



Richard J. Berry, Mayor

GABAC



GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT, PO BOX 1293

ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103 (505) 768-2680

MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2016

Members Present

Scott Hale, Chair
Moises Gonzalez
Douglas Stiebler

Ed Hillsman
Scot Key

Staff Present

Ron Romero, COA-DMD
Jason Coffey, COA-Parks and Recreation
Gabriel Boyle, COA-DMD
Carrie Barkhurst, COA Planning Department
Hugh Hulse, COA-Parks and Recreation
Andrew Webb, COA-Council Service
Tom Menicucci, COA-Council Services
Martin Carrasco, COA-Construction Services Division
David Harrison, COA-Construction Services Division
Roberto Sanchez and Brian Osterloh, COA-311 Technology

Members Absent

Larry Gilbert
Dan Majewski
Mark Aasmundstad

Guests

Councilor Pat Davis
Nolan Bennet, Bernalillo County
Diane Sholtis, Bernalillo County
John Barncastle
Victor Jaramillo
Diane Cress
Ron Bohannon, Tierra West
Julie Luna, MRCOG
Terry Brown

- **Mr. Hale called the meeting to order** (4:30pm)
- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Approval of Agenda**
Discussed and approved as amended.
- **Councilor Pat Davis- Presentation/Update on Silver Avenue Project**

Pat Davis- We have had a series of really great community meetings with all kinds of folks involved in the fall, now we are meeting with DMD to get this project started. We have set the money aside for the first phase. What we really want is for GABAC to weigh in as much as possible and as quickly as possible. It's a big gap we already know. If Feds approve the ART project, we don't want these two projects overlapping each other and we don't want to see Silver lose steam as ART gets started.

After the public meetings, we had a meeting with DMD to go over the project from Yale to Washington. The basic idea is to create a real bike throughway, as opposed to the great big jumbled mess it is now, mix of residential and commercial and alternating stop signs that cause problems for bicyclists.

What this does is simplify a thoroughfare from Girard to Carlisle. To prevent it from becoming a racetrack there are a series of mini-traffic circles to slow traffic down, allowing bicycles to yield to not lose momentum. The University Heights neighborhood, the intersection at Girard and Silver is a place where we've seen many accidents. What this project proposes to do is to give everyone west of Girard a break from everyone cutting through their neighborhood.

DMD has agreed to do some testing on some creative new ways of parking to put more parking on Silver where the merchants really need more parking. And it makes it safer for bicycles. So instead of parallel parking now the project would provide for "back-in parking." Back-in parking allows motorist to see bicyclists when they pull out. It also allows us to add a couple more parking spaces that way.

There is some talk about green bicycle paint but it is cost prohibitive if done throughout. We plan on using green paint in the intersections. We had a great deal of input on Carlisle and Silver intersection for instance and we are looking at innovative ways to help cyclists and pedestrians across Carlisle to make it to Silver east of Carlisle.

There was a lot of public input in this process. I think this is a good project. The timeline moving forward allows for another public meeting in April and then we will be looking at of design to be done by mid-July. A small project in one way but it's a really big connector and really important too.

Scott Hale- I think there are a couple historical things to consider and one would be the crosswalks. Pedestrian interactions are important to bicycles. Also north/south movement with ART could be terrible for bikes and Silver might eliminate that.

Tom Menicucci- There is a study of I-25 via Councilor Benton regarding how to use Silver to cross I-25.

Doug Stiebler- What about a roundabout at Girard and Silver. The Councilor responded that these are more like “traffic calming circles.” They are not big roundabouts. Also, there isn't funding for full-blown traffic calming circles.

Doug Stiebler- Bicycles may use entire lane signs would be appropriate.

Councilor Davis- Carlisle crosswalk is still under consideration but for now they are not proposed. Flashing beacons are also a possibility.

Scott Hale- Asked about diverters instead of medians.

Tom Menicucci- Previous experience with diverters was problematic for businesses and residents, as there were no other options.

Scott Hale- Should Silver even be a bike boulevard?

