

**Minutes – Mayor’s Bicycle Advisory Council Meeting
December 10, 2008**

1. Welcome; Introductions; Approval of Minutes:
Luan Hamilton (Deputy Commissioner Project Development CDOT)

2. Navy Pier Flyover & the Chicago Spire Project – Updates
Janet Attarian (CDOT)

Discussed how the Navy Pier Flyover & Chicago Spire Project is back underway. The northern section, of the project, which has the path over Ohio St. that leads to the path behind Lake Point Towers, connecting to Navy Pier is moving forward. The focus of the project entails making sure the design follows existing path and structures. A new design of the bridge over the Chicago River is also moving forward. The new design for the existing sidewalk is now in Phase 1. The bridge section of the project is also moving forward.

The Chicago Spire section of the project is at a standstill at this time, since the Spire’s construction is also on hold at the moment. Design problems with this section include:

- The on and off ramps for vehicles entering LSD from the Spire.
- A new design for Dusable Park, where there are no working drawings yet.
- Current design, does not account for a column just north of the Spire that could be problematic.
- Decision whether to place a retaining wall structure by Dusable Park.

CMAQ grant was awarded, but still need another grant. Anticipated construction date is 2010 for the northern section including the bridge. The southern section only has design funding through Phase 1. Must work together with the Chicago Spire developers to get help with funding for that section. As of now their funding is only for the Dusable park redesign and not the actual path by the Chicago Spire.

3. Improving Mayor’s Bicycle Advisory Council’s Meetings
Open Discussion

Responses by Ben Gomberg

- Larger meeting room with more seats to accommodate everyone (new room achieved at least for the next 2 years).
- Concentrate on key issues, encourage more dialogue and discussion
- More meetings, longer meetings (every 2 months, 6 times a year)

Suggestions:

- Use microphone system especially when moving the meeting to a bigger room
- Breaking into smaller groups, to have a more concise discussion, then coming back together to discuss only the important topics
- Workshop meetings prior to MBAC meetings

- Send out information bulletins before the meeting (i.e. electronic documents, mass emails, printed journal or handouts) It will help people read ahead and keep up with what is going on prior to the meetings
 - Various other groups should also present for more than a couple of minutes at the end of the meetings
 - There should be an option for new comers/ general public to present
 - A better availability of contact information for people who attend
 - There should official representatives of various groups
 - Let private citizens/ non profit organizations present to encourage attendance
 - Have at least one evening meeting (June during all the bike events)
 - Move meetings to the later part of the day (3 pm - 5:30 pm) so there are less priorities to attend another meeting or appointments after the MBAC meeting, or have the meeting during lunch time for people with better availability during that time
4. Annual Report – Implementation of the Bike 2015 Plan
Ben Gomberg
5. Bicycle Parking Initiatives
Chris Gagnon (CDOT Bicycle Program)
- a. Reviewing problematic racks that have been installed at CTA locations. Concerned citizens have complained about the locking loop being too short thus having limited locking capabilities. Original design with the short loop was chosen due to the concern of maintenance issues with moving parts.
 - b. In contact with manufacturer to discuss retrofitting a new locking mechanism to be more lock friendly. This retrofit design is in use in other cities.
6. Police Training
Amanda Woodall (CDOT Mayor Daley Bicycle Ambassadors)
- a. Working on a police training video that will be showed to new, as well as old officers to help implement all the violations that motorists should be aware of when dealing with cyclists. Video will stream on their site to help train these officers
7. **New Business**
- Steven Vance- working with newspaper task force to move newspaper racks blocking bike parking racks all around the city. Call 311 to report or go to www.chicagobikes.org
 - Lea Neaderthal- founder of www.thechainlink.org invite people to join and share their resource with Chicago's biking community
 - Susan Levine- Offers a support group for cyclists affected by a crash
 - Tracey Eyck- Campaign coordinator for *Team in Training* (supporting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society)