



# Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

## MINUTES

July 15, 2008 ■ 7:00 PM  
Committee Room  
Second Floor, City Hall

**Members Present:** Scott Carter, Dan Clever, Diane Daniel, Alan Dippy, Jim Dunlop, Greg Garneau, Henri Gavin, Ken Kaye, Merry Rabb, Lars Trost, Jack Warman

**Members Absent:** Excused absences: Lilah Besser, Bo Glenn, Linda Smith

**Staff Present:** Dale McKeel

**Guests Present:** None

**Public Present:** Marge Nordstrom, Merywen Wigley

1. Call to Order. Dan Clever called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Meeting Minutes. The June 17 meeting minutes were not available.
3. Introductions. New member Merry Rabb was introduced and spoke of her interest in serving on the commission. Other members introduced themselves.
4. Adjustments to the Agenda. None.
5. Announcements. Jack announced that he had ordered 58 safety vests and that most were ordered by Durham cyclists. He said Julie Woosley will be following his lead and is making a follow-up order for participants on the RTP bicyclist listserv. Dan announced the Bull Moon Ride on July 19 and Alan reported that more than 100 have signed up.
6. Public Comments. Merywen Wigley stated that she works at FHI and is on the FHI Green Committee. She reported that there is a groundswell of FHI employees who would like to put their bikes on the bus but are not able to because the racks are often full. These employees have had to wait for a second or even a third bus. She said this is primarily an issue for employees who live in Chapel Hill and use Triangle Transit. The Green Committee has been in contact with Triangle Transit and had written a letter to the editor about the situation. She asked the commission to contact Triangle Transit about how to accommodate more bicycles on buses. On a motion by Diane and a second by Greg, the commission unanimously voted to write to Triangle Transit and DATA to describe the problem of more demand than available capacity for bikes on buses and to ask these agencies to discuss immediate and long-term plans to deal with the problem.

Ms. Wigley said there is a second issue that she wanted to discuss, and asked if the BPAC had gotten an update on the pavers in downtown Durham. She said that cyclists and

pedestrians have concerns about the surface being slippery in wet and icy weather and need information on what the city is doing. Diane said they would contact the officials in the Public Works Department for an update and put the item on the agenda for the August BPAC meeting.

7. Development Committee Report. Dan reported that the focus of the last committee meeting was on the submitted Duke pedestrian plan / alternative sidewalk plan. Items discussed included proposed alternative sidewalk locations, ADA compliance, and confusion over whether it is a pedestrian plan or an alternative sidewalk plan. Dan noted that the committee has submitted comments on the plan. Jack discussed a letter that the committee has drafted on the Triangle Parkway. On a motion by Jack and a second by Henri, the commission voted to send the letter to the Turnpike Authority.
8. Bike Plan Implementation Committee Report. Scott reported on the committee's July 14 meeting. There were six in attendance. The committee discussed the status of the bike map, Phase 1 bicycle plan projects, the Old Durham-Chapel Hill Road project, the proposed widening of Fayetteville Road, the American Tobacco Trail, the Third Fork Creek Trail, and bicycle racks. The committee also discussed the status of several funded bicycle projects, the American Tobacco Trail, and Third Fork Creek Trail.
9. Pedestrian Plan Implementation Committee Report. Greg reported that the committee has completed the digest of the pedestrian plan on-line and has finished the goals/benchmarks to give feedback to the city council and the public.
10. Communications Committee. Alan reported that there was good attendance at the Eno Festival Booth. The committee is working on a logo and flyer for BPAC. Henri will add a tracker to the website to count the number of visits.
11. Anderson Street Recommendations. Dan reported on a meeting that he, Diane, and Greg attended with city staff and Anderson Street neighborhood representatives. He said the neighborhood is concerned with Alternative A, which BPAC had voted to support, because it removes on-street parking and in many respects a return to the previous condition. The neckdowns have prevented cars from passing on the street, which had been a problem, and improved pedestrian crossing at the park.

Resident Marge Nordstrom provide history and neighborhood perspective. She said there is no perfect solution but hopes the neighborhood and BPAC can work together on a solution that works for residents, pedestrians, and cyclists. She discussed concerns of residents with Alternative A because it removes neckdowns and also takes away on-street parking. She said she wants additional police monitoring and wants Anderson Street to be known as a speed trap.

Diane said that Mark Ahrendsen stated that City Council does not need to be involved in the Anderson Street decision but he wants them to be because it has been so contentious. She said that in weighing all the concerns that Alternative B is a better option. Scott asked about removing chicanes on opposite sides of the street to create a chicane effect.

