

Newark Bicycle Committee

December 16, 2010, 4:00-5:00 pm
Wilmington Area Planning Council

Minutes

In attendance

Trevor Booz
Bob Bennett
Heather Dunigan
Mark Deshon
Dan LaCombe
Jeff Riegner
George Stanko
James Wilson

Not in attendance

Anthony Aglio
Charlie Emerson
Mike Fortner
Jim Grimes
Steve Hegedus
Willett Kempton
Rich LaPointe
Frank Warnock
Arthur Wicks
Amy Wilburn

Introductions

The meeting convened at 4:00 pm.

Infrastructure group (Anthony Aglio, Charlie Emerson, and Rich LaPointe)

- The group discussed options for Delaware Avenue from the Newark Transportation Plan draft recommendations. It was suggested that 15th Street in Washington, DC be considered as an example design.
- The use of a “Sharrow Flower” as found in Portland was suggested at the intersection of Main Street and the Pomeroy Trail.
- It was suggested that a cycle track with a mountable curb be installed on one side of Delaware Avenue.
- The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) bicycle design guide, due for release this spring, may include design guidance for Newark to consider.

Parking group (Heather Dunigan and Frank Warnock)

- Mike Fortner submitted the City’s bicycle corral proposal to DeIDOT by Mike Fortner, and it was updated with additional details by Anthony Aglio. Currently, the proposal is under review by DeIDOT’s traffic section.

Enforcement group (Jim Grimes and George Stanko)

- George Stanko discussed the Newark police enforcement campaign planned for spring. Enforcement should address wrong way riding.
- Trevor Booz noted that wrong way cycling is especially an issue on North College Avenue, Elkton Road and Delaware Avenue. There were several comments about the difficulty riding from Suburban Plaza to Casho Mill Road on the correct side of Elkton Road. This area may be a candidate for a shared-use path.
- George will coordinate with Jim Grimes regarding officers at the Delaware Avenue crosswalk who park in the bike lane.
- Jeff Riegner suggested that signs for wrong way bike travel be considered on Delaware Avenue.

Encouragement group (Mike Fortner and Frank Warnock): no report

Education group (Arthur Wicks): no report

Committee's 2011 priorities

The attendees further discussed the 2011 priorities presented at the November meeting.

1. Implement short-term bike lane and sharrow recommendations as presented at the October meeting and discussed during the October and November meetings. Main Street and Delaware Avenue are particularly important. This list will also be part of the Newark Transportation Plan. **Heather Dunigan**
2. Get downtown bike racks installed. **Mike Fortner**
3. Continue and build on the success of 2010 safety checkpoints in spring and fall 2011. **Dan LaCombe**
4. Continue participation in Newark Nite and Community Day. **Mike Fortner**
5. Make 2011 Bike Month (May) and Bike-to-Work Day a special event in Newark, partnering with elected officials, DelDOT, Bike Delaware, the TMA, Downtown Newark Partnership, and potentially others. Arthur Wicks will look into the possibility of a race to accompany Bike Month in 2012. **Mark Deshon**
6. Promote DelDOT's upcoming brochure on why sharrows are installed and how they work. **Dan LaCombe**
7. Provide comments and offer support for formal adoption of the Newark Transportation Plan. The Plan is expected to include recommendations for other items on the Committee's list such as a bike facility re-marking policy (partnership needed with DelDOT for long-line markings) and bike boxes. **Heather Dunigan**
8. Develop a formal Newark Bicycle Plan, either in WILMAPCO's FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program or through volunteer efforts. The plan would include a bike parking plan as well as potential model ordinances. **Jeff Riegner**

9. Focus on ensuring the University of Delaware's redevelopment of the Chrysler assembly plant provides excellent facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians. **Bob Bennett**
10. Look for ongoing data collection opportunities.
11. Consider extension of the Hall Trail to the west.

Review of action items

- The infrastructure group will provide the Traffic Committee with recommendations on bicycle facility retrofits and on updating bicycle pavement markings.
- Mike Fortner will survey business owners on Main Street regarding sidewalk bike rack installation.
- The committee will continue to work with Drew Knab on indoor parking policies at the University of Delaware.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.