City of Beaverton

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Minutes for Thursday, January 9th, 2020

Meeting began at 6:39 PM

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:39 PM. Meeting was held at the Beaverton Building in the Columbia River Room.

Present: Stacy Revay, Mike Mulligan, Michael Hashizume, John Vogler, Tri Le, Corey McManus, Caitlin Ahearn, Israel Laureles, Michael Dunlevy, Amanda Koppel, Adrian Freund, Kara Lerwick

Guests: Jean Senechal Biggs (City of Beaverton), Bruce Barbarasch (Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District), Naomi Fast, Amy Henning, Ben Austin (Harper Houf Peterson Righellis), Kyung Park (COB)

Absent: Ben Howard (Beaverton Police Department), Councilor Lacey Beaty

Welcome and Introductions / Ice Breaker

Approval of Minutes: December meeting minutes were approved at 6:53 PM.

Public Comment
Amy Henning is a commuter who cycles into Beaverton from southwest Portland. She told the Committee about her concerns regarding the safety of cyclists at the railroad crossing on 5th Street, and how she had fallen off her bike during a ride when the wheel had gotten caught.

Naomi Fast seconded Amy’s comment, and added another concern about the cycling facilities on 5th Street: that the bike lane ends eastbound right before Western Avenue.

Amy also noted that as a cyclist, it’s unclear which traffic signals in Beaverton recognize and react to the presence of a cyclist.
Stacy said that sometimes jurisdictions don’t know that their signaling doesn’t work for cyclists, and that if a person notices they should report it. To address Naomi’s concern regarding the missing portion of the bike lane on 5th Street, Stacy said that she would discuss the matter internally at the City, as this gap may be filled with the future development.

**Council Liaison Update**
Councilor Laura Mitchell, the BAC’s council liaison during 2019, has been assigned to other committees. This year, Councilor Lacey Beaty will be the BAC’s council liaison.

As a cyclist, Councilor Beaty requested to be assigned to the BAC. She was unable to make it to the meeting in January but will be at BAC’s February meeting.

**Allen Boulevard / 92nd Avenue**
Stacy re-introduced the Committee to the City project at Allen Boulevard and 92nd Avenue, which seeks to connect two sections of the Fanno Creek Trail for pedestrians and cyclists. The project came through the Active Transportation Plan and is a high-priority for the City.

The City assembled a Stakeholder Advisory Committee for this project, which comprises multiple government agencies (City of Beaverton, THPRD, Washington County), resident groups (Bicycle Advisory Committee, Traffic Commission, Neighborhood Association Committee), and adjacent property owners.

Ben Austin, the consultant (HHPR) on the project, came to the meeting to present the three options currently being considered. Two of the three options propose a mixed-use path on the south side of Allen Blvd., which leads to a pedestrian and cyclist crossing at 92nd Ave. The crossing will have some kind of signaling, either a rectangular rapid flash beacon (RRFB) or a high-intensity activated crosswalk (HAWK) beacon. One alternative proposes to build a roundabout at the intersection of Allen Blvd. and 92nd Ave.

Ben noted that Option #2, the proposal with the roundabout, is favored by the stakeholder advisory committee.

Committee members and members of the public discussed their thoughts and concerns regarding the project, including crossing visibility and tradeoffs of the roundabout.
Naomi raised the issue of all three options adding a new vehicle lane going eastbound on Allen. Ben and Corey offered that the lane doesn’t add to crosswalk widths and should help with queuing.

There will be a public open house in April and construction should start in spring of 2021.

**Bike Beaverton Discussion**
Kyung Park from the City of Beaverton came to discuss this year’s Bike Beaverton and the change of schedule. While the event will take place along the same route and time, it’s been moved from September to May. This schedule change was done in order to time the event alongside the Bike More Challenge and allow for more City resources to be dedicated to the event.

Kyung encouraged Committee members to think of a potential theme or angle for this year’s Bike Beaverton, along with ideas for vendors/sponsors.

Mike Mulligan asked if, for the shirt design, the BAC could field designs from kids in Beaverton School District. Stacy replied that the Safe Routes to School program has been in touch with her about that very possibility, and more news would be coming.

**THPRD Updates**
Bruce Barbarasch with THPRD came to update the BAC on projects currently underway. THPRD has begun planning on the northern section of the Rock Creek trail area, with construction possibly beginning next summer.

Some trail crossings within Beaverton will receive safety upgrades from THPRD in the near future. Both the crossing outside of Tualatin Hills Nature Park and Fanno Creek at Denny are being addressed, and upgrades may include crossing signals like RRFBs.

THPRD is getting ready to update its rules and etiquette and would like feedback about e-bikes and other electronically-powered devices (scooters, hover boards, etc.). Members raised concerns about speed and mobility needs but agreed that e-bikes have value in getting people outside and on bikes.
Member Comments, LAB Scorecard, and City Updates
Adrian discussed the ongoing efforts of the Committee to improve Beaverton’s score on the Bicycle Friendly Community certification by the League of American Bicyclists (LAB). In 2018, LAB provided a scorecard with recommendations for the City to improve its score, and the Committee will discuss how this program fits into its 2020 agenda during the bi-annual planning session at the February meeting.

Stacy updated the BAC with January City news including annual report highlights, recruitment for the City’s Beaverton Organizing & Leadership Development (BOLD) program, One Book, One Beaverton events, and the hiring of a new Public Works Director.

Jean mentioned that Beaverton’s draft charter, which would change the form of Beaverton’s government, has been progressing forward and would likely appear on the ballot in November.

She also mentioned that Metro’s transportation measure (T2020), similarly expected to be voted upon this fall, has been moving forward. The measure’s task force has made recommendations and sent them to the Metro Council. For Beaverton, the most relevant projects will target Tualatin-Valley Highway, 185th Avenue, Barnes Road, and Burnside Road.

Public Comment
Naomi asked Jean if she knew why the Washington County Coordinating Committee (WCCC) was supporting the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) project to widen Oregon Route 217. Jean mentioned that WCCC has identified 217 as a tier 2 corridor and hopes that ODOT’S project will address congestion, traffic weaving.

Amy asked if the city has plans to add additional green striping to the roads to designate bike lanes. Stacy says that the green striping has been used by agencies to draw attention to conflict points—i.e. places on the road where motorists and cyclists contend for space. Stacy went on to say that while the majority of this painting has been done by Washington County, the City of Beaverton continues to look at crash data and reports to determine where additional striping might be needed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM