

**Minutes - Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Council Meeting  
June 8, 2011**

1. **Luann Hamilton** (CDOT): Welcome, introduction. Minutes from 3/9/11 MBAC meeting reviewed and accepted.
2. **Ben Gombert** (CDOT): Reported on the Chicago Transition Plan. This included three ideas: (1) *Create World Class Bicycle Facilities*: Projects underway to create biking facilities that will showcase Chicago as bike friendly city. Within this year, 25 miles of cycle tracks are to be installed in Chicago. (2) *Improve quality of life*: Cycling gives way to improved quality of life. This includes: better physical health, cleaner air quality, less congested roads, safer quieter neighborhoods, etc. (3) *Draw people from around the world to appealing bicycle facilities*: Reiteration of reasons for building improved bicycle facilities and networks. Improved bicycle networks allows for economic growth and increased public interest.
3. **Luann Hamilton** (CDOT): Reported on Bloomingdale trail. Contract has now been awarded for the project. Trail will provide safe routes to schools, link paths to communities and add public space for neighborhoods. The project is still in transition phase. Seeking more funding from different sources.
4. **Mark De La Vergne** (Sam Schwartz Engineering): Consulting Engineering firm designated with task to expand bicycle network. (1) *Existing Conditions Review*: Analysis of Chicago streets being conducted to help facilitate bicycle network. (2) *NACTO Urban planning*: Implementation of NACTO design guide in designing bicycle facilities. (3) *Develop Network for Bicycle facilities*: Expansion of bicycle network to 150-200 miles. (4) *Develop Implementation Strategies*: Exploration of different strategies to help facilitate bike facility installations. (5) *Maintenance*: Overview of maintenance required to keep bike facilities functional.
5. **Carlin Thomas** (Share the Road Coordinator): Provided video clips for cycle tracks and bike boulevards. Cycle Tracks: Two video clips were shown, providing insight to how cycle tracks work. (1) Case for Separated Lanes – video clip based on New York Protected cycle tracks; an attempt to reduce traffic, cycle tracks were installed to encourage more people to bike. (2) Kinzie Cycle Track (Mayor's Press Conference) – News footage on Mayor, Rahm Emanuel's press conference concerning the installation of Chicago's first cycle track located on Kinzie, from Desplaines to Wells. Bike Boulevards: Two video clips were shown to shed light on bike boulevards. First video was based in New York. Boulevards provide a direct route for cyclists to use to bring them safely to their destination. Second video was based in Portland area where boulevards consisted of additions of traffic calming elements such as traffic diverters, traffic circles, speed bumps, and cycle traffic lights. Benefits to bike boulevards were seen as property values to homes where boulevards were installed, increased.
6. **Adolfo Hernandez** (Active Trans): Reported on Neighborhood Bikeway Campaign. Sought concerted effort from the public to communicate with their alderman or elected officials to support bikeway plans. Expressed that within the early fight for bikeways, there will be opposition to the idea. Enduring these early struggles, we will eventually reap benefits that come with bikeways. Also seeking a better network of bikeway facilities to connect neighborhoods and wards, to ensure clean and safe travel within the city.
7. **Charlie Short** (Bicycling Ambassadors / Share the Road): Reported on Bicycling Ambassadors and Share the Road Campaign. Currently working with aldermen and CPD to target dangerous behaviors by motorists and cyclists at dangerous intersections. Data on vehicle and bicycle incidents provided by IDOT and Active Trans. Events for Bicycle Ambassadors now listed bi-weekly on Facebook and BicycleAmbassadors.org.
8. **Christopher Gagnon** (Bike Parking): Reported on first on street bicycle parking facility to be installed. Funds for project were provided by donations from Wicker Park Bucktown SSA. The facility is to be installed within one month from today. Parking facility to accommodate 12 bicycles with a five foot buffer zone located at each end with the entrance located on the street, rather than normal sidewalk accessibility. This new parking facility will be in operation from April to November. The facility will be removed at that time, for ease of snow removal and reinstalled during the following April month.
9. **Anne K. Alt** (Urban Image5): Reported on road conditions at Vincennes Ave. south of 83<sup>rd</sup> St. Cyclists detouring from Vincennes due to poor road conditions to less favorable streets where high crime exists. Conditions include: ponding water on sidewalk south of 83<sup>rd</sup> St. on Vincennes, potholes, erosion and sidewalk cracking, creating debris on roadway. Also, lighting under the viaduct on Vincennes extremely limited, making it hard for cyclists to see in the tunnel. Photos were provided to show existing conditions.
10. Questions/New Business/ Announcements
  - a. Next MBAC meeting September 14, 2011
  - b. Adolfo Hernandez, Active Transportation Alliance. Announced new Neighborhood Bikeways Campaign. Working with multi-level stakeholders to create safer roads for cycling. [adolfo@activetrans.org](mailto:adolfo@activetrans.org). CLOCC's quarterly meeting is on Fri June 17. Commissioner Gabe Klein will speak at event at UBS tower, 1 N. Wacker.
  - c. Mark de la Vergne, Sam Schwartz Engineering. Announced new Chicago Pedestrian Plan to hold 7 public meetings through September. For more info, visit: <http://chicagopedestrianplan.org/>
  - d. Emanuele Bianchi, Chicago Velo Campus. A temporary cycling track will open July 18, 2011.

Minutes prepared by Guy Truong