

Bike to the Future -- City Committee -- Meeting Minutes

September 29, 2009 -- Manitoba Eco-Centre Board Room

Present: Mark Cohoe, Jackie Avent, Janice Lukes, Gord McGonigal, Rob Cosco

Previous Budget Experiences

- Our requests have been percentage based (e.g. 2.8% of transportation budget) or base amounts as opposed to project based
- Our presentations have served us well in educating council on the potential and the possibilities of better AT funding
- The AT community has managed to have budget presentations come from a number of groups, bringing in a number of perspectives

Planning for the 2010 Budgets

- Include a thank you for the stimulus spending
- AT has to remain a significant line item
- We need to protect the existing budget forecasts; the stimulus money should be seen as new money on top of the existing commitments
 - 400-500k for Bishop Grandin West
 - 400-500k available beyond stimulus package
- We discussed bringing forward a complete streets policy (or something similar)
- We need to get a guarantee that AT will be included in major projects; there is a policy, but we need to make sure it is followed each and every time
 - **Action:** We should develop a list of missed opportunities & upcoming opportunities where AT should have been/can be included in upcoming works projects
 - Jubilee Overpass – Parker Development is new
- Stimulus Spending
 - We need to highlight how far behind they are on previously promised projects
 - We will need to keep working towards a prioritization of projects
 - We want to see the city spending money on professional development
 - We need to start thinking about education campaigns; \$20 million in spending will drastically change the landscape
 - Memorandum of Understanding between city, province and federal government still not finalized for AT stimulus package
 - Add an item in RFP's regarding provision AT project open houses that will ensure cyclist expertise in consulting teams
- We can use the budget to highlight 3 or 4 major projects for ATAC
- **Action:** Get email out to all interested groups

Osborne Bridge Communication Plan

My plan is to write up a summary of each meeting highlighting the things I think are relevant to the cycling community. That report will then be communicated through the means outlined below.

Bike to the Future

Website

An Osborne Bridge Rehabilitation section can be added to Bike to the Future's website (www.biketothefuture.org). The site will provide meeting summaries and minutes, event notices, and other relevant information. The site can also request information on particular subjects as required, as well as more general information. A link to the city of Winnipeg Osborne Bridge site will be provided. A link to this page can be provided on our home page to give it prominence. Any public open houses will also be advertised via our Upcoming Events listing (on our homepage).

Monthly Meetings and Minutes

Bike to the Future meets once a month (generally on the 2nd Tuesday of each month). Time will be set aside at each meeting to give a summary of NAC meetings, present meeting reports, and gather information and feedback. Minutes of our meetings are available to the public on our website www.biketothefuture.org.

List Serves

Bike to the Future has an email list serve with approximately 1500 recipients. Meeting Reports will be published to this list serve as part of our monthly minutes. The list serve can also be used to send out a limited number of messages where waiting for a monthly meeting might postpone timely feedback, although we do limit the number of messages we broadcast.

One Green City

One Green City (www.onegreencity.com) is home to a number of neighbourhood cycling groups. In particular, it is home to the West Central Commuter Cyclists, Downtown Winnipeg Cycling, and a River Heights – Corydon – Osborne cycling group. Each of these groups hosts discussion forums that enable information to be sent or solicited.

Winnipeg Trails Association

The Winnipeg Trails Association will be contacted through Janice Lukes, the executive director.

Manitoba Cycling Association

The Manitoba Cycling Association's Executive Director Ron Brown and Recreation and Transportation Coordinator Tim Woodcock will be sent the meeting summaries and contacted to discuss issues.

Regular Osborne Bridge Meetings

I think it will also be beneficial to host a regular meeting of interested cyclists to discuss the progress on the Osborne Bridge project in more detail than is possible at the Bike to the Future monthly meetings. One successful meeting has already been held prior to NAC process being started up. I would like to have these meetings occur on a regular basis on the second Monday following each NAC meeting (starting after meeting #2). That timeframe would fall roughly midway between NAC meetings, allowing information from the NAC to be sent out prior to the meeting, while still allowing for a reasonable amount of time to gather information needed for the upcoming NAC meeting. The first such meeting would have to be set up for October 5th because of the short notice available for the meeting. A location for the meetings will have to be determined. The previous meeting was held at the Toad in the Hole, and I would suggest future meetings take place there as well.

Special Meetings

Bike to the Future would be happy to help facilitate public meetings as they are required.