



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff

PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 9, 2012
4:30 pm

City Hall, Council Conference Room
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Heather Taylor, Co-Chair
Georgia Duncan, Vice Chair
Joyce Browning
Cecile LeBlanc
Jim Tuck

Members absent:

Kim Austin, Co-Chair

One vacancy

The following City staff was present:

Martin Ince, Multimodal Planner

Others present:

Chuck Hammersley

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Ms. LeBlanc announced that she is now the community and schools reporter for the Arizona Daily Sun. She asked if there was any conflict of interest between this position and her role as Committee member on the PAC.

2. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Duncan made, and Mr. Tuck seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 12, 2012. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. ADOT Planning Assistance for Rural Areas (PARA) grant application for pedestrian and bicycle master plan

Mr. Ince provided an overview of the grant program, and summarized the application submitted by the FMPO. It was suggested that County Safekids be included on the technical advisory committee for the project.

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. Regional Plan 2012 – review of Circulation Element

The Committee reviewed the draft goals and policies and made several comments:

- There was a question about the meaning of policy T.5.3
- The use of the phrase “opportunities for shelter” in policy T.5.4 is unclear.
- The Committee asked if the City’s Disability Awareness Commission will have an opportunity to review the document
- Ms. Taylor said that trends in childhood obesity, gas prices, public health, and global warming would encourage alternate modes.

2. Electric and motorized bicycles on FUTS

A draft ordinance regarding motorized bicycles of FUTS trails was provided to the Committee. Mr. Ince said that this is a preliminary review, and that there would be an opportunity for public comment later in the process.

Mr. Tuck indicated that he is not in favor of allowing electric bikes on FUTS trails.

Chair Taylor reported that she observed more electric bikes in Europe. They typically operated as pedal-assist, and were used to help when going up hills. She said she has a number of comments and concerns, and wondered if the Committee would have an opportunity to comment on and make suggestions for the language of the ordinance.

The committee discussed the difference between pedal-assist and twist-and-go electric bike models.

There was a discussion about the legality of Segways on the FUTS.

Chuck Hammersley raised a number of concerns regarding motorized bicycles on FUTS and in bike lanes:

- Many people ride bicycles because it is a pleasant experience. This will be lost if motorized bikes are allowed
- Motorized vehicles in bike lanes will be traveling faster than pedal bicycles
- Without enforcement, motorized vehicles will travel faster than 20 miles per hour
- Other cyclists won't be able to hear them coming
- Riding in traffic can be terrifying; riding on the FUTS is a haven that will be compromised if motorized vehicles are allowed
- There will be an inconsistency if motorized bikes are allowed on the Route 66 Trail, but not on other trails, and a concern that they will also be on other paths
- Motorized bikes should be limited to bike lanes.

He said he did not want to see electric bikes on the Route 66 bike path.

The Committee asked if data could be collected on the experience of other communities; in particular information on complaints and crashes involving electric bicycles. They also asked about before and after data, to help gauge the extent to which electric bicycles promote cycling in general.

3. Flagstaff Walks!

The Committee continued planning for Flagstaff Walks! events:

Car Free Day

- Is scheduled for a Saturday

Try Transit Day

- The consensus of the Committee was to not request Try Transit Day for this year Science in the Park
- APS will provide 300 blinky lights
- Jim will get a refrigerator box

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- Kim will also provide giveaways
- There are several options for the display

Community Market

- Martin will contact Jack about hosting walks
- Cecile will staff the table
- There was a discussion about how to include pedestrian issues during the walk

International Walk to School Day

- Planning is underway

15 Minute Makeover

- Will start at 10:15 on 10-15
- Will take longer than 15 minutes
- Tom Boughner will help plan

Crossing Guard Appreciation

- Jim said he intends to approach school PTO's to help plan
- Need to determine which schools have crossing guards
- There was a discussion about having the event on International walk to School Day, but in the end the Committee decided to keep it on a different day

Progressive Breakfast

- Kim reported it was mostly planned

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

There was no discussion on the reports.

2. Announcements

The Committee asked if a special meeting could be held on August 30, 2012.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.