

**BLOOMINGTON PLATINUM BIKING TASK FORCE  
MEETING SUMMARY JULY 28, 2011**

*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: Dave Rollo, Kerry Greer, Chad Roeder, Jim Rosenbarger, and Wendy Saffell-Clemmer (via-conference call)

Others in attendance: Scott Robinson (staff), Vince Caristo (staff), Kevin Marzahl (Parks and Recreation Department), Jacob Schumacher, Ron Brown, and Claire Murphy

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

**II. Task Force Reports and Announcements**

Mr. Rosenbarger mentioned the ratio of pedestrians to bicycles on the B-line trail is seven to one. Mr. Rollo said the roadwork on Indiana and Atwater will now include pavement markings for bikes and was in response to his concerns over no accommodations for bicyclists.

**III. Reports from Staff**

Mr. Caristo said the Traffic Commission approved a bike lane and parking changes on Rogers Street from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> street. He reminded everyone about the film Bicycle Dreams showing at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater this Sunday and a Safe Routes to School Grant request was submitted for non-infrastructure items. Staff should hear the final determination and award soon. If funded, it would continue past efforts as well as fund a program such as Boltage.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Five E's Action Items (Homework)**

Robinson asked for feedback on the previous action homework items. He used the East-West bike arterial and cyclovia concepts as examples. He wants everyone to be sure the right action items are identified and explained some need to be flexible/general and others more specific. The expectation is to identify the need or issue and let technical staff figure out how to make it work in a bicycle friendly context. Task force members are not expected to write legislation for bicycle laws or design bike lanes but should frame the need for these issues. The report will identify these needs and actions. Mrs. Saffell-Clemmer likes the target and benchmark because they set measurable outcomes for action items. Mr. Rosenbarger is concerned about budget issues and says costs need to be included in the action items even if they are not accurate. Costs provide a critical starting point for many actions. Mr. Robinson staff will finalize the action items and they will be incorporated into the next draft.

**V. New Business**

**A. Bikes Belong Wapehani Mountain Bike Park Grant Application (moved to last item)**

Mr. Robinson gave a general overview of the grant proposal and said staff is seeking consensus from the Task Force on consistency of the proposal and becoming Platinum. Mr. Marzahl gave a more detailed overview and said the project will follow best practices and guidelines. He said there are dedicated volunteers ready to make the park a "Gateway to the

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Trial System”. He acknowledged that while the park is small, it offers many amenities for all types of riders. This is a key part of the Bikes Belong grant requirements. Ms. Greer has concerns about trail and mountain bike use that conflict with her environmental protection stance. She said trials and greenspace activity can negatively impact wildlife and the ecosystem. Marzhal said this perception is common and the mountain bike community is actually consistent with many sustainable and environmental protection items. Erosion problems and invasive species can be addressed with this project. There is also independent support material available to educate people about sustainable trails and mountain biking. Ms. Greer disagrees and Robinson said this is fine, but reminded everyone that mountain biking is within the bicycle friendly context and questions are on the application regarding trails. Mr. Rollo asked if everyone is okay with the proposal and that it is consistent with bicycle friendly efforts. Task Force members agreed.

### **B. Draft Report**

Ms. Greer and Mrs. Saffell-Clemmer like the concept of “Villages” but more information is needed about this concept and linking it to bicycle friendliness. Ms. Greer said the concept also needs to be reflected in the economic, health, and environment sections of the report. Mr. Rollo said it is important to reference past reports and work efforts. We need to remind everyone that this work was done and it is important. References to the Growth Policies Plan, Complete Streets, and other City reports are necessary. Mr. Robinson said staff was trying to balance the tone of the report and not making it seem too academic with footnotes and references. Staff plans to include a detailed reference list with summaries in the report as well as sidebars throughout the report with factual information referenced. Mrs. Saffell-Clemmer said some footnotes would not change the tone and should be included. Mr. Rosenbarger said to build in links to references. This would make the report serve as a resource too. Ms. Greer said there are Quality of Life measurements and they are not as subjective as the draft report indicates. She said there are alternative metrics for Gross Domestic Product such as the UN’s New Millennium Goals. Use these as references in the report. Mr. Roeder likes the Prologue section and others said the draft report is good and heading in the right direction. Mr. Robinson said staff will make these changes to the draft report.

### **VI. Public Comment**

Mr. Brown said a bicycle and pedestrian tunnel is almost complete with the SR 45/46 project. One will also be included with the Tapp Road project and these infrastructure improvements are important to point out in the next Bicycle Friendly Community application. Mr. Schumacher mentioned his thesis work and extended an invitation to interview all Task Force members to help with his research. He provided his contact information so members could arrange an interview. Mr. Murphy is thankful for the new “Share the Road” signs he has recently noticed and wanted staff to pass this along to the agency responsible.

### **VII. Next Meeting - August 11, 2011**

Adjournment (~1:10 PM)