



# SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

## Community Representatives Attendees:

Tom Lamar, Vice Chair	Mark Vollinger
Katie Pierce, Secretary	Ian Woloschin
	Michael Weber
Emily Balkam	
Mark Chase	

## Ex Officio:

Alex Frieden	
Ted Lester	
Kevin McGrath	
Alan Moore	Mike Tremblay, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Dev
Brandon Stafford	Deputy Chief Steve Carrabino, Police Department

Thursday Jan 10, 2019, 6:30-8:00 PM, Roll Call Room (basement), Police Department, Washington St

## Procedural, General Business & Updates (20 Minutes)

1. Guest introductions and sign-in sheet
  - a. George Schneeloch ([noiseapella@gmail.com](mailto:noiseapella@gmail.com))
  - i. Webster St in Cambridge bike infrastructure is on Cambridge City Council Agenda for Monday
  - b. Gregory Ely ([Gregoryely@gmail.com](mailto:Gregoryely@gmail.com))
  - c. Laura Borrelli
2. Acting Secretary: Ted Lester
3. VOTE: Approve December Minutes
  - a. Voted, 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved
4. Mike Tremblay – Leaving city at end of January. Moving to Portland ME.
  - a. Job opening will be coming out this week or next. Look for good candidates!
  - b. Also hiring a 2<sup>nd</sup> transportation analyst in OSPCD (similar to Adam Polinski’s job)
5. “City Council” will begin Feb 1. Katjana Ballantyne will be new ex officio member from city council.
6. 2018 Annual Report responsibilities and deadlines – Tom
  - a. Section for each of the 5 E’s, 2019 future section, section on CPX by Alan.
  - b. Inputs due to Ken & Tom by Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> (next SBAC meeting)
    - i. Photos needed! Folder in Box for photos. Also can use Instagram photos.
  - c. Committee draft (including formatting – InDesign – if possible due to lack of city staff) needed in March, so published in April ahead of Bike Month Kick Off. Kevin McGrath and Michael Weber volunteered to help with formatting.
7. SBAC Business Card
  - a. Education and Encouragement teams developed a new card. Includes webpage and social media accounts
  - b. Two-sided color card. Crash report info on backside.
  - c. Will get 100 printed as trial, then can make any changes before buying more
8. Lights events – Laura
  - a. Wed (Harvard 5-7), Thursday (Central 5-7), and Friday (4-5:30 in Port neighborhood) next week to distribute lights. Good to meet other advocates. Signup sheet has been sent out.
9. Illuminations Ride Review- Alan/Ted
  - a. Largest crowd for any ride. Over 175 people plus range of kids. Warm weather.
  - b. Next year Steve will assign bicycle officers.
10. Michael Weber as Encouragement lead

**City Update (25 min) Mike**

1. Parking permit educational mailer
  - a. Education subgroup stepped up to help. New info on HAWK Signals and Doors are Dangerous (from Cambridge).
  - b. Also, Mike asked Jackie R. to send it out to city wide email list.
2. Beacon St update
  - a. Weather not cooperating for last section of bike lanes. Lower Beacon bike lanes – likely missed window. Also few spots on upper Beacon.
  - b. Repave mid-to-late June to July 2019
  - c. Pooling at RF O’Sullivan’s fixed 1/7/19
  - d. Signals being installed including HAWK signals. Can install and turn on signals during winter.
  - e. Lessons learned – can do daytime painting in the late fall when temperatures are warmer. City has been reluctant to do this in the past.
3. Park St- What is needed to implement first thing in Spring
  - a. Bike lanes on ¾ street, parking on ¼ street
  - b. Need traffic commission approval for parking removals – Feb or March meeting. Need a few folks there for support. Reach out to non-SBAC neighbors.
4. Vision Zero input from SBAC
  - a. Alex can’t make next meeting. Ken looking for stand-in (may be Ken, Mark volunteered) for next week.
  - b. Draft action items for SBAC review soon. Adam P likely taking over for Mike as city rep.
5. Lower Medford St plans overview
  - a. Picture is missing green conflict zone approaching Somerville Ave.
  - b. Repaved. Flex posts and separation.
  - c. Idea: Make beginning of Medford 1 car lane – Mike responded that it would require a bigger intersection design and traffic study. MassDOT intersection.
  - d. Cambridge not planning on extending it past city line. Mike has recommended to Karen (Cambridge) to at least extend bike lane to 6<sup>th</sup> Street
    - i. Cambridge standing up committee for advising about Grand Junction Path
  - e. Parking removal – approved. Mark recommends making changes now before new residents start using them.
  - f. Brown painted bump out. Can have flex post to reduce driving over.
  - g. Engineering team will review plans for this and Broadway next Thursday

