

**MINUTES**

**NORTH CAROLINA BICYCLE COMMITTEE  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**September 8, 2010**

**Members Present**

**Hanna Cockburn, Chair  
Greg Loy  
Dan Mikkelson  
Claudia Nix  
Jennifer Smith  
Julie Woosley**

**Members Absent**

**Dennis Rash**

**Staff Present**

**Tom Norman, Director DBPT**

**Guests**

**Jim Westmoreland, Deputy Secretary for Transit**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- July 14, 2010 minutes approved – motion by Loy; Nix seconded. Passed unanimously.

## **DISCUSSIONS, REPORTS and PLANNING SESSION**

### **Welcome**

Committee Chair Cockburn called the meeting to order and welcomed the Committee members and staff.

### **Approval of July 14, 2010 Minutes**

Loy moved to approve the minutes; Nix seconded. The minutes were adopted unanimously.

### **Cape Fear Skyway Bridge**

Jennifer Smith reported on a grassroots effort in Wilmington to make the Cape Fear Skyway Bridge multi-modal. Smith was contacted by a local landscape architect who is advocating for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on the bridge. He forwarded a draft resolution to this effect, asking for Committee support for the resolution. Committee members discussed the request and determined that they needed more information and assurance that the community is laying the proper groundwork for the request. Cockburn will contact the MPO staff person and ask for a memo that provides a clear understanding of the project.

### **Complete Streets Update**

Cockburn and Norman discussed the current status of the Complete Streets Policy and what remains to be done. The goal is to have a draft policy by December.

### **Multi-modal Discussion with Jim Westmoreland**

Deputy Secretary Westmoreland provided an overview of the current status of the draft five-year and ten-year Transportation Improvement Programs. He noted that the five-year plan is focused on how to develop plans with a higher level of predictability and that the ten-year plan is not a static document. He advised the Committee members to: establish contact with the MPOs and RPOs regarding the TIP; to solicit Board of Transportation member support and educate them on bicycle needs; to be involved with the State Long-Range Plan; to work with local elected officials; and, to cultivate their relationships with Division Engineers. Westmoreland then fielded questions from Committee members. Woosley asked whether there is a way to require attention to multi-modal accommodations when allocating funds for a TIP project. Westmoreland

responded that communities need to develop different types of plans that can give DOT a better chance to support project requests. He observed that the Complete Streets effort has been slow to get started. Senior staff was briefed on the progress on the draft policy. Plans include greater public involvement and the development of a web site. He noted that there are some policy items that need to be discussed by DOT management. These include funding, the planning process and having local plans in place; a review and update of existing policies; and a resolution of maintenance issues. Westmoreland also mentioned the Sustainable Communities Task Force that is authorized and funded through 2016 to provide grants to communities.

### **Project / Program Updates**

Staff provided updates on the following projects:

- Norman made a presentation to the Board of Transportation on bicycle and pedestrian crashes and recommended a safety education campaign;
- There was a ribbon-cutting on the Atlantic & Yadkin Rail-Trail in Greensboro;
- Progress is being made on the Neuse River Greenway, which, when completed from Wake County to Clayton in 2012, will provide 31 miles of trail.
- DBPT's Crash Data Tool was updated and a new web site was launched that is much more user-friendly than the former site.

### **Committee Activity Reports**

Bicycle Committee members sent in their activities via email for inclusion in the minutes.

#### **Hanna Cockburn**

- Attended ribbon cutting for extension of Atlantic & Yadkin Greenway in Greensboro
- Made presentation to Moore/Montgomery Healthy Kids/Healthy Communities Coalition on Complete Streets
- Provided letter of support for the Randolph County Deep River Greenway TIGER II planning grant
- Archdale holding a festival bike rodeo
- Organizing a Walk to School Day at Lindley Elementary in Greensboro
- Working on Healthy Guilford Summit to be held in late September

#### **Greg Loy**

- Kill Devil Hills received Notice to Proceed for their SRTS infrastructure project
- Participated in a Complete Streets interview conducted by the consultant developing the draft policy
- Completed Healthy Carolinians of the Outer Banks Obesity Task Force questionnaire
- Distributed bike maps

