



MEMORANDUM
June 3, 2009

TO: Members, Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee
FROM: Lydia Kelly, Bicycle/Pedestrian Transportation Planner
SUBJECT: Meeting Notice and Agenda

The next meeting of the **Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC)** is scheduled for
Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.
at 825 S. St. Mary's St, San Antonio, Texas 78205

The following agenda items will be discussed and action will be taken as appropriate.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Citizens to be Heard
3. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the May 13, 2009 BMAC Meeting Minutes
4. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Update of the Linear Creekway Parks Advisory Board (Greg Hammer/BMAC Citizen Member)
5. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Continued Discussion of VIA Metropolitan Transit's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project and Cyclists (Abigail Kinnison/VIA)
6. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee's By-laws (Lydia Kelly/MPO)
7. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Interest for T-shirts and Jerseys with the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee Logo (Cindi Snell/BMAC Citizen Member and Lydia Kelly/MPO)
8. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Review of April Bike Night Meeting and Development of the July Bike Night Agenda (Lydia Kelly/MPO)
9. Discussion and Appropriate Action on discussion of priority corridor/projects to be included in the MPO 2035 plan (Lydia Kelly/MPO)
10. BMAC Communication

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1. Roll Call

Judge Oscar Kazen	Chairman		210-865-2354
Ken Zigrang (Vice Chair)	Planner	TxDOT	210-615-5923
Andrew Hudgins	Transportation Coordinator	AACOG	210-362-5228
Richard Higby	Bicycle Coordinator	Bexar County	210-335-6785
Roger Christian		Citizen	210-829-1953
Greg Hammer		Citizen	210-678-3310
Cindi Snell		Citizen	210-828-5558
Jeff Russell		Citizen	210-829-7003
Samuel Sanchez	Planner	CSA Parks and Recreation	210-207-4091
Priscilla Rosales-Piña	Planner	CSA Planning	210-207-7839
Vacant		Public Works	
Valerie Flinn	Leon Valley resident	GBCCC	210-857-3123
George Aguilar	VIA Police Department	Law Enforcement Bicycle Patrol	210-362-2436
Lt Charles Garcia	City of San Antonio PD	Bicycle Patrol	210-207-8217
Allen Hodapp	Cycle Logic	Rotating Bicycle Org	210-490-8251
Dr. Della Corales (alt)	Cool Cats		210-224-0888
John Mayfield	Citizen	SA Wheelmen	210-662-2612
Luis Marti	NISD	School District Rep	210-397-1251
Dave Foegelle	Citizen	STORM	210-722-5864
George Longoria	Citizen	Tx Bicycle Coalition	210-325-0265
Abigail Kinnison	Planner	VIA Metropolitan Transit	210-362-2564

2. Citizens to be Heard

3. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the May 13, 2009 BMAC Meeting Minutes

Issue

The May 13, 2009 BMAC meeting minutes are presented for the committee's review.

Action Requested

A motion to approve the May 13, 2009 BMAC meeting minutes is requested.



**BICYCLE MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2009**

Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee

Voting Members Present:

Judge Oscar Kazen	Chair
Ken Zigrang (Vice Chair)	Texas Department of Transportation
Andrew Hudgins	Alamo Area Council of Governments
Richard Higby	Bexar County
Roger Christian	Citizen
Greg Hammer	Citizen
Cindi Snell	Citizen
Priscilla Rosales-Piña	CoSA Planning and Community Development
David Arciniega	CoSA Parks and Recreation Department
Valerie Flinn	Greater Bexar County Council of Cities
Allen Hodapp	Rotating Bicycle Organization
John Mayfield	San Antonio Wheelmen
Luis Marti	School District Representative
Abigail Kinnison	VIA Metropolitan Transit

Voting Members Absent:

Jeff Russell	Citizen
Lt. Charles Garcia	Law Enforcement/Bicycle Patrol
David Foegelle	STORM
George Longoria	Texas Bicycle Coalition

Others Present:

Julia Diana	CoSA Office of Environmental Policy
Aaron Stein	CoSA Office of Environmental Policy
Lydia Kelly	MPO
Ambar Perez	MPO

1. Roll Call

Judge Kazen called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. A quorum was present.

2. Citizens to be Heard

Daniel Day expressed his concern for cars that drive in the bicycle lane on Avenue B, the dangerous intersection of Avenue B and Jones, the dangerous crossing at Ave B and Mulberry and the Bus Rapid Transit planning that doesn't seem to leave room for bicyclists or pedestrians. He would like to see a better access to Brackenridge Park than what currently exists. He went on to suggest that he thought a Linear Creekway/Park Master Plan for the City of San Antonio would be helpful in planning for hike and bike system. Daniel expressed his interest for the large number of drainage ditches throughout the City of San Antonio that could be utilized as part of the Linear Creekway system.

