

Minutes - Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Council Meeting September 8, 2010

1. **Ben Gomberg:** Welcome, introductions.
 - a. An update from the Chicago Police Department's **Sgt. Michael Neckermann** during introductions, including status of bike patrols on Lakefront Trail and efforts with Mayor Daley's Bicycling Ambassadors.
2. **Mike Amsden** (CDOT Bicycle Program): Showed data from 24-hr bike counts. Reviewed high-count locations with significant mode shares. Aldermanic Coordination: \$345,000 in Menu funding secured for both new bikeways and for repairs to worn bikeways. Also, plans in the works for 17.5 miles of new bike lanes to be funded with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. Lack of thermoplastic worldwide may delay installations this year.
3. **Chris Gagnon** (CDOT Bicycle Program): CMAQ grant received for 2011-2014's bike racks, but bike parking demand continues and CDOT is currently out of funding for new bike racks in 2010. This summer, 870 locations have been surveyed as part of an "orphaned bike rack project." 470 locations approved. Plans are in place to redistribute underused racks to these locations where they will be better used.
4. **Charlie Short** (CDOT Bicycle Program): Mayor Daley's Bicycling Ambassadors (MDBA) are funded by IDOT. This year there were seven ambassadors and 23 junior ambassadors. This season, May to September, MDBA attended 345+ events, (including 45 Lakefront Trail events and 147 Chicago Park District events) educating 57,000 people, 27,000 of which were children and youth.
5. **Amanda Woodall** (Active Transportation Alliance): Bike Safety videos are an easy, fast, compelling way to reach people with consistent messages. CDOT now has an online series with an adult target audience. They are still being produced and more will be coming. Practical elements of safe riding are on display in the videos. Presentation of two videos: *Bike on the Street, Not on the Sidewalk*, and *Use a Headlamp When You Bike at Night*.
6. **Kate Ibara** (CDOT Bicycle Program): Share the Road and Bike Safety presentation with a focus on traffic violations that pose the greatest threat to bicyclist safety. Conducted efforts to raise awareness about traffic laws, both for motorists and bicyclists. Worked with various aldermen and police commanders to set up events with the Ambassadors in various wards. Stopped motorists and cyclists to educate on safety. 22,700 people educated. New safety pamphlets created.
7. **Joseph Bornstein** (Chicago Park District): In a partnership with Active Transportation Alliance, 30 counts were conducted on the Lakefront Trail and at access points this past summer. Cyclists, inline-skaters and pedestrians were counted. This provides a new comprehensive dataset to draw upon to improve Lakefront Trail safety, funding, marketing, and awareness. Chokepoints can be identified through these hard numbers. Bike rack count will also be conducted. The comprehensive counts were conducted all the way from Ardmore to Sheridan, the full length of the trail. Only hard numbers so far: peak hour usage at one count was 2000 users! A full report to come in October. Also: new trail mile markers installed, sponsored by Nike.
8. **Melody Geraci** (Active Transportation Alliance): Merging transportation and public health community. Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) announced a \$16 million grant to Suburban Cook County over 2 years to help reverse the growing epidemic of obesity. The grant will be used to promote policy changes at schools and in workplaces with a focus on sustainable transportation. Active Transportation Alliance will work to write nonmotorized transportation plans for 15-20 communities, help pass new policies like complete streets, and partner with school districts to encourage safe routes to school.
9. **Jane Healy & Cigdam Tunar** (Cycling Sisters): The women's cycling group in Chicago continues to organize social events with a focus on increasing the number of women who ride bicycles for transportation, and to increase the confidence and comfort of women cyclists. Events include bike maintenance workshops as well as social rides and other activities. Reaching out to all women, including senior women.
10. Questions/New Business/ Announcements
 - a. **Eddie Cortez:** Would like to see installation of bike lanes on Milwaukee Avenue extending to the far northwest side of Chicago as part of current roadway project.
 - b. **Brian Morrissey:** Chicago Cyclocross Cup begins Sunday, 9/12 with Jackson Park Cyclocross. XXX racing is this year's sponsor. <http://xxxracing.org/> & <http://chicrosscup.com/>

Minutes prepared by Joshua Koonce