Salt Lake County Bicycle Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes for July 12, 2017


Absent: M. Gregory (excused), Brady Wheeler (excuse)

Public Meeting:

5:30pm- Public Input: Betsy Byrnes informed the committee that the Bike Utah Action Group meets on 3rd Thursday of every month, at the Sprague Library in Sugarhouse.

Betsy Byrnes introduced A. Carillo as the new member of the committee.

Scott Hess, active transportation manager from Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC), discussed the Wasatch Choice 2050, inviting committee members to participate. They are required, by federal law, to have two products: a transportation improvement program (TIP) and a long-range regional transportation plan (RTP). They created flyers with QR code that is linked to their interactive map. In addition, there is a questionnaire on regional plan, with a list of projects, from currently under construction to futures projects. The intermodal plan has been in the works for 10 years, with funding incorporating all modes. One of the local examples was the 1300 South bridge in Salt Lake City. For the TIP, they are looking for detailed comments for a specific project on your local area. On the other side of the flyer is Wasatch Choice 2050 scenarios, which relates to the RTP that will span the next 30 years. This involves forward land use and active transportation, developed into three scenarios, then refined into one agreed scenario, ready for adoption in 2019. There is a short survey along with an interactive map. There is a planned presentation for the preferred scenario to the local communities in the spring of 2018. Comment period for the TIP will end on August 5.

Funding provided for this will be spread out through 2023 and will involve local coordination with UDOT, UTA, and local government. Scott Hess said they have received over 100 comments on the TIP. Aaron Searle said if citizens expect to see active transportation, they need to make their comments. Steve Hess said there will be two open houses on TIP: (1) Ogden Intermodal Hub on August 18, and (2) Salt Lake Central
Station August 24.

5:50pm- Bike Ambassadors Programs:

Phil Sarnoff introduced Beth Haynes as new coordinator for the program. He said they were in a period of transition. Beth Haynes said she is excited and hopeful to develop a larger pool of ambassadors diverse in both locations and backgrounds. Many programs they want to institute include: rider education for adults, a mentor program, partnering with bike shops and collectives to help people get bikes, and where people to ride safely.

Noresh Komar, the outgoing coordinator, said they had nine meetings in the last year, with a minority of ambassadors still active. Recruitment and community involvement are still the challenges. They have begun adding more recruits, and mentored a person recommended by the committee. They also started targeted involvement with the community, including and alert rider program with the University of Utah, and corporate wellness programs. They have also begun an outreach program to untapped areas of the communities, such as refugee and homeless, to empower them. Noresh Komar, said he will still be involved in the bike community. Peggy Mair asked how many ambassadors are still in the program, and Noresh Komar replied five, as they continue to get them in community involvement.

Aaron Searles want the ambassadors to push for recruitment at community events, and asked if they planning on being part of them. Phil Sarnoff said they are planning on going to events.

6:00pm- Active Transportation Benefit Study Results:

Phil Sarnoff announced they were publishing their study, which they spent 1.5 years. He said the big challenge is having data to show the benefits of active transportation. Because of the lack of evidence of the benefits in this state, citing those from other states, many elected officials view it as irrelevant in Utah. Therefore, this study using locally gathered data was necessary. It is 95% complete, and available on Bike Utah's web site. It contains both statewide views and county profiles, comparable data with other states, covering both health and economic impact. The economic impact of bicycle-related tourism is $425 million in Utah, creating 3,900 jobs. The health impact was calculated to be 150 minutes per week equals reduce health care costs by $3 per week. The also created a worksheet to calculate the economic and health benefits for bikeways for a
community, along with calculating the cost of building the infrastructure. The challenge in Utah is there is few sources to count the number of cyclists using the infrastructure, but improvements can be made with UDOT purchasing Strava data. The WFRC will also purchase point counters. Still, the count of users on roadways is not as accurate as those from bikeways. The study can be found at https://bikeutah.org/atbenefitsstudy/. Phil Sarnof is optimistic that this will lead to more action at state and local level.

6:10pm - County Updates:

Rack installation. Helen Peters got an estimate of the installation of two racks for $1,600, depending on the size of the concrete pad available. There were no sightings of any bike racks reported.

Millcreek study. Helen Peters said the township service put up a bid for the construction Uphill bikeway.

Bicycle safety issues: Helen Peters has been working with M. Hilyard to have the county put the 311 system into budget, as part of the Department of Administrative Services. She suggested the committee will be part of reviewing the bike issues.

Helen Peters said there is a table opportunity at the Tour of Utah, Stage 3 in Big Cottonwood Canyon 8:30am - 2:30pm. The Bicycle Ambassadors will be there.

Budget- February is deadline for 311 budget

Board openings- Christopher Heinrich, who expressed interest to join the committee, told Helen Peters he was too busy with his race schedule. Helen Peters provided drafts of recruit posters for the committee to review.

Trail Updates

Parleys Trail- Ken Richley said it is still working on it and should be done by the end of July. The county is doing a master plan for the Wasatch canyons.

E. Price asked about how the committee works. Aaron Searle explained many of the workings that committee did. Betsy Byrnes said to send an application to the county volunteer coordinator.
Business Meeting

6:24pm - There was a funding request from Phil Sarnoff for Bike Utah's youth bike education program for $3,000. 2,800 kids has partaken in the program across the state. On many occasions, they will provide a bike to a few kids in need. They do assessments, such as quizzes from kids, surveys for parents before and after program, and tally surveys for teachers. These are to understand if children ride bikes more often. The bike walk audit would cost $6000 dollars. Phil Sarnoff said they are booked for Septmeber and most of October. AJ Martine asked what reportable outcome if they agree to investment. Phil Sarnoff said 1,500 kids in county are riding bikes. They send information packets with an overview. When Betsy Byrnes asked Phil Sarnoff what the nature of the request is, he said to keep it at the current level. Their capacity is 3,000 children. It cost $2000 per week for 60 kids for 1 hour on a school day. Their target is 4th-7th grade. Their total budget is $95,000, include staff and transportation. Peggy Mair asked what impediments for students to ride bikes. Phil Sarnoff identified it as mainly the lack of adequate infrastructure, mainly on-road. R. Topham put a motion to supply the funding for the program. AJ Martine second it, with a request to have metrics available to warrant such a funding. David Ward asked Phil Sarnoff would it make more sense to ask for more. David Ward amend the number to $5,000. The motion was passed.

Tour of Utah Table - Apparently, there were no available volunteers from the committee due to schedule conflicts.

6:42pm - Flyer Draft Review

Betsy Bynes a copy of the old flyer, one with the changes she added. AJ Martine asked who the target audience is for the flyer. Aaron Searle expressed concern about listing members because it could become outdated within a couple of months. AJ Martine asked Adan Carillo if he could translate the flyer to Spanish. Kaleb Holt said the flyer doesn't give the reader a reason to come to the meetings and get involve. Marcus Kaller said contact information is missing in the flyer. A. Searle said their seems to be two purposes: come tell us what you want and come join us. M. Kaller said the recruitment would be for regular riders, while the other would be for the general public. Ian Scharine said he like the idea of having two different flyers for this. AJ Martine asked how do we get the normal
commuter to come to the meetings. Kaleb Holt want to encourage people to engage in the dialogue. AJ Martine and Betsy Byrnes will form a sub-committee on the flyer

Recruitment follow-up

Ian Scharine made a a PSA for KRCL for recruitment. Kaleb Holt reached out to several people for interest, and was referred to by Peggy Mair to another potential recruit. He also contacted Adam Wright from Salt Lake Valley Trails Society to see if any of their members would want to join.

7:00pm- Project management

AJ Martine talked about an email from J. White about a study on Emigration Canyon, asking Helen Peters what has the county done to implement the recommendations in the study. David Ward said $1 million was committed to improve Emigration Canyon. AJ Martine asked what is the county's next step in implementation. Helen Peters said she would look into that and talk to J. White. David Ward said he hasn't heard anything from the new community council about what they want. He said he was going to talk to a new member who was a cyclist about the study and implementing changes in the canyon.

7:04pm- Communication/Prior minutes

Helen Peters said she had some adjustments for Marcus Kaller to make in last month’s minutes. I. Scharine motioned to approve the minutes with the changes, and Kaleb Holt second it. The motion passed.

7:05pm- Budget

D. Ward handed out the latest budget, minus the recently approved $5,00 allocation for Bike Utah’s Youth Education Program.

7:06pm- Meeting adjourned