

Minutes of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Thursday, March 7, 2019 6:30 p.m. Fire Alarm Building

Citizen Representatives

Present

Mitch Drummond
Ken Graham
Sarah Kobos
Nathan Leigh
Elaine Meek
Lauren Wagner
J.D. Walker
Kolby Webster

Absent

Larry Mitchell
Adam Vanderburg

Institutional Advisor Representatives

Present

Kurt Kraft, City of Tulsa Traffic
Brent Stout, City of Tulsa Engineering Svcs.
Isaiah Persson, Tulsa Health Dept.
John Tankard, Tulsa Planning Office
Alana Tipton, Tulsa Bike Share
Paulina Baeza, INCOG
Emma Oakes, Tulsa Planning Office

Absent

Nick Doctor, City of Tulsa
Brian Kurtz, Downtown Coord. Council
Tim Stendel, Tulsa Police Dept.
Jane Ziegler, INCOG
Matt Liechti, City of Tulsa Engineering Svcs.
Stephen Noel-Place, Tulsa Hub
Gary Percefull, Tulsa Public Schools
Chase Phillips, INCOG
Robert Swain, TPS Law Enforcement
Shelby Tempin, ODOT

Guests

Brendan Hill
Gary Pereschuk
Don Hoeffner

Call to Order

Drummond called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Drummond explained that Representative Carol Bush, who was scheduled to speak at the meeting, was called away at the last minute and was not able to attend. Drummond will invite her to a future meeting.

Drummond invited the members to invite to BPAC meetings other public officials and representatives of groups with interests that intersect with those of BPAC.

The attendees introduced themselves.

Committee Members

Drummond told the members that John Hagy has resigned as a Citizen Representative.

Philip Berry will no longer serve as an Institutional Advisor Representative because he no longer works for the City of Tulsa Planning Department. Drummond will invite him to apply to serve as a Citizen Representative.

Drummond reminded the members that BPAC can have up to 10 Citizen Representatives and solicited other nominations.

Accomplishments

Drummond shared the following accomplishments since the last meeting:

- BPAC members met with City Councilors Crista Patrick (District 3), Lori Decter-Wright (District 7), and Kara Joy McKee (District 4). The recent Smart Growth report that Tulsa is the 29th most deadly city for pedestrians has piqued the interest of some counselors on these issues.
- Construction started on the Mingo Creek Trail from 41st to 51st Streets.
- Contract awarded on the Mingo Creek Trail from 61st to 71st Streets.
- Public meetings have begun regarding the Turkey Mountain Master Plan.
- Tulsa World published the following opinion from Steven H. Roerman, Sr., "Walking Tulsa from end to end has made me happier and healthier...but walking shouldn't be as dangerous as it is."

Crash Data

Drummond reported two more pedestrian fatalities in February, one at 91st and Sheridan and one at Admiral and 73rd E. Ave.

Drummond shared the crash data dashboard at <https://crash.activate918.com>. He encouraged members to share it on social media. Wagner will have the link added to the BPAC website. He invited suggestions for additional datapoints and views.

Drummond asked for volunteers to help him review TPD reports on cyclist and pedestrian fatalities during the past two years. Tankard explained that census data indicates that while 3% of trips are made by pedestrians, pedestrians comprise 15% of fatalities.

Graham explained that Federal Highway Administration guidelines suggest an audit every time there is a crash with a fatality. He asked what might warrant an audit within the City of Tulsa, and whether any audits have been conducted.

Kraft noted that the Rapid Flashing Beacons (RFBs) and mid-block crosswalks recently installed on Lewis Ave. near the Mother Road Market were planned prior to the pedestrian-involved crash at 11th and Lewis. RFBs are planned where trails cross arterials away from signaled intersections, and for Cherry Street. Funds are in place to do a study for a pedestrian bridge where the Creek Turnpike Trail crosses Memorial. Graham explained that ODOT is planning to convert the Creek Turnpike/Memorial intersection to a diverging diamond, and asked how a possible pedestrian bridge might be incorporated into that plan.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of February 7, 2019, were approved with corrections by consensus.

