

## Minutes of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

July 24, 2019

Meeting held in  
Council Chambers, Public Level, City Hall Annex  
2:30 p.m.

### Call to Order

Chair Maya Ford called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. with a quorum present.

Maya Ford, Chair	
Clark Martinson, Vice Chair	Absent
Toloria Allen	
Kristine Anthony	Absent
Katrina Bayer	
Oni Blair	
Neil Bremner	Absent
Robin Holzer	
Beth Martin	
Yuhayna Mahmud	
Clint McManus	
Veon McReynolds	
Amar Mohite	
Alejandro Perez	Absent
Ana Ramirez Huerta	Absent
Sandra Rodriguez	
Mike VanDusen	
Adam Williams	

### EXOFFICIO MEMBERS

Ian Hlavacek	Absent
Margaret Wallace Brown	
Juvenal Robles	

### 1. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's Report was given by Interim Director Margaret Wallace Brown. Jennifer Ostlind was on vacation. Interim Director Brown thanked the Committee for their service and listed their value the Committee adds to implementing the Houston Bike Plan. She established a commitment to completing the Vision Zero Action Plan by September 30, 2020.

### 2. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Maya Ford provided the Chair's Report. Chair Ford congratulated the Planning Department for carrying out the Vision Zero Executive Order. In the last nine months, the Committee brought Vision Zero to the table and wrote a resolution for the Mayor to pass a Vision Zero Executive Order.

### 3. APPROVAL OF APRIL MINUTES

Committee action: Approve the April 24, 2019 Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting minutes.

Motion: **VanDusen**    Second: **Mahmud**    Vote: **Unanimous**    Abstaining: **None**

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was invited after approval of the minutes and again at the end of the meeting.

Jessica Wiggins spoke at the end of the meeting. She stated that a strong EO is important to advocacy organizations because it gives them tools to hold governments accountable. The absence of shorter-term goals does not help advocates or the all of us be successful in meeting the long-term vision of eliminating traffic deaths. Jessica spoke to the Vision Zero Network about Houston's EO and she believes the EO lacks three of the nine goals: Transparency, Accountability and Equity.

#### **5. BAC COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES**

Staff member Melissa Beeler shared a draft framework for new Committee communications procedures, per Chair Ford's request. The framework would establish monthly BAC/Bike Plan updates in the Planning Department's Monthly Planner newsletter and clear internal procedures to disseminate BAC activities. Discussion ensued. The scope listed in the procedures was amended to include monthly and yearly totals of crashes and fatalities for all road users, pedestrians and bicyclists. The Committee did not think a vote was necessary to establish the procedures.

#### **6. PRESENTATION ON HOUSTON BIKE PLAN BIENNIAL REPORT**

Staff member Melissa Beeler presented on the purpose and outline of the Biennial Report and provided preliminary data for two goals of the Houston Bike Plan. The purpose of the report is to assess performance of Plan implementation and identify opportunities to improve progress towards achieving the Plan's vision. An update will be given at subsequent meetings.

#### **7. NO PARKING IN THE BIKE LANE UPDATE**

Staff member Melissa Beeler presented a recap of Committee action taken at April's meeting and provided some details on how the City is moving forward to fulfill the action items.

#### **8. BUILD 50 CHALLENGE UPDATE**

Staff member Pete Eccles provided an update on Harris County Precinct One-funded projects.

In Near Northside, signal work still needs to be completed and should be wrapped up by Labor Day.

All projects in the Regional Spine in Eado, Third Ward and Midtown/Downtown except for Cullen Blvd have been awarded to a contractor. Cleburne and La Branch are prioritized to make substantial progress before the school year begins. Cullen Blvd requires more substantial coordination with TxDOT.

CIP-funded projects: 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Patterson Street have had more engagement meetings and have not yet gone into design. CIP funding has been unlocked by City Council and can be used to procure a contractor for design and construction.

#### **9. VISION ZERO UPDATE**

Staff member Lauren Grove presented an update on the progress made toward a Vision Zero Executive Order. The Executive Order will be signed within 2 weeks by Mayor Turner at a press conference. The Planning Department is planning its first Executive Committee meeting, after which an initial Task Force and Data Working Group can begin meeting. The Department is developing a timeline and process for drafting goals and deliverables. Discussion ensued. Committee members expressed concerns over not having data-driven target goals or milestones in the Executive Order.

## **10. E-BIKES ON TRAILS**

Chair Ford and Committee Member Beth Martin led a discussion regarding E-Bikes on bayou trails in Houston. Houston B-Cycle has four e-bikes. At this time, electric vehicles are not allowed on bayou trails per City code. Martin also proposed to report on B-Cycle's E-Bike Pilot and the status of the City's dockless mobility recommendations at a future meeting. Discussed ensued.

## **11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Committee member Katrina Bayer announced that the Downtown Management District has officially released the 2018 Downtown Commute Survey. Copies of the executive summary were passed out to the Committee.

Committee Member Sandra Rodriguez announced that she attended a bike ride in Gulfton with the help of Planning Department staff, LINK Houston, BikeHouston and many others. Forty people of all ages attended and rode along proposed bikeways in the area. She would like to do this bike ride every year.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business brought before the Committee, Chair Maya Ford adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

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**Maya Ford**  
Chair

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**Margaret Wallace Brown**  
Interim Secretary