**Dan Mikkelson**

- Made presentation at the SPOT regional meeting in Greensboro
- Salisbury is constructing sidewalks with CMAQ funds
- Salisbury has awarded contract for second phase of greenway
- Developing map of greenway segments & sidewalk connectivity

**Claudia Nix**

- Planning for an LCI course. Asheville is hosting a course on Oct 15, 16 & 17 to train 16 LCI's. Three from Greensboro, 2 from Wilmington and 11 from Asheville. We just received a request from the APD to have their 10 bike patrol officers go through the training.
- We are hosting another Traffic Skills Class on Sept 19 and so far will have 6 participants. This makes the 4<sup>th</sup> class we've taught this year and 22 – 27 students.
- Setting up the next Middle School class that we will be conducting at the Erwin Middle School, this time will be with 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Asheville has just finalized the Coxe Avenue bike lane, Choctaw bike lane, and Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd. bike lane. The Clingman Ave. roundabout and bike lanes are moving right along and they should be starting the Clingman Ave climbing lane soon.
- I have been leading bike rides through downtown to show people where the lanes are and how to use them.
- Had a meeting with the engineer for the consultant, city traffic engineer and hospital project manager for Hospital Drive the other day and we are making progress toward having most of what we want on this new road.
- The Bike Corral for Bele Chere was hugely successful. It even drew the attention of one of the city council members who had ridden his bike to the festival. He was so impressed with it that he set up a meeting with the bike club advocacy committee to see how we could work together. He is interested in setting up a relationship with folks who can help him with his multi-modal travel agenda.
- We had our SNTD awards ceremony with the Vice Mayor giving out our awards at a city council meeting.
- We had our final report on the East Asheville Greenway.
- We've had our first community meeting on the Greenway going out Hwy 251.
- Been on the steering committee for the Community Health Assessment.
- Setting up the bike and pedestrian counting for September and recruiting volunteers.
- BRBC received notice that we are now a 501c3.

**Dennis Rash**

(not in attendance)

**Jennifer Smith**

- Greenville held Ride of Silence and a Commute to Work event during Bike Month.
- Greenville's Bike/Ped Commission is getting underway
- Greenville master planning initiative is awaiting funding
- Wilmington is very actively promoting cycling through family rides, classes, a bicycle scavenger hunt, etc.

**Julie Woosley**

- The Raleigh BPAC has a new Chair, Stephen Waters, and a new member, Corey Bates.
- BPAC now has a Facebook page and Twitter account and meetings can be accessed remotely for those who wish to call in and listen to meetings.
- The BPAC unanimously approved a motion to recommend that the City Council authorize joining the Safe Routes to School National Partnership and adopt the associated Memorandum of Understanding. Safe Routes to School Week is Oct. 4-8, 2010.
- The BPAC is reviewing the City of Raleigh's recommended Streetscape Program priority list, including evaluation criteria and categories, which is currently under development.
- The City of Raleigh has received several capital grants through CAMPO, which will cover most of the top twenty-five bicycle projects and six of the top sidewalk projects.
- The City of Raleigh has also been awarded a grant from the NCDOT to place 60 new bicycle racks in downtown locations.
- NCDOT has approved the temporary striping of bicycle lanes on Hillsborough Street where the approved cross section is: 11-foot travel lanes, 5-foot bike lanes, and 7-foot parking lanes. Staff are investigating reports of accidents due to the swales at Hillsborough/Morgan roundabout and looking at bollards and possible signage to direct cyclists in the roundabout away from the areas of concern.
- Mr. Lamb gave an update on the St. Mary's Street resurfacing project and the objections of residents at the public meeting to the removal of on-street parking to allow room for bike lanes. The issue continues to be studied.
- The Raleigh City Council adopted a resolution supporting the pending HR 4722 Active Transportation Bill, which encourages a mode shift to active transportation within selected communities by providing safe and convenient options to bicycle and walk.

- New Belgium Brewing Company will be holding a film festival event in Raleigh during SparkCon and is interested in donating all proceeds to a local non-profit bicycle group.

**Other Business**

The next meeting will be on November 10, 2010

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.