Greg Hammer addressed Daniel's concern about the Linear Creekways. He explained there is a long range plan for the Linear Creekways and it can be found online. Greg went on to agree that the system will have some disconnects but the City of San Antonio is trying to identify routes to accommodate the disconnects.

There was a lengthy committee discussion on Avenue B and the dangerous intersection at Jones and US 281. No solution was identified but the concern will remain on the radar for the committee for future discussion.

Abigail Kinnison will present on the Bus Rapid Transit project and will address some of Daniel's concerns in her presentation.

3. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the April 8, 2009 BMAC Meeting Minutes

Abigail Kinnison moved to approve the April 8, 2009 meeting minutes and Greg Hammer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Update of the Linear Creekway Parks Advisory Board

Greg Hammer provided an update on the progress of linear creekway projects. He reported that the ribbon cutting for opening four more miles of Leon Creek between Babcock and Bandera went very well.

Greg was happy to report that the City of San Antonio, Parks and Recreation Department and the Linear Creekway committee is working with City Public Service Energy (CPS) on an agreement to allow the Linear Creekways to pass through CPS easements. This has not been allowed in the past and is a major opportunity; not only for the Linear Creekway projects, but for future possibilities. CPS is developing the process which will include an agreement. This agreement will not address easements not owned by CPS. In those cases the easement

agreement will have to be with the landowner. A separate agreement will be with CPS to guarantee CPS trucks and crews will have the required access. Everyone agreed it is a major advancement for the hike/bike transportation system.

The committee continued the discussion on possible other creekway/drainage systems that would be appropriate for expanding the Linear and Westside Creekway programs. One of particular interest was the Salitrillo Creek on the Northside of the region.

For information and discussion only.

5. Discussion and Appropriate Action on VIA Metropolitan Transit's Bus Rapid Transit Project and Cyclists

Abigail Kinnison presented a PowerPoint describing the background and status of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project which will travel primarily on Fredericksburg Rd. VIA is in the environmental assessment phase, and is, as such, receiving public comments on the overall project and a couple of specific issues: 1 – whether the vehicle will be curbside or median running and, 2 – the location of stations. VIA has held a number of public meetings, which BMAC members received notice of. Group discussion focused on how BRT relates to cyclists and various amenities that may be implemented. Plans currently include allowing bikes on the front of buses (similar to existing vehicles), installing bike racks (parking) at many station locations, and possibly installing bike lockers and/or a bike station at the transit centers. Abigail was clear that “no build” is still an option. The renderings shown are purely conceptual and many design details have not yet been decided. Specific comments/questions included:

- Overall BRT (and transit improvements) is a good thing for San Antonio, but this configuration is taking away a roadway from cyclists.
- Committee members felt the Huisache stop more appropriate than the Calaveras stop because it supports connectivity to the potential Westside Creekways hike and bike program
- Concern was expressed for the safety of those cyclists who will continue to choose to ride Fredericksburg Rd, rather than put their bike on the bus.
- Even providing a three bike rack on the front (vs a two bike rack) isn't going to address the need. There are currently lots of cyclists that have to wait because the bike rack on the bus is full. It will be harder to put the bikes on this type of bus.
- Need to allow bikes inside the vehicles
- Can bikes be allowed on both inside and on the front?
- Bike racks at stations are not good enough, there should be lockers in many locations as well

- Why does it say bike loops (parking) are optional? That needs to change
- Loading bikes on the outside racks will slow down the "rapid" bus; inside is better
- The bike rack on the outside looks ugly on this new sleek vehicle, seems like VIA wouldn't want to "junk it up" with a front bike rack
- Where is the on-road bike facility?
- Can a 14' outside lane (bike route) be provided where there is ROW?
- If the BRT is curb running, can bikes also be in the "bus only" lane?
- If bikes are in the "bus only" lane won't that slow down the rapid bus? May be frustrating and dangerous for the operators and the cyclists
- If BRT is median running, regular buses will still operate in outside lane, so that's not improvement from today, and possibly more car traffic will be there as well.
- How long is current loading time? How long is BRT loading anticipated to be?
- May be opportunity to get really nice alternate routes to Fredericksburg Rd built but will still be losing a straight shot
- Suggested cities to research - Las Vegas, Eugene, OR, Los Angeles (has a bike path along the BRT line), Albuquerque, NM

BMAC members were receptive to having additional updates regarding this project as well as having members act as a technical support committee. Abigail was agreeable to this and will follow up next month.

For information and discussion only.

6. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Interest for T-shirts and Jerseys with the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee

Lydia Kelly started the discussion. The questions are whether BMAC members want to order t-shirts and/or jerseys. Almost everyone showed an interest in the jerseys. There was some interest in t-shirts, too.

