

## **Minutes of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)**

**April 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 2:34 p.m. with a quorum present.

Maya Ford, Chair

Clark Martinson, Vice Chair

Toloria Allen

Absent

Kristine Anthony

Katrina Bayer

Absent

Oni Blair

Neil Bremner

Robin Holzer

Beth Martin

Yuhayna Mahmud

Clint McManus

Veon McReynolds

Amar Mohite

Dian Nostikasari

Alejandro Perez

Absent

Ana Ramirez Huerta

Sandra Rodriguez

Mike VanDusen

Adam Williams

### **EXOFFICIO MEMBERS**

Ian Hlavacek

Absent

Jennifer Ostlind

Juvenal Robles

### **1. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Interim Director Margaret Wallace Brown provided brief remarks encouraging the BAC's work toward improving bicycling in Houston. The Director's Report was given by Assistant Director Jennifer Ostlind.

### **2. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Maya Ford provided the Chair's Report. Chair Ford emphasized safety as the paradigm shift in building bikeway infrastructure.

### **3. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES**

Committee action: Approve the January 16, 2019 Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting minutes.

Motion: **Holzer**

Second: **McReynolds**

Vote: **Unanimous**

Abstaining: **None**

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

None.

#### **5. SAFER STREETS INITIATIVE UPDATE**

This item was skipped due to the absence of Houston Public Works representative Ian Hlavacek.

#### **6. BUILD 50 CHALLENGE UPDATE**

Staff member Pete Eccles presented an overview of the Build 50 Challenge, the regional spine network plan, and the status of bikeway implementation. All projects in Near Northside (Lyons, Hardy/Elysian, Downtown Connector and Kelley Street), are designed and entering construction. Lyons Avenue construction is complete. Engagement and information distribution regarding the use of the bike lanes is still ongoing.

The Third Ward package of bikeways are 100% designed but have not been constructed. These include the Austin corridor, Gray, Polk, Cullen, Hutchins and Cleburne.

Eccles also outlined the total mileage of bikeways that have been implemented towards the Build 50 Challenge. Houston Parks Board built 24.8 miles, METRO 1.1 miles, Westchase Management District 0.3 miles, TIRZ 5 0.5 miles, and other Precinct 1 projects total 7.6 miles. 9.6 miles are under construction and 8.0 miles have been let for construction by Precinct 1. The total mileage towards the Build 50 Challenge is 51.9 miles.

City of Houston CIP-funded projects (Acres Home network, Patterson, 11<sup>th</sup> Street, North Main and Quitman) are still in concept or early design stages, so they will not count towards the Build 50 Challenge.

Lastly, Eccles outlined upcoming meetings and engagement opportunities for bikeway projects still in the design phase. He also posed the question of what a future bikeways challenge might look like. Discussion ensued.

#### **7. VISION ZERO**

Staff member Lauren Grove presented a draft resolution for the BAC. The BAC resolution will be presented to the Planning Commission May 9. The language in the BAC resolution will serve as the starting point for the Executive Order for Mayor Turner. Discussion ensued. Staff committed to revise the draft BAC resolution with more holistic language and send the final draft for review by the Members via email.

Committee action: Staff and Legal to prepare a Resolution presented to Planning Commission from the BAC that supports a Vision Zero policy established by the City of Houston.

Motion: **Martinson**

Second: **Holzer**

Vote: **Unanimous**

Abstaining: **None**

#### **8. NO PARKING IN THE BIKE LANE**

Staff member Melissa Beeler presented on the issue of parking in the bike lane and listed requests for BAC action from the previous two subcommittee meetings. Discussion ensued.

It was noted education would be needed for city employees and the general public.

Committee Action 1: Request the Planning and Development Department to establish an internal policy for nonemergency City vehicles and contractors officially acting on behalf of the City to be prohibited from parking in bike lanes.

Motion: **Blair**                      Second: --                      Vote: **Unanimous**                      Abstaining: **None**  
**Ramirez Huerta Off Dias**

Committee Action 2: Request the Planning and Development Department to begin the process of passing a citywide ordinance prohibiting parking of any vehicle in the bike lane unless the vehicle is responding to an emergency and to provide policy recommendations to revise the City's traffic control plan.

Motion: **Blair**                      Second: **Holzer**                      Vote: **Unanimous**                      Abstaining: **None**

## 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Committee Meetings:

- Infrastructure Subcommittee: May 30 at 2:30pm, 611 Walker, 6<sup>th</sup> floor
- Education Subcommittee: June 27 at 2:30pm at 611 Walker, 6<sup>th</sup> floor
- Quarterly Meeting: July 24 at 2:30pm at City Hall Annex Council Chambers

Legal representative Kim Mickelson announced that the American Planning Association National Planning Conference was held in San Francisco April 12-15. The conference will be held next year in Houston April 25-28, 2020. Over 6,000 planners attended the national conference. Members should consider proposing sessions and mobile workshops.

Two positions will be open on the BAC

Vice Chair Clark Martinson announced many scheduled events for Bike Month.

- Houston Bike Summit will be held May 17- May 18.
- Mid Main Bike Month Party - May 2
- Walk & Bike to School Day - May 8
- Cyclo Femme - May 12
- Ride of Silence - May 15
- Bike to Work Day - May 17
- BikeHouston Bike Summit - May 17
- BikeHouston Street Fest - May 18

Beth Martin announced Bike Share's Fundraiser taking place May 31<sup>st</sup> at Saint Arnold's Beer Garden.

Clint McManus announced the H-GAC RTP Public Meeting at 3555 Timmons Lane on April 24 at 5:30pm. Comment deadline May 10. The Ped/Bike Subcommittee will meet May 8 from 1:30 to 3:30pm with an orientation available to interested parties.

Veon McReynolds asked whether we are trying to restrict cars within the 610 Loop to address climate change. Harrison Humphreys of Air Alliance mentioned cutting off traffic to certain parts of the city is a proposal being considered under the Climate Action Plan process.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business brought before the Committee, Chair Maya Ford adjourned the meeting at 4:17 p.m.



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**Maya Ford**  
**Chair**



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**Jennifer Ostlind**  
**Interim Secretary**