

# City of Lawrence

## Lawrence – Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee September 17, 2013 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Burger, Chad Foster, David Hamby, Rhonda Houser, Justin Eddings, Chris Rogge  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Josh Ediger, Jay Bialek, Lisa Hallberg  
STAFF PRESENT: Jessica Mortinger, Todd Girdler  
PUBLIC PRESENT: Ashton Martin, Tom Huber

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**1. Call Meeting to Order and Assurance of Quorum:** The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. A quorum was present and introductions were made.

**2. Approval of the Approval of the August 20, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

A motion to approve the notes and minutes from the meetings was moved by Mr. Foster seconded by Mr. Hamby and passed unanimously.

**3. Discussion Item: Safety Analysis**

Ms. Mortinger shared with BAC members a draft letter to invite other parties to participate in a safety discussion and additional safety analysis with the BAC and MPO staff. Mr. Burger indicated that a presentation from the Lawrence Police Department would be a great first step in starting the safety dialogue. Mr. Foster asked what other data would be available locally to add to the safety discussion, including Fire/Med data and/or Lawrence Memorial Hospital cost/injury data related to bicycle crashes or incidents. Mr. Huber asked if the group had done a bike accident reporting analysis to ensure the content on the reporting form is adequate to do a safety analysis. The BAC members agreed that there would be a need to do this as the GIS database doesn't include any accident scene diagram and overall training of how to read the report and the codes was needed. Ms. Mortinger said she would ask the LPD to send a representative with knowledge of the safety data to the October BAC meeting to discuss this issue. She also told the BAC that she would send out the draft letter via email to members so they could work on it prior to the next meeting where they would entertain its approval.

**4. Discussion: Multimodal Studies/Bike Plan**

Ms. Mortinger shared the updated project status and passed around copies of the open house and online survey flyer. The second open house is planned for October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from 4:30-7:30 at the Tom Wilkerson Room at the Lawrence Aquatic Center. Ms. Mortinger asked members to attend the October open house and take the online survey.

**5. Other Business/ Updates**

Ms. Mortinger said the MPO staff had given out the last Rideability map they had stored. The only remaining copies are distributed to the parties that hand them out. This is timely because following the bike plan approval the BAC should begin working on an updated map for 2014 printing. Funding to print the next map has not yet been identified.

Ms. Mortinger informed the BAC the City of Lawrence Utility billing insert 'The Flame' had a misprint of the bicycling traffic hand signals. Staff is working on announcements to inform of the misprint and correct the information. Mr. Burger expressed he thought the bicycling information included in

the information was incorrectly framed and should have included rules of the road for all users, not just bicyclists. Taking information from the bike map, which targets cyclists, is not appropriate to print in information that should target all users. Printing only recommendations/rules for cyclists decreases the legitimacy of the cyclists on the roadway. BAC members generally agreed and asked to edit/provide rules of the road content for all users for future printing and asked to invite the City Communications manager to a future BAC meeting to discuss framing/visioning. Ms. Mortinger suggested a good time to do this would be included in the safety discussion.

Mr. Burger proposed to the BAC that they ask the City Commission and the League of American Bicyclists to relinquish the City of Lawrence Bicycle Friendly Community Status. He feels the community is not friendly to bicyclists and by having the BAC relinquish the status, one of two things will occur, either the City will commit to working on bicycle friendly issues with support from the community or choose to not acknowledge the City as bicycle friendly. BAC members said they would continue the discussion at future meetings before deciding what to do. If they proceed with this issue some members agreed they needed a list of desired action points to request, that would be included in the letter. Mr. Foster also noted that it would be nice if the City would include a block of bicycling related questions in the next community opinion surveys to gauge support and perceptions.

**6. Public Comments:**

Mr. Martin said he was excited by the conversations the BAC were having about bicycling in our community. He said it was hard to tell what the group was working on based on the website content.

- 7. Adjournment of Meeting:** The meeting ended at 6:20 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 15. Mr. Girdler proposed moving the October meeting from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> to not coincide with the LiveWell Lawrence 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Tuesday, Oct. 15 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Abe & Jake's Landing, 8 E. Sixth St. in downtown Lawrence. A motion was made by Mr. Foster to change the October meeting to the 22<sup>nd</sup>; the motion was seconded by Mr. Hamby and passed 5 to 1.