

Minutes – Mayor’s Bicycle Advisory Council Meeting March 14, 2012

1. **Luann Hamilton** (CDOT): Welcome, introduction. Minutes from 12/14/2011 MBAC meeting reviewed and accepted. MBAC restructure discussed. The inspiration for structure change came from a change in the individuals and organizations involved in and affected by cycling policy in Chicago. After the restructuring, MBAC will hold formal council meetings and then open floor to public input. The composition of the council includes a Technical Committee and a Stakeholders Committee. Suggestions of possible committee members not included in current draft will be considered, such as Chicago Public Schools and The Chainlink. People who are not official members will still be able to participate by asking questions and by presenting on specific topics at the committee’s request.
2. **Mike Amsden** (CDOT): Presented on Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 and protected bike lanes. The Streets for Cycling Plan 2020 will create safer streets for all road users ages 8 to 80, help everyone who is capable of riding a bike feel safer and more comfortable doing so, and to increase ridership. By 2020, Chicago will have 100 miles of protected bike lanes and 50-150 miles of neighborhood greenways. Towards these goals, CDOT has announced 20 miles of new protected bike lanes slated for installation early in 2012. Thus far, lane location selection has focused where implementation can happen quickly. Moving forward, the importance of citizen input will intensify. The city has been divided into nine sections, and Active Transportation Alliance helped to identify two community volunteers in each section to engage their communities in the 2020 Plan. An initial round of public meetings was held during the winter and a second series will run May through June to go over a draft of the network. The Plan should be complete by mid-June. CDOT will work with the Green Lane Project to document the impact of bikeway changes.
3. **Anne Davis** (DCASE): The Bike to Work Week Rally will take place on 6/15/2012 from 7:30 to 10:00 a.m. at Daley Plaza. Additional Bike to Work Week events are being planned to encourage biking.
4. **Carlin Thomas** (Bicycling Ambassadors): The Bicycling Ambassadors are in their 11th season, and are starting the season early to hold Bike to Work educational seminars at businesses around Chicago.
5. **Michael Alvino** (CLOCC) & **Kiersten Grove** (CDOT): Three joint CDOT and CLOCC Healthy Places initiatives were discussed: Walkability, Make Way for Play, and Complete Streets implementation. Healthy Places is working with 10 communities throughout Chicago to assess the walkability of their neighborhoods and look for possible areas for improvement. Working with the Chicago Park District, Make Way for Play will develop safe, multimodal access to Chicago parks and foster physical activity using the public right of way, especially in “park deserts”. This initiative is currently in the research stage and taking public input, and by September 2012 will develop a set of policies to reach MWFP goals. Implementation of Chicago’s 2006 Complete Streets resolution is currently underway. To address the challenges of implementation, Healthy Places is working with CDOT to develop a new set of design and maintenance standards and to improve internal processes within CDOT. This will include training CDOT staff on Complete Streets best practices and instituting performance measures based on safety information.
6. **Ben Gomberg** (CDOT): Presented Bike Sharing Program update. The City received proposals from three different firms to launch and operate the program. Negotiations with the City’s preferred vendor, Alta Bicycle Share, will proceed in the coming weeks, and the program will be implemented in summer 2012. The goal for 2012 is to have 3,000 bikes and 300 stations, and in 2013 1,000 additional bikes and 100 additional stations. The first phase of program implementation will be funded in part by an \$18 million federal traffic congestion mitigation and clean air grant, and a \$4 million TIGER program grant will fund the second phase. Sam Schwartz Engineering has been contracted by the city to help determine station placement. There will be opportunities for station suggestions by the public through a website.
7. **Questions/New Business/Announcements**
 - a. Welcomed Dennis Embree, IDOT-Division of Traffic Safety Bike/Ped Program State Coordinator

Minutes prepared by Anna Gunderson