

Durham Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC)

Calendar Year 2009 Annual Report

I. Mission.

The primary purpose of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) is to advise the City Council and the Board of County Commissioners on bicycle and pedestrian issues.

II. Executive Summary.

Durham BPAC is fortunate to be served at this time by many members who have great energy and passion for bicycle and pedestrian issues. Over the course of 2009, the average attendance at the monthly meetings was 87 percent of the membership. Adding monthly subcommittee meetings, presence at events, annual planning session, email correspondence, etc., the commitment of the entire group was strong throughout the year. This collective dedication and energy is reflected in BPAC's accomplishments during 2009.

We want to remind the City and County leadership that bicycle and pedestrian issues can influence other local government goals, such as sustainability and energy savings, and raising and maintaining property values (for example, national studies show that homes near trails maintain excellent value over time). As you formulate plans for alternative transportation such as bus, Amtrak and light rail, please remember that there are many citizens who are willing and able to walk and bike to bus and train stops and commute to work by walking or cycling.

With the completion of the new trail bridge over the Durham Freeway, and the completion of the American Tobacco Trail and bridge over I-40 at Southpoint, Durham will be gaining outstanding new facilities for recreation and alternative transportation. We look forward to staying engaged with City and County government in making Durham a more friendly place for people who want to walk and bike around town.

III. Structure of BPAC

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) was established in July of 2001. The BPAC Interlocal agreement was recently re-authorized by the Durham City Council and Board of County Commissioners. The new agreement adds two new members to BPAC, representatives from Duke University and N.C. Central University. The new agreement also creates liaisons to BPAC from the two elected boards.

With these new members, the Commission now consists of 14 appointed members from the City and County, and three members from existing City/County commissions – the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission, the Recreation Advisory Commission, and the Durham Planning Commission.

Elected officers in 2009 were Alan Dippy, Chair, and Jack Warman, Vice-Chair. In December, Alan Dippy and Jack Warman were re-elected Chair and Vice-Chair. BPAC has four committees: Development Review (chaired by Jack Warman in 2009, currently chaired by Dan Clever), Pedestrian Plan Implementation (chaired by Greg Garneau), Bike

Plan Implementation (chaired by Scott Carter) and Communications/Outreach (chaired by Ken Kaye). A permanent City staff member is assigned to the Commission, and acts as Secretary.

Three new members were appointed to BPAC in 2009 -- Erik Landfried (City appointee), Dwayne Taylor (County appointee), and Toby Berla (representative from the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission).



BPAC Logo – Completed in 2009

IV. Presentations Made to BPAC

- **Mark Ahrendsen, Transportation Manager, City of Durham (February 2009)** – spoke at the BPAC Annual Retreat and discussed the current and future budget situation and other city transportation issues of interest to BPAC members.
- **Bruce Rosar, Board Member, N.C. Active Transportation Alliance (March 2008)** - discussed the vision for the statewide non-profit advocating for better funding, fair treatment, and routine accommodation for non-motorized transportation.
- **John Pearce, Duke University Architect (April 2009)** – discussed bicycle and pedestrian issues in the planning of Duke’s Central Campus.
- **Theresa Cromling, Safe Kids Durham County Coordinator (August 2009)** – gave a presentation on the Safe Kids activities at schools, clubs, and scout groups to increase child safety related to motor vehicles, bicycling, walking, water, and fire.
- **Bo Glenn, Durham-Orange Friends of Transit (August 2009)** – discussed the work of Durham-Orange Friends of Transit to support the recommendations of the Special Transit Advisory Commission (STAC).
- **Carl Sundstrom, UNC Highway Safety Research Center (December 2009)** – discussed pedestrian safety issues in Durham and the NHTSA-funded project to promote pedestrian safety education and enforcement in Durham.

