

**Minutes – Mayor’s Bicycle Advisory Council Meeting
September 12, 2012**

1. **Luann Hamilton** (CDOT): Welcome and introductions of Council members. Minutes from 6/13/12 meeting reviewed and accepted.
2. **Ben Gomberg** (CDOT): Bike Share Project Update. The focus of Bike Share will be transportation as opposed to leisure, and locations of stations will reflect this focus. CDOT has procured \$18 million in funding for Phase 1 of the Project and an additional \$4 million for Phase 2 which will fund 4,000 bikes and stations. \$5.5 million in local match funds were secured from various sources including aldermanic menu funds. Next steps include gaining IDOT approval before an official contract can be offered. Community outreach includes three public meetings to be held in October, and offering a crowd sourcing website allowing the public to suggest additional locations. 150 locations have been identified, mostly near CTA and Metra stations, extending from Montrose (North) to 43rd Street (South), and from Lake Michigan (East) to Damen (West). This area will be expanded to include Hyde Park and other neighborhoods in Phase 2. A target opening date has not been established and is dependent on sponsorship, materials, and weather, but an optimistic hope for completion is April 2013.
3. **Chris Ziemann & Joe Iacobucci** (CTA/CDOT): Chicago is embarking on a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) program. Following Complete Streets policy, BRT includes increasing bus ridership, increasing speed of bus transit and eliminating slow zones, and improving. These goals will be achieved through a variety of infrastructure changes such as bus-only lanes and bus stations. Three pilot projects were highlighted: Jeffery Blvd., the Western and Ashland corridors, and the Central Loop BRT, the latter will connect Union Station to Navy Pier. Bicycle, pedestrian, and traffic engineers have been consultants for all three projects. Next steps include completing complete a BRT System Network Plan similar to the Streets for Cycling Plan 2020. BRT/Bike integration has been a major focus; potential solutions include bike routes to and between stations, collaboration with bike share, bike racks inside of buses to improve cyclist ridership. Questions and comments can be directed to BRTChicago.com.
4. **Mike Amsden** (TYLin/CDOT): Maintenance of Bikeways. Street sweeping and snow plowing of protected bike lanes is a concern that many have voiced to CDOT and is a top priority for the Bike Program. CDOT is working with the Departments of Streets & Sanitation (DSS) and Fleet Management to create solutions for 5-foot lanes requiring special equipment. Two street sweepers have been tested and will be deployed. Two more powerful machines will be tested soon. Additionally, two snow plows have been tested and CDOT is also working with DSS on applying a mixture of beet juice and salt to prevent snow buildup.
5. **Christopher Gagnon** (Active Trans/CDOT): On-Street Bike Parking, Bike Racks. Chris will be leaving CDOT in October, thanks for nine years of hard work! Over 500 bike racks were installed this summer with this year’s installations concluding on Friday, 9/14. Remaining installations include 80 special custom bike racks that reference the communities in which they are placed. Two on-street corrals have been constructed in Andersonville and one is coming soon to Pilsen, which will be Chicago’s first year-round on-street bike parking facility.
6. **Charlie Short** (Active Trans/CDOT): The Future of Aldermanic Bike Camps. Four Aldermen (Dowell, Pawar, Osterman and Solis) traveled to Copenhagen and Amsterdam this summer to visit cities with innovative transportation systems, and carried back a desire to promote bicycle safety through education in their wards. In collaboration with CDOT, the Aldermen worked with the Bicycling Ambassadors program to offer a week-long bike skills training camp in each ward. The Camp was made possible with collaboration with Schwinn, Chicago Park District, IDOT, Bikes Belong, and others to provide bikes and helmets along with the skills training to 80 children at parks in these wards. CDOT hopes to expand the program next summer to include 500 youth at multiple camps within the Park District.
7. **Questions/New Business/Announcements:** Council members discussed various issues including education and outreach for bike share, bikeways maintenance schedules, and safety plan for bikers passing in narrow bike lanes.
CLOCC: The Healthy Places project (CLOCC, CDPH, Other City agencies) is wrapping up two years of work and two parts of that project intended to increase use of active transportation are in their final stages. CDOT's Complete Streets Policies and Procedures are being developed to redefine CDOT's design

processes and standards to implement the City's complete streets policy. Trainings on the new standards will be held for CDOT staff and consultants in the coming weeks. Make Way for Play is a guide to create safe routes to parks and encourage physical activity in the public right of way. Both documents will be released in the coming weeks.

Active Trans: Open Streets Wicker Park/Bucktown is on Sunday 9/16 from 10am-3pm.

Garfield Park Conservatory Garden Tour is on September 29.

Alderman Burnett's Ward Bike Ride is on October 6.

8. **MBAC Community Representatives Discussion:** Michelle Stenzel, Demond Drummer, Mike Tomas.
Education: Education and explanation of new bike facilities is needed for all users (peds, bikes and motorists). Part of the Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 includes an educational facilities guide (online and in print) intended for residents and aldermen. It is a non-technical guide explaining how all roadway users should use new facilities appearing in Chicago. Signage will also be utilized to educate users on new facilities. Bicycling Ambassadors have been targeting locations of concern and will continue to do so, e-mail Charlie or Carlin to suggest locations. Community representatives also inquired about bicyclist and pedestrian safety education in Driver's Education classes. Safe Routes Ambassadors visit Driver's Ed classes during the school year.
Will there be a media campaign to promote cycling? There will be a large PR campaign in the Spring with \$1 million from bike-allocated Transportation Demand Management (TDM) funds that will target specific communities for mode shift and \$2 million for general TDM that will contribute to a larger web presence. Active Trans has been working with press on spreading positive messages around cycling to improve public perception.
Communications: What is CDOT doing to inform the public? CDOT is developing a new blog to allow public to ask questions, make suggestions, and increase communication. Public can learn new information through the Green Lane Project online.
9. **Public Input/Questions Comments:** Community members shared their concerns on various matters, including bike share station location, ease of requesting specifications for bike racks, the BRT route on Madison, and infrastructure on Halsted bridges. Council members discussed advances in the Navy Pier flyover (construction to begin in 2013) and plans for the 2-way protected bike lane on Dearborn.

Minutes prepared by Cody McChane