other options and what to do about parking.

Other Stuff

They're expanding dockless mobility hub locations and will deploy virtual locations to promote good parking practices. Veo has been increasing its illegal parking enforcement, and is about to roll out double fines if the parking hinders ADA access.

The Regional Safety Action Summit is happening on Jan. 10th; lots of elected officials will be present. It's a regional event that should help the city to get funding for bike/ped projects.

They're also figuring out the city's standards and procedures for traffic calming solutions; is the city being flexible enough with traffic calming options?

Will also look at updating the city's Standards and Design Manual and the Streets That Work program.

Questions

Should mobility scooters (for people with mobility issues) be in bike lanes or sidewalks? Lots of people are choosing to use the bike lanes because sidewalks aren't good enough. Answer: They should be on sidewalks but Ben understands why some people would choose to use the bike lanes. The ADA improvements should work on addressing those issues.

There was a question about enforcing illegal parking in bike lanes. Ben will talk to CPD about getting more enforcement. Tommy has talked about it with them; there's one officer responsible for it, so it's slow when that person isn't working. Can we get infrastructure as well as enforcement? One issue is that infrastructure gets in the way of road clearance: Perhaps BPAC can research how other localities handle this?

Question about CIP funding: No new bike funding will be applied for because the city has enough money this year to work on all of its projects. Ideally there will be more money for sidewalks; Ben expects the Planning Commission to see that and address it at their meeting on Tuesday (Jan. 9).

Peter K encourages everyone to attend the PC public hearing on Tuesday to advocate for more funding for sidewalks.

Peter K gives some context on the McIntire sidewalk/shared-use path suggestion.

He says the County and City decided five years ago that it wasn't worth building because it wouldn't be perfect, it would be a waste of money, etc. Now everyone sees that infrastructure can be rough and dirty and still be valuable; hopefully it can happen this time.

Tyler encourages everyone to use the MyCville app and get in touch with the Tree Commission if there are problems with leaf clearance.

- 3) Tommy Safranek - Bike Pedestrian Coordinator
 - a) Neighborhood monthly walks - Every 2nd Sunday of the month
 - i) [January 14th](#) - MLK walk with UVA & Albemarle County

The goal is to walk and explore the city with folks and build up relationships and connections with community partners. He encourages members to think about future routes and community partners.

- b) [Website](#) - maps
 - i) [Bike Parking](#) - need input

Please send Tommy an email with suggestions for locations that need bike parking.

- ii) Bike routes - [*Let us help plan your bike route*](#)

Tommy is wondering about adding this feature to the city's bike/ped page. It could be a good way to help new cyclists find safe and effective routes through the city.

- c) Bike volunteers
 - i) Route leaders
 - ii) Block adopters

- 4) BPAC
 - a) Vote on a new Chair

James and Guinevere are voted in as chair and co-chair.

- b) Resources to promote to the public (including existing bike routes)
 - i) [Virginia Bicycle Facility Inventory \(arcgis.com\)](#)
 - ii) [Jefferson Area Bike And Pedestrian Plan \(2019\)](#)
 - iii) [Charlottesville Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan \(2015\)](#)

Herb asked to discuss at this meeting a potential project to create a brochure/map that can show the area's bicycle resources on a printed page. There was not sufficient time at the meeting to do this item justice, so it will be added to next month's agenda.

Review upcoming events, etc. that may be of interest to BPAC

- 1) PEC
 - a) Active Mobility Alliance summit
 - b) Bike Month - we will need volunteers to work the Friday's After 5 concerts
- 2) Rivanna Trails Foundation
 - a) Work Party on January 13th
 - b) Youth Trail Crew program
 - c) Loop de'Ville Monthly Walks - Every 3rd Sunday of the month

Coordinate Agenda for next BPAC Meeting [6:10, 5 minutes]

- 1) Budget update
- 2) Should we tweak the format of the BPAC meetings?
- 3) James will be hosting the meetings from now on.

Adjourn [6:30]