### **2019 Goals (30 min) Tom**

1. Team goals from the Five E’s
  - a. Enforcement
    - i. Goals:
      1. Expand team scope to include safety
      2. Partner with City of Somerville to secure a budget for bike lights/safety items
      3. Partner with SPD Brass to improve targeted bicycle-issue enforcement
      4. Send Ride Share Letter
    - ii. Suggestion to also engage more with T&P goal, especially with new leadership
    - iii. Put Parking Officers on bikes – Steve has recommended it. SPD has bikes.
    - iv. Monitor e-scooter regulation changes – City is working with MAPCD and cities to harmonize regulations.
  - b. Education and Encouragement
    - i. Goals:
      1. Make information more accessible and visible to a diverse local audience, including Uber/Lyft (information materials, giveaway events, Dutch Reach, etc.)
      2. Continue certain regular rides and events (Bike Month Kickoff, Bike Talk, Historic Ride, etc.)
      3. Improve, maintain, and strengthen connections with local schools (Tufts, Somerville H.S., etc.)
    - ii. Suggestion for more video and multimedia (work with SCAT) goal. City may be able to help since SCAT works more during business hours.
  - c. Evaluation
    - i. Goals:
      1. Categorize Roads for Resurfacing priorities
      2. Bike network future map - VZ item
      3. Identify and rank more contra-flow opportunities
      4. Identify and rank problematic intersections that could be engineered (crash data joint with enforcement team)
      5. Improve Somerville Bike Map - better use of bike level of comfort, Interactive, online version (Somerville GIS, OSM)
      6. GLX bridge closure detours
      7. CPX & Sullivan Square connections
      8. Review designs for Broadway, Medford St, and Holland
  - d. Engineering
    - i. HSIP projects (Temple, Park, Broadway, Washington St)
    - ii. Powderhouse Blvd, Powderhouse Circle (some short-term fixes possible, city is contracting a 25% design

- for repainting)
  - iii. Holland St – initial plans, need to advocate for parking/BRT
    - 1. Important to meet with City Council and Mayor to address political challenges
  - iv. College Ave
  - v. Elm St/Mossland – smaller changes, not being repaved
  - vi. Suggestion: Elm between Davis & Beech – low hanging fruit
2. Overall goals
- a. Increase communication between SBAC and City Councilors
  - b. Increase the diversity of the Somerville Bicycle Committee
  - c. Work with the City to finalize and help realize the City’s Vision Zero Action Plan
  - d. Increase coordination with adjacent municipalities on projects that connect to other towns
  - e. Local orgs –
    - i. Katie: if live near a GLX station, be sure to join the local GLX advisory group. Very important stuff happening. Each station has an associated neighborhood group. Katie can make connections.
    - ii. Pay attention to TNC pickup/drop off locations, Bus locations. May conflict with bikes.

**Evaluation (15 min)**

1. Upper Medford St - Alex F
- a. Lowell to Medford St bridge being repaved.
  - b. Goal: good all-ages uphill route without major grade
    - i. Rather few really good facilities over many mediocre facilities
  - c. Mix of unprotected bike lanes, parking protected bike lanes uphill, downhill sharrows,
  - d. Next steps: parking counts, talk to Councilors, talk to businesses
    - i. Gilman Sq neighborhood association – Katie
    - ii. Suggestion – priority bike lane for downhill, at least green super sharrows, ideally the dashed lines too
  - e. Motion to agree with the plans, proceed with the next steps, 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed

**Banter over Beer: Location Brass Union – Say goodbye to Mike thank him for his hard work!**