Houston Bike Plan: Public Comments, Goals & Tools

Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting #2

July 8, 2015
Today’s Objectives

- Share Progress to Date
- Share Draft Vision and Goals
- Group Exercise: Goals & Metrics
- What is a Bicycle Toolbox?
- Group Exercise: Building a Bicycle Network
Where Are We?

**Phase**

1. Existing Conditions and Opportunities
2. Defining Goals
3. Bicycle Toolbox
4. Developing Draft Plan
5. Public Outreach on the Plan
6. Finalize Plan

**Timeline**

- May 2015: Phase 1
- July 2015: Phase 2
- Aug 2015: Phase 3
- Nov 2015: Phase 4
- Feb 2016: Phase 5
- April 2016: Phase 6

Major Public Engagement Periods
Who Have We Reached?
How Much Input Have We Received?

Since May 30 Kick Off

- 5 Public Meetings
  - 237 attendees
  - 258 comments on goals and needs
  - 35 comment cards received

- Online Participation
  - 1885 online surveys
  - 303 map ideas
  - 55 comments

- Meeting In A Box Available

- Building awareness at 24+ events

*All numbers current as of 7/6/15*
What Do People Want?

- **Cultural Shift – Safety/Education/Enforcement**
  - Education: Increase safe behavior for people who bike, walk and drive
  - Awareness of people bicycling
  - Enforcement/enhancement of laws for all
  - Reprioritize funding from roadways to bicycle facilities

- **Infrastructure/Design**
  - Network of improved bike lanes and separated bike lanes
  - Intersection improvements
  - End of trip amenities
  - Wayfinding
What Do People Want?

- **Access/Connectivity**
  - Safe access to bike facilities and bayou trails
  - Continuous connectivity through the City
  - Avoid congestion
  - Transit connectivity

- **Maintenance**
  - Better maintenance/repair of existing facilities

- **Health/Wellness**
  - Ability to live a healthy lifestyle
  - Environmental benefits
Defining Outcomes

Vision
• An inspirational description of your desired future conditions

Goals
• Tangible objectives that deliver against the vision

Metrics
• Measurable variables and milestones used to assess progress

Strategies
• Specific projects, programs, and policies to achieve goals
Today’s Activities: Goals & Metrics
Input, then Design a Bike Network

Your Job Today:
- Provide input on draft Vision and Goal statements
- Provide input on metrics to measure success of our goals
- Develop a bike network for Bike City, USA
By 2026, the City of Houston will be a Safer, Healthier, Gold Level Bike-Friendly City with…

- Increased safety for bicyclists of all abilities through improved facilities, education, and enforcement;
- Access to a well-connected, citywide network of comfortable bike facilities, from neighborhoods, jobs and activity centers;
- Adopted policies and programs that encourage more people to bike and promote healthy, active transportation options; and
- Programs to develop and maintain the city’s bicycle network including both bikeways and end of trip facilities while coordinating to create a regional bikeway network.
These are averages; Each city should decide its own approach and priorities
Measuring Success

What Makes a Good Metric?

- Inputs v. Outcomes
- Objective way to see if the strategy is working
- Comparison that measures change over time
- Focus attention on what matters most to success
- Measures accomplishments
- Provide a common language for communication
- Are valid and verifiable/measurable
Access Metrics

Access Metrics for Population & Jobs

- Overall network provide proximate access to over 60% of people and jobs.
- Access is slightly lower for populations of color and people living below the poverty line.
- About 38% of the population is proximate to high comfort bicycle facilities, but barriers to access and last mile challenges still exist.