Implementation Committee

10th Street Boulder to Elgin. Leigh reported that the Implementation Committee has been working with representatives from the City of Tulsa and the design engineer on designs for restriping of 10th Street from Boulder to Elgin. A road diet is being implemented. The current design iteration calls for 8' of parking on both sides of the street and 4' bike lanes with 2' buffers. The members agreed that BPAC strongly prefers elimination of parking on one side of the street to allow for wider bike lanes and buffers. The members questioned why so much on-street parking is required adjacent to large parking lots owned by TCC and churches. BPAC representatives in meetings with the City have stressed this position. Formal communication

from BPAC may be needed in the upcoming weeks. Leigh will apprise the members as discussions continue.

Boulder. Representatives of BPAC have recommended including bike lanes in both directions on the bridge since there is plenty of curb-to-curb width.

Elgin. Representatives of BPAC have approved striping plans for Elgin.

6th/7th Streets. Design work for 6th/7th Streets is almost complete.

Bike Box Location Recommendations. Leigh explained that bike boxes are used to help cyclists safely make left hand turns from bike lanes. He recommended that a bike box be used only on two-lane roads with low speeds, and that right turns on red be prohibited at those locations as recommended by NACTO. Four-lane arterials with higher speeds should employ two-stage queues (also known as Copenhagen lefts). These recommendations will be discussed further at the upcoming Implementation Committee meeting. Tankard noted challenges faced by designers because the standards provided by NACTO, MUTCD, and AASHTO do not align.

Outreach and Advocacy Committee

Vision Zero. Meek explained that Vision Zero, which advocates for zero bicyclist and pedestrian deaths, has been adopted by about 20 U.S. cities. Each city identifies its own problems and develops custom solutions encompassing enforcement, infrastructure and education. Representatives from Vision Zero are available to travel to Tulsa to help educate elected officials, professionals and the public about the issues.

Tankard expressed concern that the Vision Zero brand itself might be a barrier to adoption of strategies to end bicyclist and pedestrian deaths, since a zero target might be perceived as unattainable. He suggested that BPAC support the current City of Tulsa Walk/Bike Tulsa campaign, but cautioned that increasing the number of cyclists and pedestrians on city streets is likely to lead to additional injuries and fatalities, at least in the short term. Drummond suggested that Walk/Bike Tulsa might be easier for City Councilors to understand than Vision Zero.

Leigh urged BPAC to lobby the City of Tulsa to adopt Vision Zero, since zero pedestrian and cyclist deaths is a goal explicitly adopted by BPAC in recent years. He advocated for recruiting a champion from the City of Tulsa to invite representatives of Vision Zero to Tulsa.

Webster suggested that accountability is the missing component of Walk/Bike Tulsa that could lead to a reduction in deaths. The members discussed the low visibility of Walk/Bike Tulsa and the need to do additional promotion of the campaign.

Drummond will host a breakout meeting to plan marketing and promotion of Walk/Bike Tulsa. Baeza will share Walk/Bike Tulsa artwork which is in the public domain.

TYPros Street Cred: Art Alley. Meek explained that TYPros has invited BPAC to participate in the Art Alley event on April 27.

INCOG Bike Racks. Baeza explained that INCOG is providing a locally-fabricated bike rack for the Art Alley as part of Phase I of the bike rack project. Funds are being sought for Phase II. Leigh highlighted the need for a city-wide inventory of bike racks.

2019 Bond Request

Drummond stressed that BPAC should coordinate its priorities for the upcoming bond request with those of the City of Tulsa.

Upcoming Events

3/7/19 5:30 p.m. Crowne Plaza Tulsa Southern Hills

Turkey Mountain Master Plan Meeting: Management, preservation and programming

3/11/19 6:30 p.m. Signal Tree Solutions **Implementation Committee**

3/25/19 TBD **Marketing/Promotion of Walk/Bike Tulsa**

4/4/19 6:00 p.m. Tulsa Fire Alarm Building **BPAC**

4/17/19 TBD **Turkey Mountain Master Plan Meeting:** Increasing accessibility

5/30/19 TBD **Turkey Mountain Master Plan Meeting:** Sustainability

7/18/19 TBD **Turkey Mountain Master Plan Meeting:** Programming and community feedback

9/19/19 TBD **Turkey Mountain Master Plan Meeting:** Programming and community feedback

Turkey Mountain Master Plan Survey. Drummond encouraged all members to participate in the Turkey Mountain Master Plan survey at <http://riverparks.org> and share it with friends.

Adjournment

Drummond adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Attachments

Minutes of the Meeting of February 7, 2019