

Salt Lake County Bicycle Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes from November 4, 2015

Attending: B. Byrne, AJ Martine, K. Jones, M. Kaller, T. Jackson, D. Ward, R. Topham, P. Mair, B. Wheeler, I. Scharine

Absent: K. Sturgeon, M. Gregory (both excused), A. Searle

5:30- Meeting begins: Introductions, public comments.

J. Knoblock is taking up the cause for Natural Trails/Mountain Trails development. These involve a number of highly used trails throughout SLCo, some of which are acknowledged by the county and citizens. One of the concerns is to regulate usage and determine which trails are appropriate to use and which ones pose a threat to watershed, private property or natural habitat. Some trail systems are in need of development, Herriman is trying to do so at the present. Other trails need to be assessed to determine their impact on the environment and long-term potential for development or abuse. Members of Salt Lake City and County government, the National Park Service, Mountain Accord Group, and other groups must be involved in order to see that communication between entities is consistent. Several local interest groups in SLCo are actively involved with advocacy concerning formation of a Master Plan group (Wasatch Mountain Bike Club, Salt Lake Soft Surface Group).

D. Iltis reported that Victory Road was re-paved with widened shoulders and they are currently discussing whether or not to add bicycle lanes.

P. Sarnoff announced that a Federal Transportation bill that could negatively affect bicycling appeared to be off the table for the time being. Utah Bike Summit will be on February 7, 2016 at the Salt Palace with keynote speaker Mikael Colville-Anderson.

M. Kaller reported that the Mayor of Midvale was hoping to fund bicycle lane striping that would connect routes from Midvale through Murray and to Sandy.

AJ Martine reported that the SLCo Weed Program put together a grant to address weed control in the County, beginning with targeting restoration along the Jordan Parkway.

6pm- Legislative issues: Dan Fazzini addressed the concerns of ongoing efforts to address the Emigration Canyon community. In the recent election, they voted to become a township which will have an impact on the laws and additions sought to be made in the canyon concerning bicyclists. Electric bikes will be redefined under Utah law to address their weight and power source. This will include E-bikes and various assisted power bikes. Pawn shops: Utah has some of the loosest laws regarding resale of bikes. Several measures may be considered to decrease the likelihood of sale of stolen property. One being extending the wait period for resale of bikes, and the valuation of bikes on resale. More can be required for pawn shops to accept bikes for sale in the form of ID information. Eminent domain is a potential issue that can be used to block recreational development. It is used by residents and even state entities to preserve parcels of land from public use. Strategies would be to align with representatives to draft counter-resolutions to oppose the laws that will negatively effect cycling.

6:20- County updates: W. Sommerkorn discussed the SLCo Map/GIS project that has been put onsite by the WFRC. Currently the link is available through the WFRC website and can be viewed by the public. This map has yet to be approved by SLCo and the hope is to improve the nomenclature and some of the other details of the map.

Meeting Policies: Ralph Chamness briefed the committee on legal meeting etiquette. Any public body of advisory, administration, or legislation must adhere to the open meetings statutes. Meeting closure can occur but there are specific rules required in order to do so: Discussion of personal character or mental health, discussion of security measures, allegations of criminal conduct, pending litigation issues, collective bargaining. What is the need to close a meeting? It does not have to be closed at all, and often should not be. Closed meeting minutes do not have to be made public as open meeting minutes do, but minutes must be recorded for the closed session. Non-agenda items can be conducted but not acted upon. Email consensus is potentially a violation of open meeting policy depending on the nature of the topic addressed and the understanding of the public of the decision.

Business Meeting

6:57- P. Mair confirmed that the bike locks and stickers have been ordered from the approval of the last meeting. K. Jones suggested an activity to seek out riders and hand out lights with the ones purchased.

D. Iltis addressed his hopes to get the issue of affordable transportation for county residents given more serious consideration.

7:07- Meeting minutes: Corrections by B. Byrne will be sent to I. Scharine. Motion to approve made by B. Wheeler, seconded by K. Jones; approved unanimously.

Mayor McAdams: The County is using grants and applied funding to Active Transportation, however the mayor believes in approaching problems as a future occurrence instead of responding reactively to it. An example can be found in the homeless system and how it is applied by state and county entities per year. Knowing what is being spent where in an effort to establish what progress needs to happen is a preferable approach to dealing with the results of rising rates. Active Transportation must follow a similar path as the County is to make the progress it expects. What is currently being spent can be maximized if the methods to increase results are clearly identified. The bicycle resources put into action are a way to encourage more riders to use bicycles, but measures such as connecting bikes to transit and better means are needed. What is the equivalent of the tipping point for increased ridership? SLCBAC must represent the values that will result in the change sought. Formulation of goals, and then narrowing of the objectives to simple and practical steps. Short term goals to increase percentages of riders incrementally is a primary priority if the future goal is 25%.

7:55- Motion to send letter to the Mayor to support UDOT re-striping 7-9th east from Murray to Midvale (SR71). M. Kaller made the motion, AJ seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7:58- Motion to adjourn, meeting closed.