Cindi Snell will ask her jersey contact, Champion Systems, the process for individuals ordering once the set up fee is paid. For more information on Champion Systems visit www.champ-sys.com . She stated Champion Systems does not require a minimum order and individuals can place single orders.

John Mayfield thought that Cliff Hickel might be interested in volunteering to organize the process once the process is finalized.

Committee members agreed this is a good way to bring awareness about BMAC. Speaking of making the public aware of BMAC a number of other ideas stemmed from the discussion. Valerie Flinn suggested having a BMAC friends list in Facebook as another way of advertisement.

This agenda item will be in next month's agenda to finalize discussion. Things to be determined: the process for ordering, collecting for the setup fee and the money for the jersey/t-shirts and distribution.

For information and discussion only.

7. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Review of April Bike Night meeting

Due to lack of time, this item was postponed. Item will be placed on the agenda for June 10, 2009.

8. BMAC Communications

Lydia Kelly announced this was Andrew Hudgins' last meeting, and asked if he wanted to say a few words. Andrew expressed appreciation for the committee's effort to educate on the benefits of bicycles as a means of transportation.

Aaron Stein asked that BMAC help develop a bike group list. This would be a resource for public involvement issues.

Abigail Kinnison reported that a total of 392 cyclists rode the VIA buses free on May 1st in honor of the Walk & Roll to Work Rally. She felt this number was low. It could be low because either some riders have passes and/or drivers did not collect information on everyone who had a bicycle.

John Mayfield invited everyone to contact their elected state official in support of the Safe Passing bill.

Greg Hammer made the motion to adjourn. Allen Hodapp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

4. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Update of the Linear Creekway Parks Advisory Board

Issue

This is an opportunity for a monthly update on the progress of the Linear Creekway Parks Advisory Board. Greg Hammer, as a San Antonio City Council district representative, will continue to update BMAC on the progress of the projects.

Action Requested

No action is being requested this month.

5. Discussion and Appropriate Action on VIA Metropolitan Transit's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project and Cyclists

Issue

This is a continuation of the discussion from the May meeting regarding the proposed BRT project on the Fredericksburg Road Corridor and the proposed accommodation of cyclists within the system. Abigail Kinnison will provide an update.

Action Requested

No action is being requested this month.

6. Discussion and Appropriate Action on the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee's By-Laws

Issue

Until recently, the City of San Antonio's (CoSA) Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator's position was located within the Public Works Department. The previous coordinator filled the position on BMAC for Public Works.

The CoSA Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator position has been moved and is currently within the City of San Antonio's Office of Environmental Policy. The by-laws need to be updated to address the changes within the City of San Antonio so the Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator can be a voting member of the committee.

This is an opportunity for the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee (BMAC) to review the by-laws and adjust the membership accordingly to allow for the City of San Antonio Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator a place on the committee. Discussion can begin with consideration of adding the Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator and retaining representation from the City of San Antonio Public Works Department.

Action Requested

Action is requested to update the BMAC by-laws.

7. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Interest for T-shirts and Jerseys with the Bicycle Mobility Advisory Committee Logo

Issue

This is a continuation of the discussion on T-shirts and Jerseys for BMAC members.

Cindi Snell agreed to contact a jersey supplier to see if the system can be set up to order individually on line; and will bring the information to the June meeting.

No definitive decision was made on whether there is interest in T-shirts. This is an opportunity to continue the discussion.

Still to be determined:

1. Is there an interest for t-shirts,
2. How will we collect for the set up fee for the jerseys (and possibly T-shirts)?
3. What is the process for ordering and payment? Cindi Snell may have answers for us on jerseys; but what arrangements do we want for T-shirts?
4. What other specifics need to be answered?



San Antonio Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization

Action Requested

No action is being requested this month.

8. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Review of April Bike Night Meeting Development of the July Bike Night Agenda

Issue

This is an opportunity to review the Citizens to be Heard portion of the April Bike Night meeting minutes and determine which items may need follow-up and additional resources. This is also an opportunity to discuss what agenda items will be appropriate for the July Bike Night meeting.

Action Requested

No action is being requested this month.

9. Discussion and Appropriate Action on discussion on priority corridor/projects to be included in the MPO 2035 plan

Issue

The region's long-range transportation plan, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, is a federally required, financially constrained plan with a horizon year of 2035. Within in the plan will be a chapter on bicycle transportation. This is an opportunity to begin discussion on possible corridors/projects to be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mobility 2035. There is not necessarily funding available for the projects chosen to be included in the bicycle chapter; however it will provide the agencies such as Bexar County, the City of San Antonio, Texas Department of Transportation and suburban cities, a list of prioritized corridors to draw projects from.

Action Requested

No action is being requested this month.

10. BMAC Communications