

**BLOOMINGTON PLATINUM BIKING TASK FORCE
MEETING SUMMARY NOVEMBER 18, 2010**

Meeting summaries are transcribed in an abridged manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning Department for reference.

Attendance:

Task Force Members: Michael Wallis Jr., Chris Tietz, Jim Rosenbarger, Dave Rollo, Kerry Greer, and Chad Roeder

Others in attendance: Scott Robinson (staff), Raymond Hess (staff), Steve Cotter (Parks), Clair Murphy, Ron Brown, Eric Vance Martin, and Mike Bankoff (Parks).

I. Call to order (~12:00 PM)

II. Task Force Reports and Announcements

Mr. Wallis noted the progress on the B-line Trail, its increased use, and the community's excited anticipation of the trail's opening. Mrs. Greer stated she gathered information about bicycle usage at IU and asked Task Force members if they were interested in her findings. The Task Force would like a presentation at a future meeting and a summary of the work to be posted online.

III. Reports from Staff

Mr. Robinson reminded the Task Force members their list of ideas to improve on the five E's will be posted on the Task Force website.

IV. Old Business

A. Task Force Discussion – Education (Continued)

a. Assignments Bloomington's BFC application (Questions #36-46) – Mr. Wallis mentioned that UC Davis limits motor vehicle access to University streets during class change times to improve safety on campus for bicyclists and pedestrians. IU could do the same, especially since many vehicular trips on campus are IU vehicles. Limiting vehicular travel to only when classes are in session would improve safety for everyone.

V. New Business – Encouragement (Staff Presentation)

Mr. Robinson gave an overview of Bloomington's activities as detailed by the City's Bicycle Friendly Community application. He organized his encouragement presentation (available on the Task Force Website) into Bikes Month, signature events, cycling organizations and shops, and Bicycle Friendly Business. Mr. Cotter stated a survey of Bloomington residents indicates that bike/ped infrastructure is the top recreation priority. He provided an overview on Parks and Recreation's role in Bikes Month/Week: Learn to Ride, Traffic Skills 101, Bike Rodeo, Bike Commuter 101, Cycle-to-Service, and Bike-to-Work Day. He said many of the events are successful, but there is room for growth and increased partnerships. Parks has been in preliminary discussions with interested citizens about implementation of a cyclocross and a cyclovía. Mr. Robinson concluded with some suggestions for areas of improvement such as Mayor/Elected Official-led rides, commuter challenges, increase the frequency of events throughout the year, and an increase in the number of Bicycle Friendly Businesses and/or

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University programs. Mr. Cotter said a downtown bike station, similar to what is found in Chicago, is a big concept worth exploring. Mr. Rollo mentioned that Madison, WI businesses offer a 5% discount if you have a bike helmet and is a good model for Bloomington to follow. Mr. Rollo asked if economic impact data for biking events could be tabulated much like other economic impact data is often bolstered for sporting events and other area attractions. He also mentioned the importance of other boards and commissions (e.g. Bloomington Commission on Sustainability) as key allies. Mr. Robinson said staff would further investigate the economic impact idea and report back to the Task Force. Mr. Roeder mentioned that the City code may make bike rentals difficult for local businesses to offer because of liability requirements. He would like to see bike rentals as a viable option for local businesses. There was also discussion about how to effectively encourage bicycling within the University. It was suggested that in order to promote the importance of bicycling, either the students should champion the cause or the Board of Trustees should be persuaded on the merits.

VI. Public Comment

Mr. Murphy commented on the success of the Bloomington Criterium. Mr. Brown mentioned that the Utilities Department has been responsive to requests on replacing dangerous storm grates. He also said Washington D.C. has had a cyclovia for twenty years. The Bloomington Bicycle Club has posted all their biking route maps on Google.

VII Next Meeting – December 9th, 2010

Adjournment (~1:05 PM)