

**Newark Bicycle Committee**  
September 16, 2010, 4:00-5:00 pm  
Wilmington Area Planning Council

## **Minutes**

### **In attendance**

Bob Bennett  
Heather Dunigan  
Charlie Emerson  
Mike Fortner  
Dan LaCombe  
Rich LaPointe  
George Stanko  
Jeff Riegner  
James Wilson

### **Not in attendance**

Rachel Anderson  
Trevor Booz  
Jim Grimes  
Steve Hegedus  
Frank Warnock  
Arthur Wicks  
Rich Willy

### **Introductions and general discussion**

The meeting convened at 4:00 pm.

- Mike Fortner led a discussion of preparations for Community Day. DeIDOT will staff the booth and provide a tent, table, and giveaways. WILMAPCO will provide Committee brochures. The City will provide a flip chart, easel, maps, and a questionnaire. Jeff Riegner and Bike Delaware will bring display materials.
- Heather Dunigan reported that the City received 16 bike racks from DeIDOT, and a group met just before this Committee meeting to discuss how they will be installed. Some racks will be installed in the street just downstream of pedestrian crossing bulbouts; Heather will email Dan LaCombe to start the approval process for those. For racks in the sidewalk Mike will survey property owners including the National 5&10, Happy Harry's, Homegrown Café, Wilmington Trust, and Newark United Methodist Church.
- Dan said that students are not only interested in indoor parking in UD garages (in progress), but they would like to bring their bikes into their dorm rooms for security's sake.
- Dan reported that the bicycle safety checkpoint, held on September 8 on Delaware Avenue, was a big success. Participants (mostly students) received good education regarding riding with traffic and using lights after dark. Many volunteers installed lights and distributed promotional materials. He said that more staffing is needed for the next checkpoint, to be held on September 21 on North College Avenue at Ray

Street. Jeff suggested that a spring event could also focus on keeping people from riding their bikes on Main Street sidewalks.

- George Stanko said that the NPD's primary enforcement focus is currently pedestrians, but additional bicycle enforcement could take place in October.
- Charlie Emerson reported that the City's Parks and Recreation Department bought ten more Bicycle Friendly Community signs (12 total), which will be installed as staffing is available.

#### **Key focus areas for the coming year**

- Attendees stressed the need for better bicycle infrastructure. Main Street is the biggest gap in the City's bicycle network. Heather said that UD's new path through Fraser Field may provide a limited alternative route. Jeff added that shared lane markings, or sharrows, may be appropriate on Main Street based on similar experience in California. Dan said that sharrow installation would require a formal request from the City for DelDOT approval. Jeff confirmed that infrastructure will be one of the Committee's next priorities.
- Jeff said that with Cindy Genau's departure from the Committee, an additional education person is needed.
- Mike suggested that a formal facility plan be adopted. Rich LaPointe emphasized that it needs to be linked to anticipated costs.
- Mike recommended education be provided for sharrows prior to and upon their installation.
- Jeff suggested that the Committee build on its past work on bike sharing, moving toward implementation.
- Jeff added that the Committee could consider using the Bicycle Friendly Community application feedback to focus its efforts for the next year.

The meeting adjourned about 5:30 pm.