V. BPAC Accomplishment and Activities

A. Development Review Activities.

- Reviewed and commented on over 200 site plans and re-reviews, about 15 development plans, and the UDO amendments for downtown.
- Reviewed and commented on the Duke University Parking Report.
- Participated in Development Review Board meetings.
- Worked with Planning Department staff on recommendations from the adopted bicycle and pedestrian plans for revisions to the UDO.
- Met with Planning Department and Transportation Division officials to better understand review processes and interpretation of the UDO.
- Reviewed and commented on the proposed design of several planned NCDOT and City projects, including the Hopson Road grade separation, Carver Street extension, two-way traffic on the Downtown Loop, and the re-design of the Fayetteville Road-Riddle Road intersection.
- Asked Durham Public Schools to be mindful of the adopted pedestrian and bicycle transportation plans when selecting new schools sites, and offered to review proposed site plans for new schools.

B. Communication and Outreach Activities.

- Staffed a bicycle-pedestrian education booth at Earth Day in April, the Eno River Festival in July, the Farmer's Market on several occasions, a Bicycle Rodeo in September, the East Coast Greenway event in October, and CenterFest in October.
- Organized valet bike parking at the Durham Earth Day Festival.
- Sponsored two successful Bike to Work Week events in Durham. An after-work event on May 15 at Alivia's Durham Bistro and a breakfast event at Five Points in Downtown Durham.
- Completed a new logo and banner.
- Completed a new handout explaining the work of BPAC.
- Publicized the "DurhamBikePed" yahoo listserv to Durham citizens. There are about 500 participants on the listserv.
- Distributed bike and pedestrian educational materials, including "Basic Bike Commuting" pamphlet, Bike Safety for Motorists brochure, bike law card and promotional bumper sticker.
- Maintained a Commission website – www.bikewalkdurham.org. The site includes information on BPAC members and meetings, as well as general information on biking and walking in Durham and the surrounding area.
- Prepared and presented an annual report.
- Received training from the League of American Bicyclists to teach cyclists to ride safely.
- Met with the Durham Police Department to discuss pedestrian and bicyclist safety education and enforcement.

C. *Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Implementation.*

- The Pedestrian Plan Implementation Committee produced several maps, viewable in Google Maps and Google Earth, showing (1) the location of pedestrian crashes in Durham between 2004 and 2008, (2) high-priority sidewalk and intersection improvements identified by the DurhamWalks! pedestrian plan, and (3) Phase 1 and Top 20 bicycle projects identified in the Durham bicycle plan.
- The Pedestrian Plan Implementation Committee prepared a useful digest of the Pedestrian Plan.
- The Pedestrian Plan Implementation Committee catalogued pedestrian and bicycle interfaces with Duke University.
- The Bicycle Plan Implementation Committee met with city transportation staff to discuss which roads would be good starts for Phase I of the bike plan.
- The Bicycle Plan Implementation Committee reviewed the Triangle-wide biking map.
- The Bicycle Plan Implementation Committee reviewed the use of sharrows markings on selected road projects in 2010.
- Both committees reviewed the concept plans for targeted neighborhood commercial areas being developed by the Office of Economic and Workforce Development.
- Both committees reviewed and recommended bicycle and pedestrian projects that could be funded with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus) funds.
- Both committees participated in the NC 54 Corridor study.



New BPAC Banner at Bike to Work Week After Work Event

VI. Focus Areas for 2010

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission held its annual retreat on January 16, 2010. The retreat included a review of 2009 goals and accomplishments, and developed goals for 2010. The 2010 goals are attached.

VII. Closing

The members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission appreciate the opportunity to serve the City and County of Durham. We remain committed to our charge of assisting the elected boards in making Durham a better place to walk and bicycle. We hope that you will call upon us whenever our advice or expertise is needed.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan Dippy
Chair



