

February 14, 2019

**2018 Annual Report
TCBA Advocacy Committee
Submitted by Mike Unsworth**

- **Organizational matters:**
 - About 9-10 people regularly attend the Committee's monthly meetings or do work on projects. (see the end of report)
 - Online activities:
 - The discussion list has 59 members
 - Facebook has 238 followers.
 - Our Twitter site (run by Ann Siegle):
 - ✓ Follows 103 tweeters and has 20 followers.
 - ✓ We use this site to interact with the wider cycling advocacy / active transportation communities in our region, the state, and globally.
 - ✓ We gain inspiration from other cities' example
 - ✓ We follow, tag and encourage our own communities to engage with us and see us as a visible partner in discussion about community building through cycling.
- **Bike Safety Billboards** -- Phil Wells and Ann Siegle diligently worked with Adams Outdoor Advertising to put up two "Give Them Five – Keep Them Alive" billboards. In July and August, they were near the intersections of South Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd. and Pleasant Grove Road and of northbound Cedar Street and Mount Hope Avenue. On July 28 we had a bike ride/rally/photo op from Maguire Park to the MLK & Pleasant Grove billboard
- **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Pedestrian Bike Assessment**-- At the request of the Michigan State Police's Office of Highway Safety Planning, consultants and NHTSA officials did a marathon of ten-minute long listening sessions from stakeholders from February 26-March 2 on bicycle safety efforts in the state. Mike Unsworth presented for TCBA stressing our ongoing activities with emphasis on outreach and DALMAC Fund grants. In their oral presentation at the end of the exercise, the panel praised TCBA for the DALMAC grants and our new program of providing services to homeless cyclists.
- **Bike Parking at Quality Dairy**— Over the past several years, Committee member Tim Potter has persistently prodded Quality Dairy to provide bike racks and outdoor seating. Gradually, QD started to add bike racks and even painted a "pop up" picnic table that Tim stealthy "donated" to one of their

stores. In October the company unveiled its "Corner Creamery" concept the first of which will be built in Holt in 2019. Bike parking is an integral part of its design.

- **Ingham County Trails Millage:**
 - Committee members Steve Leiby, and Mike Unsworth attended numerous meetings on this project.
 - We successfully lobbied to ensure that the bulk of the funds go to actual trail-related projects.
 - In September Mike Unsworth was appointed to the Ingham County Parks Commission which, among other things, ranks proposals for various projects.
- **Ride of Silence**—On May 16 over 210 bicyclists participated in the nine-mile ride from the Wells Hall Plaza at Michigan State University campus to the Michigan State Capital in downtown Lansing.
- **Non- Motorized Transportation (NMT) Plans**— Governments are required to have NMT Plans as part of their overall Master Plans if they wish to receive federal funds. Committee members worked with the City of Lansing and the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission on their plans which are still being written.
- **Road construction signs blocking pedestrians and cyclists on sidewalks and bike lanes**—Committee members contacted jurisdictions and agencies about this problem.
- **Advocacy Members Represented TCBA at the Following Meetings/Events:**
 - Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee of the Michigan Dept. of Transportation's University Region
 - Quiet Waters Symposium—staffed a table
 - MSU Bike Friendly America Conference—Dean Brailey attended
 - Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission's Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
 - Friends of the Lansing Regional Trails annual meeting
 - MDOT "Training Wheels" workshop—Lenny Provencher attended an exhaustive meeting that had dozens of good ideas in creating bike-friendly infrastructure.
 - Shaping the Avenue
 - Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's Non-Motorized Plan
 - CATA Bike Share Feasibility Study Steering Committee—CATA has engaged a consultant to work with stakeholders to produce a workable feasibility study that will include the introduction of electric scooters in the area.
- **Electric Scooters in the Area**

- The scooters have an impact on local bicycling since they tend to use bike lanes and parking. Bird tells its users not to ride its scooters on sidewalks unless it is allowed by local ordinance (<https://www.bird.co/safety>). We couldn't find anything similar for Lime.
- The City of Lansing has shared its agreement with Lime with both East Lansing and MSU. Lansing has started to craft an ordinance to allow the operation of electric scooters and will be making some updates on e-bikes at the same time. As it moves through the process, Lansing intends to share its work with surrounding areas, so a common agreement/policy can be crafted.
- **Survey of Political Candidates** –Due to time constraints we were unable to conduct a survey
- **Delta Township Non-Motorized Plan—**
 - Many TCBA members participated in the March Open House which presented their consultant's priorities.
 - At the April Township Planning Commission meeting comments and suggestions from TCBA members and other interested parties prompted the Commission to ask the Township planners to incorporate the suggestions into a new draft of the plan which was adopted in December 2018.
 - Township Commissioner Dennis Fedewa gave an update on the Plan at our December meeting and thanked TCBA for its activities in helping Delta Township incorporate safe cycling infrastructure.
- **MDOT's practice of blocking medians crossings for so-called "Superstreet" projects (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Superstreet>)**
 - Proposed Business I-69 Corridor in Meridian and Bath Townships— Preliminary MDOT designs for this project proposed to close Newton and Towner Roads to NME traffic and constructing an awkward "Z" crossing for NMT at the intersection of Business I-69 and Marsh Road. Advocacy members engaged MDOT staff at a special February meeting and with officials from Meridian and Bath Townships. MDOT has said that its final plan (not released by the time of writing) will have NMT access at Newton and Marsh Roads.
- **Other Projects:**
 - Cyclists' Happy Hours—TCBA co-sponsored two at the Lansing Brewing Company in late winter and in the fall.
 - Bike Repair at the City Rescue Mission— We had between three to seven bikes per session at our monthly sessions from April to October. Mechanics ranged from two to five
 - Bike Rodeo at Bath Township on May 17.
 - TCBA Booth at CATA's Clean Commute Day Celebration (May 4)
- **Bike Films**

- On-Demand Films documentaries—TCBA sponsored two films: *MAMIL*. *Middle Age Men in Lycra* (65 attendees) and *All for One* (about GreenEdge, Australia's first ProTour cycling team; 25 people showed up)
- Bike Shorts Film Festival—On March 19 about 50 people enjoyed a variety of short films at Old Town's Urban Beat Event Center. \$190 in donations were collected.

Guests

Thomas Baumann, Organizer, East Lansing's "Walk & Roll Safety Day"
 Dave Goodman, private citizen
 Pat Harrington, TCBA member
 Andy Kilpatrick, Public Service Director for the City of Lansing
 Emily Stivers, Candidate for Ingham County Commissioner
 Dwight Washington, Clinton County Commissioner

Committee Members

Dean Brailey
 Dale Freeman
 Tom Hardenbergh
 Steve Leiby
 Tim Potter
 Lenny Provencher
 Kevin Schumacher
 Ann Siegel
 Dan Stockwell
 Diana Twede
 Mike Unsworth
 Phil Wells
 Jeanne Wright