

Nampa Bicycle and Pedestrian Citizens Advisory Group
Minutes of
September 16, 2008

Attendance: LaRita Schandorff, Bruce Wiley, Julia Jones, Cynthia Reynolds, Jerry Hull, Barbara Hull, Kathleen Cookman, Tyler Welshimer, Worth Montgomery

- 2 routes were agreed upon to recommend to the city for marking as official bicycle routes. One route would connect the University District with the Downtown via the Sunnyridge, Holly, 16th corridor. The other route would provide Southside neighborhoods a route to get from the Wilson Trail to Downtown via Roosevelt and 10th avenue.
- Locations for a street closure neighborhood "play" event were also discussed, but not decided upon.
- ACTION ITEMS: LaRita will schedule meeting with Rodney Ashby, Jerry Hull will get copy of the draft for the University District plan to LaRita as resource information.

Other news and information:

Meeting with Rodney Ashby, Long Range Planner

- Routes recommended by the NBPCAG group were presented and well received. Ashbey is on the University District planning committee and writing the report. Goals to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure have been included in the plan and the route will fit with these goals. Schandorff recommended the 2003 brochure and bike map be used as a starting point for a new map.
- Pedestrian ramp completion in North Nampa approved and will begin this fall. This is a 7 year plan with a rotating focus on ramp and sidewalk completion using Community Development Block Grant funds.
- Rodney Ashbey, LaRita Schandorff, Norm Holmes, Cliff Long, and Jamie Hiskey (?) attended webinar to become informed on the AASHTO Guidelines manual for bicycle facilities.
- Very enthusiastic about street closure event.

Amity Road Update

- 87% recommended that Chestnut to King's Road be the priority section for this construction phase.
- Great deal of support and comment asking for bike lanes and that trails intersecting Amity be taken into consideration.
- Construction date has been moved up due funding changes.

City Council activity

- LaRita attended October 6.
- Mayor's Teen Council gave a report of all the positive community work accomplished in the past year. This would be a good group from which to draw some teen input on bicycle and pedestrian issues.
- Michael Fuss, Director of Public Works, reported that crosswalks have been requested for Lone Star and ?
- Cooperative agreement with Valley Regional Transit approved. Ridership has doubled. Signage at stops, benches, and additional buses have been added. Consistent source of funding for transit is still being sought.
- Council denied a developer's request to defer the curb, gutter, sidewalk requirements.

Safety Campaign

- Preliminary contract with NNU Mass Communications Department for filming public service ads for bicycle and pedestrian safety has been secured. Next steps are to identify key message we want to convey and developing a planning task force for the campaign including citizens, city staff, and police department. Anyone interested? Contact LaRita!

LeBow Award to NBPCAG

- NBPCAG received a Public Sector Award for having the one of the largest number of team participants (10!) in the Bob LeBow Charity Ride this year. Way to go! Can we double that next year?

Tax Credit for Bike Commuters

- Buried in the recent financial bailout legislation is a tax credit for bicycle commuters. If you are lucky enough to have an employer who reimburses you for commuting by bicycle you will now be allowed to exclude that reimbursement from your gross income. For reading of the summary of the bill go to

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:HR01424:@@D&summ2=m&>

Scroll down to Division B: Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008 - Title I: Energy Production Incentives - Subtitle A: Renewable Energy Incentives, Title II: Transportation and Domestic Fuel Security Provisions, (Sec. 211) Allows employees to exclude reimbursements for bicycle commuting expenses from gross income.

Next meeting of the NBPCAG: October 21st, 7:00 p.m., Flying M Coffee Garage, Nampa, ID