On a motion by Jack and second by Jim, it was unanimously approved to contact Mark Ahrendsen to indicate that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission supports a

design that leaves neckdowns and on-street parking on one side of the street and bike lanes on both sides of the street. The Commission asks city staff to look at locating the neckdowns on alternating sides of the street to create a chicane effect.

Jack made a motion, seconded by Henri, to draft a letter to the police department in support of increased speed limit enforcement on Anderson Street. There was discussion of the pros and cons of the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion failed with 4 voting in support, 5 opposed, and 2 abstaining. [BPAC Bylaws and Robert' Rules of Order were consulted after the meeting. In order for the motion to pass, a majority of the members present would need to vote AYE. With 11 members present, a majority would be 6. The motion failed because it received only 4 AYE votes.]

Ken made a motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes, seconded by Jack, and adopted unanimously.

12. 2035 Long-Range Transportation Plan. Dale said this item could wait until August.
13. Update on Interlocal Agreement. Dan asked Dale to send the update out by e-mail.
14. Incorporation of Bike Lanes in New Projects and Fayetteville Street. Dale provided an overview of issues. He said the city is undertaking the design of several new road projects—including S. Roxboro Road extension, Carver Street extension, NC 751 widening, and Fayetteville Road widening—and is taking an agenda item to City Council seeking guidance on whether to provide bike lanes on these roadways. He said the agenda item for City Council has not been prepared, but it is scheduled to go to City Council August 14, the day before the next BPAC meeting.

Dale noted that the 2006 Bicycle Plan calls for bicycle lanes on all of these roads, but the situation with Fayetteville Street is more complicated. The 1993 Regional Bicycle Plan did not call for bicycle lanes on Fayetteville Street, apparently because the American Tobacco Trail provides a parallel facility. The section of Fayetteville Road between NC 54 and Woodcroft Parkway was widened by the City a few years ago and does not have bike lanes or wide outside lanes. In addition, a design was prepared but not built several years ago for the section between Woodcroft Parkway and Barbee Road, and this design does not include bike lanes or wide outside lanes. The City is now reviewing the design of the Woodcroft-Barbee section and designing the section between Barbee and Riddle.

Dan said he feels that BPAC should support bike lanes. Jim said he does not support providing bicycle lanes on the Woodcroft-Barbee section. He sees this as a legacy of the 1993 decision not to provide bicycle facilities on this section and is not comfortable directing persons to bicycle on that section of Fayetteville Road when the bike lanes would not continue south of Woodcroft Parkway.

Ken said that many bicyclists would choose to use bike facilities on Fayetteville Road because the trail is becoming so congested at certain times and will become more congested when the bridge over I-40 is opened. Diane said there needs to be a message sent that all decisions need to support the recommendations of the bicycle plan and pedestrian plan – we need to have bike lanes where they are called for in the plan. Three motions were made:

1. BPAC will write a letter to the Durham City Council in support of providing bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides of Fayetteville Road between Woodcroft Parkway and Riddle Road as per the adopted Durham Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan and the Durham Walks Pedestrian Plan. Motion by Diane Daniel, second by Ken Kaye. Passed 10-1 with Jim Dunlop opposed.
2. BPAC will write a letter to City Council and staff in support of providing bicycle lanes on other projects currently under design when bicycle lanes are indicated for the roads in the adopted Durham Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan. Motion by Jim Dunlop, second by Diane Daniel. Passed 11-0.
3. BPAC will write a letter requesting that the crossings of the American Tobacco Trail on Riddle Road, at the Fayetteville Road-Martin Luther King Parkway intersection, and the Fayetteville Road-Barbee Road intersection be designed to be as safe as possible, in light of the many families and children that cross at these locations, and requesting that the Public Works Department give the BPAC the opportunity to review the design of these crossings. Motion by Jim Dunlop, second by Jack Warman. Passed 11-0.

15. 21st Century Transportation Committee. Delayed until August.

16. Centerfest 2008. Delayed until August.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. Next meeting: August 19, 2008, at 7 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dale McKeel.

#### Action Items

1. Write to Triangle Transit and DATA to describe the problem of more demand than available capacity for bikes on buses and to ask these agencies to discuss immediate and long-term plans to deal with the problem.
2. Contact Public Works Department staff for an update on addressing concerns about the stamped concrete pavers in downtown.
3. Send Triangle Parkway letter.
4. Add tracker to [www.bikewalkdurham.org](http://www.bikewalkdurham.org) website.
5. Contact Mark Ahrendsen to indicate that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission supports a design on Anderson Street that leaves neckdowns and on-street parking on one side of the street and bike lanes on both sides of the street, and ask city staff to look at locating the neckdowns on alternating sides of the street to create a chicane effect.
6. Write a letter to City Council and staff on new road projects and Fayetteville Road, discussing the three items in the motions adopted by BPAC.