

Bike Indianapolis Advocacy Committee Meeting

2/8/22

- Attendees: Will Hazen, Logan Lane, Erika Hinshaw, Daniel Silverman, Taylor Firestine, Matt Duff, and Trent Taylor.

- Discussed snow removal strategy for bike lanes and trails:
 - We agreed that a tier system of priorities would be good.
 - Tier 1 would be off-street greenways/multi-use paths.
 - Tier 2 would be protected bike lanes.
 - Tier 3 would be painted bike lanes.

 - Prioritizing off-street trails and protected bike lanes would also look good because it will allow people to use (and be seen using) some of the more expensive bike infrastructure, year-round.

 - Specific locations that we want to see cleared are: Monon Trail, Michigan & New York St bike lanes, Illinois St bike lane, Shelby St cycle track, Pogue's Run Trail, Pennsy Trail.
 - Questions for DPW follow-up: Salt vs sand?; What, if any, equipment would be purchased? (might be good to push for this before next round of city budgeting in the fall).
 - Important to clear the snow while it's still soft. It tends to ice over and become harder to clear after a couple days.
 - Matt Duffy proposed researching other cities' approach to snow clearing, and agreed to do it. We should consider cities with similar climates to ours, with a freeze/thaw cycle (vs. norther cities whose snow stays once it falls).
 - Invite Jamey McPherson to attend our March meeting to discuss further.

- BLU bike lights update:
 - Lights are in!
 - Jarron Burdine is going to be our point person for this. Bike Indianapolis members can email him at jarron@bikeindianapolis.org to request lights to distribute.
 - When distributing, members will be asked to fill out a form on the website with date, location, and basic demographic information, in order to advocate for getting more lights in the future. You can see the form @ <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1E10cQWzJknP08qeoIa9owl9HNrzkyh6WEuZeN02jYn0/edit?ts=62014899>

- We will include our “Riders in the Know” pamphlets with each light, with basic safety tips.
- Bike map update:
 - Sylva, Chris, and Trent met on Saturday to come up with wording for the back side of the map.
 - Meeting again at the end of the month to go over updated version.
 - We’ll share final draft through advocacy committee email group for preview.
 - Discussed distribution of maps:
 - Bike shops
 - In bike lights boxes
 - Breweries (owner of Upland is avid cyclist, so definitely Upland).
- Crash Response Team update:
 - **ACTION ITEM:** This seems to have stalled, so it’s time to reach back out to the CCs who we contacted in December about this and ask them to follow up with DPW and push for it to be implemented.
 - Trent will email the group the sample letter that Lane prepared in December for CCCs.
 - Trent will also email the list of CCCs we’ve already contacted, so initial letter isn’t being re-sent to them (but a follow-up email would be great).
 - Would be good to loop Austin Gibble from DMD in on this – it’s something he wants to see happen, too. Erika can try to talk to Austin (she works down the hall from him).
 - Discussed current tracking of fatal and incapacitating crashes. MPO has a website with these stats for years 2015 – 2020: <https://www.indympo.org/maps-resources/dashboards-reports>
 - Discussed efforts for Vision Zero. Logan said we are probably still a ways away from doing anything like that. Austin Gibble would be a good person to follow up with about this.
- Pennsy Trail Exhibit and Ride:
 - Ride is scheduled for Saturday, 4/30/22, at 10:00 a.m. (tentative time).
 - Will leave from Irvington Historical Society, go out to just past the tunnel under 465 (taking the Pennsy), and return to Irvington Historical Society.
 - One or two ride additional ride marshals needed.
 - Erika said she’d probably attend anyways, so she could help.
 - Bryan Luellen said he’d help, too.
 - Trent will email Bryan and Erika the details once they’re finalized.
- Bike racks enforcement update:
 - Erika did some research through a co-worker. Key points:
 - If a commercial property is less than 5,000 sq ft, it doesn’t require parking, including bike parking.

- Parking isn't required within the Mile Square, which has been extended to bike parking.
 - It also seems that offering covered bike parking for residents in mixed-use developments is being counted as meeting the bike parking requirements.
 - Resurfacing or renovating would not trigger a change in bike parking unless the use is changing the requirements for auto parking.
 - Austin Gible said the city is going to be looking at parking requirements city-wide for both bikes and cars. He thinks that will be an opportunity to both tighten up the bike parking requirements and draw attention to enforcement.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Austin and Erika's coworker suggest we make a list of places around the city developed in 2016 or later that have insufficient bike parking and include it with a letter signed by as many people as we can get.
 - Email your locations to trent@bikeindianapolis.org and he'll keep the list.
 - Blue line is supposed to be getting bike (and scooter?) parking at every station. Eastern terminus will be the Meijer in Cumberland, so maybe an opportunity to improve bike parking there (although there is already bike parking near the bus stop there, but there should be bike parking right by the main entrance).
- Next meeting: ***Special time for March Meeting*** - Monday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m.