Source: Census & ACS Data; Team Analysis
# Peers Comparisons

| Source: Alliance for Biking & Walking's 2014 Benchmarking Report for Bicycling and Walking in the United States |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>% of Bicycle Commuter Mode Share</th>
<th>Total Existing Miles of Bicycle Facilities / Sq Mile</th>
<th>Miles of Planned Bicycle Facilities</th>
<th>Recommended Minimum Bicycle Facilities</th>
<th>Bicyclist Fatalities per 10k bicycling commuters</th>
<th>% Adults Meeting Weekly Aerobic Physical Activity*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>1680</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>58%</td>
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<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>4.92</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>55.3</td>
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<td>Austin, TX</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>98</td>
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<td>41.9</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Antonio, TX</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>50.3</td>
<td>50.3</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data was unavailable for Fort Worth, TX

Source: Alliance for Biking & Walking's 2014 Benchmarking Report for Bicycling and Walking in the United States
By 2026 Houston will be a Safer, Healthier, Gold Level Bike-Friendly City with...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Goal Statement</th>
<th>Measure(s) (ex)</th>
<th>Target(s) (ex)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Improve Safety</strong></td>
<td>Increased safety for bicyclists of all abilities through improved facilities,</td>
<td>• # of bicycle fatalities</td>
<td>• Zero Annual bicycle fatalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>education, and enforcement.</td>
<td>• # of bicycle related crashes</td>
<td>• 50% reduction of reported bike crashes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• # safe passing citations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase Access</strong></td>
<td>Access to a well-connected, citywide network of comfortable bike facilities,</td>
<td>• % population and jobs within ½ mile of a high-comfort bike facility</td>
<td>• Increase to 50% of people &amp; 75% of jobs within ½ mile of connect high comfort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from neighborhoods, jobs, and activity centers.</td>
<td></td>
<td>bike facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase Ridership</strong></td>
<td>Adopted policies and programs that encourage more people to bike and promote</td>
<td>• Commute mode share</td>
<td>• 4x current commute mode share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>healthy, active transportation options.</td>
<td>• # of permanent count stations</td>
<td>• 60% of adults meet recommended daily physical activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Develop and Maintain</td>
<td>Programs to develop and maintain the City’s bicycle network, including both</td>
<td>• Miles of bikeways per capita</td>
<td>• Double centerline miles of high comfort bicycle facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities**</td>
<td>bikeways and end-of-trip facilities, while coordinating to create a regional</td>
<td>• % bikeways in good or better conditions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>bikeway network.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Group Exercise

- Break in to small groups (3-4 people)
- Using worksheets review and discuss the Vision and each of the goals
- Have one person be official note taker to capture any comments or potential edits
- Appoint one person to present ideas
- Provide any measures of success you would like to see as potential metrics aligned with each goal

- Timeline: 30 minutes group discussion; 15 minutes debrief
THE RIGHT FACILITY FOR THE RIGHT PLACE

Different bike facilities offer different levels of comfort, especially for inexperienced riders. The plan will include a “toolbox” of bike facilities for different kinds of places.

Also includes tools to address other critical areas such as intersections.
A PLACE FOR YOUR BIKE

When making a trip by bike, people want to know that there is a secure place to park. Different types of bike parking offer different levels of security -- at different costs.
Today's Activities: Create A Bike Network!

- Using toolbox, work in small group to create a high-comfort bike network

Why?
- Discussion on how to connect areas of a city and address barriers
- What are the trade-offs? (i.e. parking or number of lanes)
- Identify how end of trip facilities can fit into the design of a bike network

- Appoint one person to present bike plan in debrief

Timeline: 45 minutes group discussion; then debrief
What Next: Refine Goals and Toolbox to Support Draft Plan Development

Existing Bikeway Map (Based Solely on Facility Type)

New Facilities In Development (White Oak)

Clarity on Goals (e.g., Job Access)

Well Defined Toolbox (e.g., Separated Bikeways)
Bike Plan Next Steps

- Complete first phase of public input
- Refine vision and goals
- Develop metrics as measures of success
- Develop a draft bicycle toolbox

Next BAC Meeting
- Wednesday, Sept. 9, 3-5pm
- Review draft goals and toolbox
- Develop plan recommendations