

Massachusetts Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board Meeting Notes
Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 1:00 – 3:00 PM
2nd Floor Library, State Transportation Building (STB)
10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA

Welcome, Introductions & Safety Message: Pete Sutton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

Members present: Cameron Bain, Tom DiPaolo, Richard Fries, Philip Groth, Kurt Gaertner, Wendy Landman, John McQueen, Rob Miceli, Steve Miller, Joe Repole, Pete Sutton, Jim Tozza, Ben Wood

Members absent: Rosalie Anders, Glen Berkowitz, Dan Driscoll, Steve Heinrichs, Janie Katz-Christy, Jeff McCollough, **Guests present:** John Allen (Waltham Bicycle Committee), Krystian Boreyko (EOPSS-Highway Safety Division), Michelle Ciccolo (Town of Lexington), Casey Claude (Central Transportation Planning Staff), Becca Cyr (MassRides), Dan Daniska (CMRPC), Courtney Dwyer (MassDOT), Molly Henry (ECGA), Scott Hamwey (MassDOT), Nick Jackson (Toole Design Group), David Loutzenheizer (Metropolitan Area Planning Council), John Michalak (Nitsch Engineering), Andy Paul (Kittelson), Lou Rabito (MassDOT), Halley Reeves (MDPH), Leah Sirman (FHWA), Misrak Sultan (MassDOT) **Guests participating by telephone:**

Approval of 5/18/15 Minutes: Pete Sutton moved to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Joe Repole, approved unanimously.

MA Bicycle Transportation Plan update: Pete Sutton opened the meeting with an update that the draft Plan Scope of Work is completed and pending internal approval and will be put out to bid as an RFR on CommBUYS in late winter. Before it is put out to bid, MABPAB board members will also be able to review the scope and provide any additional comments.

Complete Streets (CS) Training and Funding Programs: Lou Rabito gave a comprehensive presentation on MassDOT's Complete Streets Training and Funding Program, now up and running. (See attached). The MassDOT portal is also expected to go live shortly for towns that are interested in applying for funding. Following the presentation, discussions included what sort of projects are eligible for funding, such as maintenance, snow removal, multi-use paths, etc. Concerns were also expressed over policy language pertaining to where cost or impacts of accommodation is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use. Lou clarified that the funding program continues to be a work in progress and that initial selected projects will need to guide future initiatives, incorporating best practices as the program moves forward. As of January, a total of twenty-seven policies were submitted by municipalities. Additional updated info:

<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/DoingBusinessWithUs/LocalAidPrograms/CompleteStreets.aspx>

MA Pedestrian Transportation Plan: Nick Jackson from Toole Design Group gave an overview of the upcoming statewide Pedestrian Transportation Plan, last updated in 1998. Toole was selected as the lead consultant for the twelve month study based on their extensive experience in statewide pedestrian planning and project understanding. The presentation outlined MassDOT's goals, challenges, approaches and scope tasks and is attached for review. MABPAB board members are expected to be involved directly with the study as the official steering committee. Materials will be available for review in advance of upcoming meetings. The plan is expected to include a strong online presence for stakeholder input in addition to public meetings.

Other Business, Public Comments & Questions:

- Cameron Bain announced future funding for the Tri-Community Bikeway has been secured and is scheduled to be advertised for construction this fiscal year (by September 2016). The proposed project involves the construction of a bikeway from the Wedgemere MBTA Station in Winchester northerly to Horn Pond in Woburn and Recreation Park in Stoneham, a total distance of approximately 7 miles. The objective of this project is to provide non-motorized access to commuter rail property, schools, recreation and commercial areas along the length of the bikeway and, subsequently, reduce congestion and improve air quality by converting some motorized traffic to non-motorized.
- MassRides Becca Cyr announced BayState Bike Week will be taking place this year from May 14-22. Cyclists are encouraged to plan their own events throughout the state during that week and to upload any events open to the public at the official web site: <http://baystatebikeweek.org/>
- Richard Fries announced that MassBike will be working with Park and Pedal to organize a bike ride to Fenway Park for a Red Sox game (including discounted tickets) on Saturday, May 21.

- Glenn Cannon from the Cape Cod Commission reported on a meeting with the MassBike Cape Cod chapter in a desire to study extending the Shining Sea Bikeway from its current terminus in Falmouth all the way to the Bourne Bridge. A future twelve mile on-road marked shared-lane facility utilizing roads that were selected based on their high comfort rating – ending at Hyannis - was also mentioned
- WalkBoston, MassBike and Livable Street have all joined the Boston chapter of Vision Zero Coalition. <http://www.visionzerocoalition.org/> Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.
- Wendy Landman announced that WalkBoston will feature Vision Zero initiatives at its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 22. More info at: <http://www.walkboston.org/>
- David Loutzenheiser of MAPC has been leading efforts to increase membership and awareness in the LandLine Coalition, a group of 40 volunteers representing a number of local agencies and groups. LandLine is MAPC's vision to connect our greenways and trails into a seamless network. <http://www.mapc.org/landline>
- Molly Henry of the East Coast Greenway Alliance updated the group regarding her organization's work on a 2020 Strategic Plan. The plan seeks to expand ECGA's presence through advocacy, public outreach, wayfinding and signage. More MA-based mileage will be incorporated to future off-road segments of the Blackstone River Bikeway and the Mass. Central Rail Trail. <http://www.greenway.org/>
- Pete Sutton concluded the meeting by mentioning an upcoming working group meeting for the future MassDOT McGrath Boulevard project. <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/HighlightedProjects/McGrathBoulevardProject.aspx>

Next Meeting: The next Board meeting is scheduled to be held in the Central MA Regional Planning Commission 2nd Floor Conference Room, Union Station, 2 Washington Square, Worcester, on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 from 1 – 3 PM.

Adjournment: Pete Sutton adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM.