

**Minutes – Draft 1**  
**TCBA Advocacy Committee**  
**March 14, 2018 Meeting**  
**League of Michigan Bicyclists, 410 S. Cedar St. Suite A, Lansing, MI**  
**6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**Attending:** Mike Unsworth, Lenny Provencher, Tom Hardenbergh, Diana Twede, Kevin Schumacher, Art Slabosky, Dean Brailey

**Guest:** Thomas Baumann

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Old Business:
  - A. Business I-69 Corridor in Meridian and Bath Township—We discussed MDOT’s diagram of bicycle-specific flows for the “Z” crossing of the BL-69/Marsh Road intersection. We decided to send MDOT the draft letter that appears in Appendix I
  - B. Bike Films:
    1. *MAMIL*—We had a very respectable turnout of 65 people. TCBA will be receiving some percentage of the receipts.
    2. MI Bike Shorts Film Festival—Things seems to be on track. Kevin is conducting technical checks.
  - C. Bike Safety Billboard project—Phil created two good templates (profile of fallen cyclist and Safe Passing) which Mike lost (and has since found. See Images 1 & 2 below.) His description was approved by the Committee. We have a verbal ok from Byelich family to profile Jill. Tim will also see if Eric Snider’s family would be willing to participate.
  - D. Quiet Water Symposium:
    1. The bike-focused tables had good traffic. All TCBA’s snap wraps given away. MSU Bikes found that its free lights were also popular.
    2. QWS may expand to an extra day. There’s talk of having a grand swap meet for watercraft, bikes, RVs, etc. Tim is also brainstorming on an additional bike event.
  - E. Lansing City Hall bike lockers—Cycle Safe has finally installed 12 lockers which provides space for 24 bikes. The lockers (See Image 3) employ a smartphone app that will enable users to find lockers, lock/unlock them, and pay. It currently is in a test phase.
  - F. RoS planning is moving forward
- IV. New Business:

- A. Delta Township 2018 Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (available at [www.deltami.gov](http://www.deltami.gov)) --- While the prioritization individual projects listed in the Plan have merit, there is no overall policy to address the split that I-96 creates for non-motorized traffic. Mike will draft a letter to this effect and run it past the TCBA Board. (See Appendix II)
- B. Connected Autonomous Vehicles (CAV):
  - 1. Discussions at the National Bike Summit:
    - a. The speakers really didn't address bike concerns, especially in incorporating bikes in the testing. Some tests do incorporate pedestrians
    - b. The overall goal of CAV visionaries is to have fewer vehicles because there will not be individual ownership. They would be run public utilities and/or private companies.
    - c. As currently envisioned, the plans are not geared to low income users
    - d. Tests of current systems show numerous problems in coping with bad weather.
    - e. In some tests, CAVs tend to seek bike lanes and bike paths
    - f. The League of American Bicyclists is taking a Wait & See approach
- C. Bike rodeos—Thomas B. outlined “The Walk & Roll Safety Day” which will take place at East Lansing’s MacDonald Middle School on Saturday, April 14, from 1 pm to 3 pm. TCBA will have a table. Lenny is the contact person.
- D. Events with Candidates:
  - 1. After a wide-ranging discussion, we decided that there will be sufficient opportunities to query candidates on their views about transportation.
  - 2. TCBA doesn't need to organize such events. We will publicize & attend future events.
  - 3. As in past years before the general election, TCBA will be sending specific questions to the candidates
- V. Meetings Update:
  - A. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Pedestrian Bike Assessment:
    - 1. Mike and Tim gave ten-minute presentations on the activities of TCBA and MSU.
    - 2. At the end of the exercise, the panel gave a verbal summary:
      - a. Perhaps the most important recommendation of the 50 dealt with the harmonization of the State’s legislation, regulations, and

policies dealing with Non-Motorized Transportation. They said that the pedestrian/bicycle provisions of the Uniform Vehicle Code should be incorporated into the Michigan Vehicle Code. Doing so would eliminate many current inconsistencies.

b. The panel was impressed with TCBA’s proposed services to the homeless & the generosity of the DALMAC Fund. Very few tours contribute to bike-related activities.

B. Pedestrian Bicycle Safety Action Team—Among the topics discussed at the March 12 meeting, there were Leading Pedestrian Intervals at selected intersections (Pedestrians would get a 3-11 seconds head start in crossing before automobiles) and a GIS system that would display NMT infrastructure that the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments is working on.

