



Minutes: Design and Infrastructure Sub-Committee Meeting June 11, 2015, 9:30 – 10:30am

Attendees:

State:

Nipa Maniar – NJDOT

Cyrenthia Ward – NJ Transit

Quinn Ruff – NJ Transit

Mike Viscardi – NJ Transit

James Sinclair – Rutgers VTC

MPO:

Keith Hamas – NJTPA

Greg Krykewycz – DVRPC

Betsy Mastaglio – DVRPC

Cassidy Boulan – DVRPC

County and Municipal:

Ken Aloisio – Bergen County

Ryann Rapp – Middlesex County

Private:

Dave Cox – Urban Engineers

Steven Wong – Michael Baker

Peter Kremer – Parsons Brinckerhoff

John Boyle – Bicycle Coalition of Greater

Philadelphia

Summary:

First order:

Roundtable discussion of relevant projects being worked on by members of group. NJ Transit is looking at abandoned bicycles and parking solutions. Bergen County about to release new Central Bergen bike study, will link on website when available. NJTPA and DOT have been studying Route 9W and bicycle use. DVRPC is studying Route 130. NJTPA is expanding Street Smart project and would like suggestions on interested municipalities.

Second order:

Update on bicycle and pedestrian count efforts. A joint meeting will be held with safety committee as a summit on the issue. Time and location are being decided.

Third order:

Update on shoulder work. A primer has been developed by subcommittee which includes all literature on subject in NJ. Decision needs to be made on where to take primer and what ultimate goal is. Will share with legislative and safety subcommittees for review and comment, plan to make available on website following next BPAC meeting, once comments are received and edits made.

Fourth order:

Discussion on lane widths in an urban context, especially on transit corridors. Also discussion on working to get DOT to write a letter endorsing/acknowledging use of NACTO and AASHTO design guidance in New Jersey. As



a next step, Dave Cox will explore with Debbie Kingsland in the context of an ongoing project. Possible follow up includes sending a more formal letter up chain via Debbie Kingsland for feedback on possibility.

Next meeting: TBA

Long Notes

Greg Krykewycz began the meeting by opening the floor to anyone wanting to give an update on what they have been working on related to the sub-committee areas of interest.

Mike Viscardi of NJ Transit began with updates on their recent work:

1. Intern is looking for abandoned bicycles at stations
 - a. Will visit stations 3 times to create baseline of abandoned bicycles
 - b. NJDOT does not currently have a system in place to address issue, but will use intern report to work with local police departments
 - i. Will act as eyes for PD
 - c. Removing abandoned bicycles will result in more parking spaces for customers
2. Transit looking at new parking solution to enhance racks and replace lockers
 - a. A manufacturer makes units that can cover bikes from weather

Ken Aloisio of Bergen County spoke next:

1. Central Bergen Study is almost finalized, will be made available soon
 - a. Some very good ideas, but barriers to implementation
 - b. County Engineer has not been receptive to plan
 - c. However, opportunity for NJ DOT to enact plan on roads they control
 - i. IE, State Route 4
 - d. Peter Kramer of Parsons spoke of additional barriers
 - i. Bergen has lots of very small municipalities, where one road may cross a dozen towns
 - ii. Cannot have system where bicycle lanes disappear and reappear every mile
 - iii. Monmouth County is experiencing similar barriers

Keith Hamas of NJTPA:

1. Update on DOT project of walking, biking and safety assessment on 9W in Englewood Cliffs
 - a. Large number of bikes
 - b. No bicycle infrastructure
 - i. Width of shoulder varies by municipality

John Boyle from the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia:

1. Has been involved with DVRPC / County project for Route 130
 - a. Florence to Pennsauken



- b. Second meeting coming up
- c. He is interested in discussion over Boulevard vs Highway design.

NJTPA:

- 1. Street Smart project is expanding outreach effort
 - a. NJTPA is looking for recommendations on municipalities that would like outreach
 - b. Initial rollout was Jersey City, Newark, Woodbridge, Hackettstown

Updates concluded. General topics for discussion:

- 1. Update on bicycle and pedestrian count data collection effort
 - a. Reminder that DVRPC is establishing a cyclical bike count program with weekday counts at 150 locations
 - i. 12 permanent counters on Circuit trails
 - b. Mentioned CyclePhilly app and meeting with VTC, potential NJ app
 - c. Proposal for joint meeting with Safety subcommittee to discuss NJ statewide strategy for bike/ped data collection
 - i. Will coordinate time and location with group
- 2. Update on shoulders
 - a. Draft bikeable shoulders primer has been developed on behalf of subcommittee, led by Dana Dobson at DVRPC
 - i. Ready for review by all
 - ii. Will share with legislative and safety groups for input
 - b. Overall goal would be to move away from shoulder as a bicycle facility
 - i. But will remain a common facility type in practical use by bicyclists for the foreseeable future
 - c. Primer lays out existing situation
 - i. Including contradictory laws and statements
 - d. Subcommittee needs to develop outcome goal for this effort
 - i. "Bicycles can use shoulder" affirmation would work as a conclusion to effort, preferably with some supplemental design strategies
 - e. Talked about ad hoc Pennsylvania approach
 - i. Shoulders continue through interchanges with dashed markings
 - 1. But what does having a 'partial facility' mean?
 - f. Concerns that previous court statements in regards to shoulder law could be classified as "musings of the court" rather than anything setting a precedent
 - g. Data collection could help show shoulder use by bicyclists
- 3. New discussion on lane widths
 - a. Narrow lanes better for calming traffic and creating shared streets
 - b. Buses have gotten wider, and may require wide lanes



- c. NACTO is working on transit street design guidelines which will address lane widths in a transit context
- 4. New discussion on adoption of AASHTO and NACTO standards in NJ
 - a. State should declare them acceptable for use
 - b. NJ already uses AASHTO for local street design
 - c. Hesitation at DOT to endorse “new” standards
 - d. But DOT is looking at recently released bicycle lane guidelines
 - e. A letter stating that DOT allows (or even acknowledges) use of the guides would help advocates

At 10:25am meeting ended so the room could be set up for the general BPAC meeting.

Next conference call: TBA