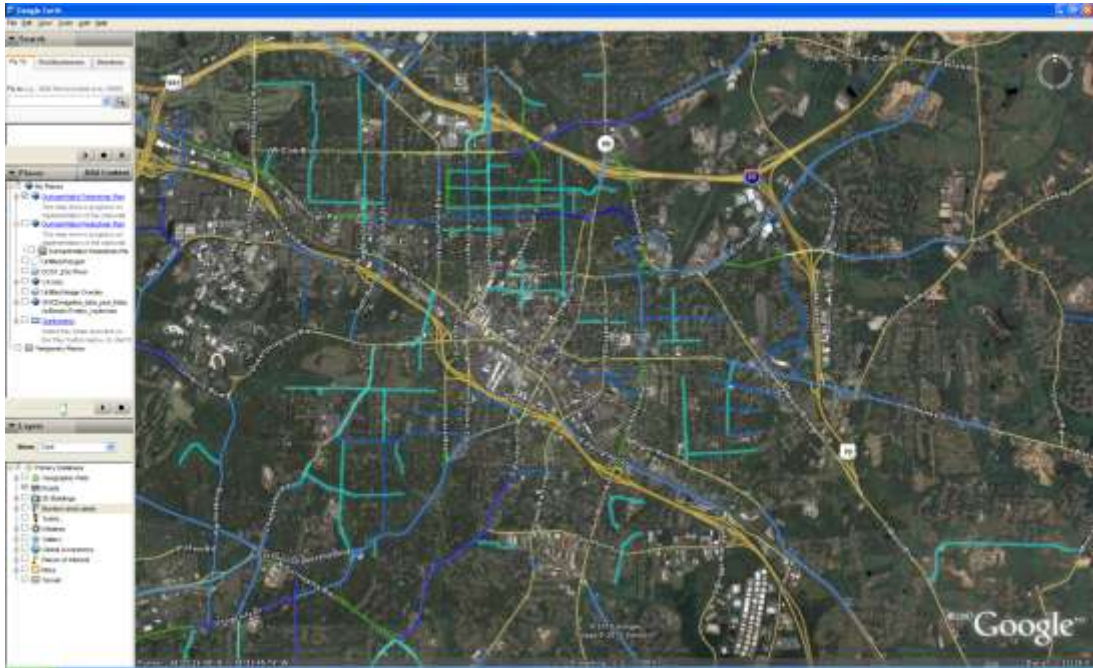
2009 Bike to Work Week Breakfast



Bike Valet Parking at the 2009 Earth Day Festival



Bike Valet Parking at the 2009 Earth Day Festival.



BPAC members prepared several Google Maps in 2009, including a map showing the status of high-priority sidewalk corridors in the DurhamWalks! Pedestrian Plan.



The American Tobacco Trail continues to be a popular facility for active transportation.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects Completed in 2009

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission notes that the following bicycle and pedestrian projects were completed in 2009 (or under construction where noted):

Bike Lanes

- None completed in 2009 (Anderson Street to be marked once resurfacing is completed – late Winter/Spring 2010).

Pedestrian Signals at Intersections

- Ninth St. and Club Blvd.
- Driver and Pettigrew
- Broad and Stadium
- Briggs Ave. and Lawson St.
- Fayetteville Rd. and Stratford Lakes
- M.L. King Jr. Parkway and Stratford Lakes
- Holloway and Hardee
- Holloway and Junction
- Lawson St. at Durham Tech (Pedestrian Crossing)

Sidewalks

- Main Street – West Village Streetscape (completion Spring 2010)
- Numerous sidewalk and curb cut ramp repairs (Contract SW 19 – ongoing)
- Curb ramp installations (Contract SW 21 – ongoing)
- Holloway Street between US 70 and Junction Road
- Sections of sidewalk on NC 54 and Garrett Road, as part of road widening projects
- Sidewalks built as part of new development

Trail Projects

- Apex Street bridge removal and access ramp to American Tobacco Trail
- NC 147 Pedestrian bridge (completion Spring 2010)
- Portion of North-South trail in Northgate Park (completion Spring 2010)
- Portion of New Hope Creek Greenway trail in Old Chapel Hill Rd park (completion Spring 2010)

Traffic Calming

- “Your Speed” Sign on Gregson Street
- “Your Speed” Sign on Duke Street
- “Your Speed” Sign on Trinity Avenue
- Speed humps at several locations

BPAC also notes that several new sidewalk, new trail, and trail maintenance projects will be underway in 2010. Also, 2010 resurfacing projects provide an opportunity for bike lane restriping. BPAC is encouraged by this work to address the needs of Durham citizens for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and hopes that this level of activity can be maintained—or increased—in future years.

