

**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015
City Commission Room
151 Martin Street, Birmingham, Michigan**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Birmingham Multi-Modal Transportation Board held Thursday, October 1, 2015. Temporary Chairperson Vionna Adams convened the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Board Members Vionna Adams, Stuart Bordman, Lara Edwards, Michael Surnow, Amanda Warner; Student Representative Daniel Evans

Absent: Chairperson Johanna Slanga; Board Member Andy Lawson; Student Representative Rebecca Mendel

Administration: Commander Scott Grewe, Police Dept.
Austin Fletcher, Asst. City Engineer
Paul O'Meara, City Engineer
Carole Salutes, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Mike Labadie from Fleis & Vandenbrink ("F&V"),
Transportation Engineering Consultants

Motion by Ms. Warner

Seconded by Mr. Bordman to nominate Vionna Adams as temporary chairperson for tonight's meeting.

Motion carried, 5-0.

B. INTRODUCTIONS (none)

C. REVIEW AGENDA (no change)

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2015

Moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of September 3, 2015 as presented.

Motion carried, 5-0.

E. NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTOR ROUTE, PHASE 1

Mr. O'Meara advised that the City's Multi-Modal Master Plan summarizes the various neighborhood connector bike routes that could be implemented. Following are the street segments that now have, or will soon have, shared lane markings to encourage motorists to be alert for bikes:

1. Oak St. – Chesterfield Ave. to Lakepark Dr.
2. Lincoln Ave. – Southfield Rd. to Woodward Ave.
3. Derby Rd. – Adams Rd. to Eton Rd.
4. Eton Rd. – Derby Rd. to Lincoln Ave.

Looking at the map, these streets are starting to form a loop that may be able to be better connected with a small amount of effort. At this time, it is recommended that the City finalize its Bike Route signing protocol, and establish its first bike routes as suggested in the Master Plan.

Proposed Bike Route

From personal experience, Mr. O'Meara said he knows that the signed routes on the east side of the City that extend north into Troy and Bloomfield Twp. tend to be very popular with bicyclists. Signing a suggested bike route that connects and uses routes that are already popular will help make them more of a community asset. With relatively minor effort, the City may wish to set up its first bike route.

Mr. O'Meara recommended that the D11-1 Bike Route and wayfinding signs located within the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices be placed as needed throughout the various routes.

At this time, staff is requesting comment and direction from the board relative to the suggested location of the Phase I Neighborhood Connector Route, and the suggested signing policy. Based on input from the board, staff can finalize the Phase I plan and return it to the board at a future meeting for final approval.

Mr. Surnow offered his overview. Mapmyride and Strava have in his opinion replaced the need for bike signage and there is no need to spend the money for signs. However, there is a need to designate the bike lanes wherever possible. That would alert drivers that there might be cyclists present.

Ms. Ecker noted there are various levels of riders. So, maybe there is an advantage to doing at least a small route or a loop for families or recreational riders. Ms. Warner added that putting it on the City website might be advantageous.

Ms. Edwards was in favor of putting up some kind of sign with a safety message such as "Share the road with bikers." Ms. Warner liked the recommendation of

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the Master Plan to use a wide green pavement area that captures drivers' attention in order to encourage bikers to cross Woodward Ave. at Lincoln in a safer manner.

Everyone agreed that it makes sense to take the next step and connect the bike routes. The consensus for the loop was to take Oak to Lakeside to Downtown, then cross at Oakland and that will get to Poppleton Park. Then travel on Poppleton up to Mohegan to the signalized intersection at Adams, which connects well with a lot of other bike routes. Mr. O'Meara advised that Derby will have sharrows soon and that will connect into the bike lanes that exist on N. Eton.

Mr. O'Meara said he will look into the wide green lane that the Master Plan recommends for crossing Woodward Ave. Ms. Warner was in favor of adding sharrows on Lincoln between Woodward Ave. and Eton to match what is on the other side. Mr. O'Meara added that Lincoln takes the biker all the way across to the west side of the City. Larchlea is the best N/S street that goes up into Maple where there is an opportunity to build a two-lane bike connector for a short distance over to the traffic signal on Chesterfield. The connector is needed because there will not be bike lanes on Maple. Sharrows could be added for the recreational riders at Chesterfield going north of Maple; and likewise at Larchlea south of Maple.

Mr. O'Meara agreed to bring an example of "Share the Road" signs to the next meeting and the board can recommend strategic locations where they could be placed. It was noted they accomplish two things. They alert drivers to the fact there are bikers, and they tell the bikers they can bike there.

Mr. O'Meara said he will fine tune the route and bring it back before taking it to the City Commission. It was agreed that the route can be completed in the spring of 2016.

F. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(no public was present)

G. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS (items in the packet)

H. ADJOURNMENT

No further business being evident, the chairperson adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

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Jana Ecker, Planning Director

Paul O'Meara, City Engineer