C. IC Parks Commission—Since Steve was out of town, Mike relayed his findings. The wayfinding system will soon go through the county legislative process. Among other things, it will have markers every ¼ mile, so the runners can easily track their progress. There will be distance markers.

D. National Bike Summit—Dean is preparing a report

VI. Next Meeting – April 11

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**Appendix I**

Dear \_\_\_\_:

Thank you for providing the diagram of the bicycle-traffic flows for the proposed crossing of the BL-69/Marsh Road intersection. After careful study of this diagram, the TCBA Advocacy Committee has the following questions:

- Is MDOT working on a dimensional diagram? If so, when will it be available? If not, we recommend your producing one since it would help in the public evaluation of your proposal.
- Will there be curb cuts in the islands and on opposite side of the islands?
- What kind of traffic signal will be installed for bicyclists and pedestrians? Will automobile lanes be signaled to stop when non-motorized traffic have the right of way?
- We need more information about the movements of bicyclists and pedestrians traveling north & south on Marsh Road.

- We request that “No Turn On Red” signs be activated at conflict points.
- Non-Motorized traffic going westbound on BL-69 and going northbound on Marsh Road need safe crossing controls.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

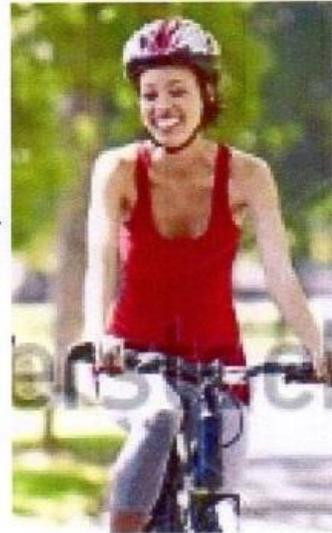
Sincerely,

Michael Unsworth  
Chair, Advocacy Committee  
Tri-County Bicycle Association  
1518 Haslett Road, Unit 635  
Haslett MI 48840  
advocacy@biketcba.org  
517-282-7515

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IMAGE 1

**DEWITT CYCLIST.  
WIFE.  
MOTHER.  
KILLED BY A  
DISTRACTED DRIVER.**



(Stock photo)

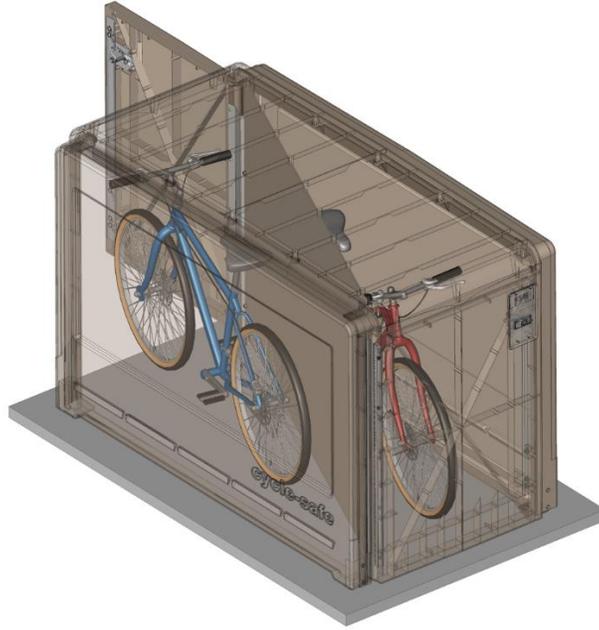
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IMAGE 2



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IMAGE 3



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**APPENDIX II**

Gary M. Bozek  
 Planning Director  
 Delta Charter Township  
 7710 West Saginaw Highway  
 Lansing, Michigan 48917-9712

[date]

Dear Mr. Bozek:

The Tri-County Bicycle Association applauds the hard work that Township officials and citizens have done in crafting your plan. We know that it will be an important document in setting the direction for Delta’s Non-Motorized Transportation.

Overall, we agree with the individual priorities set in the plan. However, we are concerned that the Plan does not address a big challenge facing the Township: overcoming the east-west division of the Township caused by I-69/I-96. We feel that your Plan should have a goal of having safe access on the roads crossing the Interstate. Having a specific policy will help your citizens in meeting this challenge.

Looking forward to working with you on this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Unsworth  
Chair, Advocacy Committee  
Tri-County Bicycle Association  
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