2010 BPAC Committee Goals

Development Review Committee

<i>Goal</i>
Continue site plan reviews
Prepare calendar of critical dates (deadlines, TAC meetings, contracts, budget, etc.)
Work with Transportation and Planning on UDO amendments
Suggest bike-ped amendments to Public Works Reference Guide
Prepare site plan review checklist (UDO-based)
Develop relationships with Transportation and Planning (schedule meetings with Mark Ahrendsen and Teri Danner)
Consistent DRB presence
Provide guidance and advocacy for UDO interpretations

Bicycle Plan Implementation Committee

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Initiative</i>
Raise awareness and provide info of bike facilities in Durham	Complete Bike Map in 2010
Recognize Durham's progress in supporting biking in NC and identify deficiencies	Submit application for Bicycle Friendly Community designation
Promote and provide input to high-profile projects	Monitor stimulus funds and other key projects in 2010, including ATT-Phase E, Third Fork Creek, Main Street, Chapel Hill Street, etc.
Drive Bike Plan implementation	Identify, prioritize, and promote additional Phase 1 projects, with focus on inexpensive restriping and sharrow opportunities
Report progress	Create progress report for what has been accomplished from 2006-2009

Pedestrian Plan Implementation Committee

<i>Higher-level Goal</i>	<i>Initiative</i>	<i>Collaboration</i>
Education/Outreach	Neighborhood Outreach	Communications Committee, Neighborhood Ass'ns, INC, PACs
Plan Implementation	Create a Pedestrian Project Plan	City Staff
Plan Implementation	Request that funds be allocated to update DurhamWalks! Plan in 2011	
Plan Implementation	Update criteria/priorities for DurhamWalks! Plan, particularly intersections	
Education/Enforcement	Support HSRC (Carl Sundstrom) Project	HSRC
Education	Safe Routes to School/ Durham Safe Kids	Communications Committee, National SRTS office
Improve overall transportation network	Analyze transit stops/sidewalk network	DATA and Planning staff

Communications Committee

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Tactic</i>
Promote cycling/pedestrian issues to the Durham community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BPAC web site: bikewalkdurham.org ▪ Frequent and interesting blogs on website ▪ Social media: BPAC Facebook presence, possibly Twitter and other media ▪ Refresh site with most current links to bike-ped plans and new mapping by Pedestrian Committee ▪ Maintain presence on Durham bike/ped listserv ▪ Maintain BPAC calendar of events on Google (see next item) ▪ Point person for key events during the year: Earth Day (April); Bike to Work Week (May); Festival for the Eno (July); Centerfest (September); plus Farmer's Market and charity events as needed
Education and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ League Cycling Instructor classes throughout the year ▪ Contact for Safe Routes to School ▪ Add new members to Committee, including diversity ▪ Continue dialogue with Durham Police Department ▪ Recruit speakers to BPAC monthly meetings
Policy positions and statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Committee liaison to local media, including blogs, newspapers, TV/radio outlets

2009 Attendance Report for the Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

MEMBER NAME	Jan-09	Annual Retreat	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	Percent of Meetings Attended
Toby Berla	---	---	---	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Scott Carter	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	83%
Dan Clever	*	P	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	92%
Diane Daniel	*	P	P	P	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	100%
Alan Dippy	*	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	92%
Jim Dunlop	*	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	83%
Greg Garneau	*	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	83%
Henri Gavin	*	EA	P	P	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	67%
Ken Kaye	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Erik Landfried	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	100%
Merry Rabb	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Steve Saltzman	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	83%
Dwayne Taylor	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	EA	67%
Linda Smith	*	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	75%
Lars Trost	*	P	EA	EA	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	67%
Jack Warman	*	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	92%

P = Present

A = Absent

EA = Excused Absence

--- = Not a member at the time of this meeting

* = Meeting cancelled due to inclement weather