



NJ BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2012

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

33 Livingston Avenue - New Brunswick, NJ

Room 369

Welcome and introduction of members:

In attendance were:

Mike Viscardi - NJ Transit

Jim Crane - Ridewise

Jerry Foster - West Windsor BPA

Tiffany Robinson - RBA Group

Bill Feldman - RBA Group

Debbie Kingsland - NJDOT

Joe Powell - NJDOT

Dan Kueper - Michael Baker Jr.

Mike Kruimer - ECGA

Anne Kruimer - ECGA

John Stevenson - Rutgers Transportation

John Strachan - HTSP

Graydon Newman - CCCTMA

Tony Gambilonghi - Middlesex Co. Planning

Janet Heroux - Shaping NJ

Leigh Ann Von Hagen - VTC

Jim Van Schoick - VTC

Charles Brown - VTC

Linda Rapacki - Ridewise

Andrew Besold - Advocate

Cyndi Steiner - NJBWC

Sean Meehan - VTC

Maeve Johnston - VTC

Ranjit Walia - Civic Eye Cooperative

Presentation: NJ Ambassadors in Motion Program - Year 1

- Voorhees Transportation Center (VTC) student employee Matthew Bodnar gave an overview of the NJ Ambassadors in Motion (NJAIM) program, which aims to promote safe bicycle and walking through outreach and education
- Ambassadors received extensive training including the League's Traffic Skills 101 course
- Forms of outreach by the Ambassadors include at events, on-street, in the classroom and governmental outreach
- Ambassadors attended 12 events, 14 classroom sessions, 28 on-street locations and 15 municipal/governmental outreach events
- Total persons reached directly or indirectly: 177,446
- 8 complete streets policies were adopted in New Jersey
- For the future, NJAIM plans to expand event outreach, identify and target heavily used trails and better accommodate people of all languages
- Suggestions from BPAC members included corporate luncheons and brown bags, short bike-ed seminars, partnering with advocacy groups, health clinics, farmers markets, churches, clubs, environmental advisory boards, senior centers, etc

Presentation: Moving Bike/Ped Planning Into the Classroom

- Tiffany Robinson of RBA spoke about her experience teaching middle school students about planning through the Citizen Schools program
- The program involved Tiffany creating a 10 week (one day a week for 1.5 hours) after school curriculum to teach students who planners are, what they do, what walkable communities are, how bicycle and walking are beneficial and how to conduct a walkability audit
- Ivy Hill, the school taught at, had a SRTS plan in place, so the students learned about the plan
- Topics included road design, crosswalks and the role of government, and students were tested on their traffic safety knowledge
- Most students said their favorite part was conducting the walkability audit
- Students picked locations to add bicycle parking at the school, and identified a need for better crosswalks, more green space, less graffiti and less hazards on the sidewalk
- At the end, students showcased what they learned to their parents
- Most important lessons learned were that students can be very candid in their opinions, students like Powerpoint presentations and hands-on exercise, and that most of the students were very appreciative of the experience

Presentation: Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Roundtable Results

- Ranjit Walia of Civic Eye Collaborative gave an overview of the results of pedestrian safety enforcement training efforts that have been conducted with workshops and roundtables at police departments around the state
- Enforcement training involves showing how to effectively use a decoy officer at crosswalks to identify violators
- In South Orange and Montclair, a 12% yield to pedestrian rate improved to 40-50% after structured PSE training
- Department of Highway Traffic Safety (DHTS) is the institutional home of the program
- PSE training is now required to receive pedestrian safety grants
- Surveys, interviews and a roundtable were used in 2012 to evaluate the program
- 165 responses from 152 police departments were received
- Most respondents thought pedestrian safety was a significant issue to leaders, police and the public
- Most respondents said that PSE is the only pedestrian safety initiative they carry out
- 42% of respondents had conducted PSE operations at some point
- Manpower and funding were identified as the biggest limitations
- It was concluded that more people can be reached (process faster) by using warnings instead of citations
- Most requested need from respondents was more PSAs and education
- It was found that PSE works best when applied to a corridor
- PSE is most effective as a partnership between advocates, schools, planners, engineers and law enforcement
- Tracking data is a key challenge
- The next innovation in PSE will be a trackable warning that requires the watching of an educational video and a test in order to avoid a summons

Briefing: Safe Routes to School

- Leigh Ann Von Hagen gave a briefing on the Safe Routes to School program
- 134 registered walk and bike to school events took place in NJ in 2012
- The center released reports on SRTS and school busing cuts and crossing guards
- Soon a crossing guard training manual will be released and a model municipal policy for crossing guards
- Currently finishing reports on school siting and SRTS and how to include children with disabilities in SRTS
- New research available on railroads and community mapping, youth bicycling behaviors and gender, SRTS in urban disadvantaged areas, performance measures and program evaluation
- Upcoming webinars are on the website as well as the blog and listserv
- An updated strategic plan will include program goals and new performance measures

Briefing: For the Good of New Jersey

- Jim Van Schoick highlighted recent accomplishments in the state
- Jersey City announced plans for 50.7 miles of bicycle infrastructure
- Hoboken and Ocean City join West Windsor as League Bicycle Friendly Communities
- Princeton was named a Bicycle Friendly University
- North Wildwood and Medford adopted complete street policies in October
- There are now 42 complete street policies in the state
- VTC was awarded a \$1,000 grant from Youth Service America to teach New Brunswick youth about bicycle and pedestrian planning
- New Brunswick is currently working on a ciclovia for 2013

One Minute Updates

- North Jersey Bike Crash Report has been released
- An idea was suggested to put safe bicycle passing messages on highway variable message signs
- Cross County Connection TMA is doing a bicycle master plan for Burlington County and requests public input
- NJDOT has a guide to implementing complete streets policy which will be released online
- The 2013 NJ Bike and Walk Summit is February 23 at Bloustein
- Califon has passed a complete streets policy and Raritan Twp is working on one

2013 Meeting Schedule

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