- **Election of officers**
 - **Scott Hale-** I would like to table this.
- **Approval of December Minutes and January Meeting Minutes**
 - **Scott Hale-** Approval of minutes all those in favor. One last thing we don't have minutes on the website we really need to get this stuff out. Minutes were approved.
- **Public Comment**
 - **John Barncastle-** We have a number of bicyclists going to the citizens police review committee meeting this week. The letter from Bike ABQ did go out. The “acting” commander would go over the police report.
- **Presentation 311 Roberto Sanchez and Brian Osterloh**
 - **Roberto Sanchez-** We implemented the 311 app about 3 years ago.
 - **Scott Hale-** Some of this is fairly straight forward what I have had problems with issue “title” in the city will take it. Second is when you try to report bicycle related stuff it won't accept it.
 - **Brian Osterloh-** 1600 bike cases went to about 10 different processes over 400 were for “large item pick-up”, 260 went to transit, etc. There is not a specific bike code because bikes cross so many different areas. Other is the catch all category, what happens it is goes to 311 they take the information provided a split it out.
 - **Scott Hale-** If we could go bike pothole or bike dirty bike lane that gets us where are going.
 - **Brian Osterloh-** There is a limitation to the “robustness” of the software, but there is an evolution to the software to streamline and speed up the process.
 - **Scott Hale-** Many complaints on simple reporting for cycling, while simple things like tree branches on path it works great! Adding categories like “near miss” could be done as a “quick code”
 - **Ed Hillsman-** Asked about close calls and driver behavior and stated that it is not just specifically cyclist concern. Anybody who has a close call should have a category for that. Answer: careful that those in the middle of an incident not report police situations, as they

do not go to the police as emergency/law enforcement.

- **Ed Hillsman**- Asked if the service still requires an address. He asked if simply pinning a place would work now. It appears the service is working in this regard.

- **Bridge Blvd Improvements, Diane Sholtis and Nolan Bennett, Bernalillo County**

- **Nolan Bennett**- The project was the result of a Tiger grant the county received in 2010. We had a steering committee, looked at many different things from economic development, land-use etc.
- **Diane Sholtis**- The bridge is the third most congested bridge crossing and we want to make it a multi-modal destination. There is no Home Depot/Lowe's etc., in the area, so the idea is to develop that via improving the corridor.

We are implementing "complete streets" on the Bridge and Tower sections using 11 ft. travel lanes and five foot bike lanes with three foot buffers.

Bridge section proposes 10 ft. travel lanes and four foot bike lanes with three foot buffer.

We are shooting for a six-foot sidewalk, not ideal, but the tie in to this is narrow.

- **Nolan Bennet**- The bike lanes are buffered not protected bike lanes; 35 mph at 4 ft. and 40 mph at 5 ft.
- **Scott Hale**- Mentioned rumble strips and whether they might work. Nolan felt this was excessive and not preferred by cyclists.
- **Nolan Bennett**- Mentioned a treatment for cyclists turning left from Bridge to Tower.

- **Scott Hale Election of Officers**

- **Scott Hale**- I don't see how we can and believe me I would like to. We have expired terms on this board. So how can we slate and election? It's real unclear what are the role and expectations for GABAC. I recommend we table this until we get something from DMD or the City.

- **GABAC Reports**

- **Scott Hale**-
 - We met with MTB chair at COG regarding advisory bodies. Ed was there also. There may be another meeting this month.
 - Met in the field for Headline and Tiburon, Comanche, Academy. I drafted meeting notes of what was said and agreed upon.
 - Two weeks ago a really good meeting on the Alameda Drain Master Plan.
 - A bike tour of facilities to look at Atrisco Road diet, Rio Grande, and other West Side stuff is getting planned.
 - Mayor's Challenge- Vision Zero-
 - City of Albuquerque put in an application for Smart City Challenge I haven't heard a thing.
 - What are we doing about street carnage?
- **Doug Stiebler**- I have been working with Gabe on "bicycle may use full lane" signage.
- **Ed Hillsman**- We have been talking about loop detectors and whether they will detect a bicycle. What would it cost to do inroad markings where they exist?

- **Scot Key-** I'm meeting with Commissioner de la Cruz on Coors and Isleta. That is still being scheduled.
- **Staff Reports DMD Gabriel Boyle**
 - **Gabriel Boyle-**Osuna and Singer closure of North Diversion Channel the idea is to keep the trail open during construction. Discussion happened over whether recreational bikes should be on Chappell. It would also require a detour from Singer to Chappell.
 - **Scott Hale-** pointed out that there is a MUP along the west side of Chappell. Discussion covered the whole idea of work sites and it incorporating the needs of cyclists amid the other detours, closures, etc. Martin Carrasco noted that DMD definitely takes bike facility status into account during construction and passes this information on to contractors.
 - **Ed Hillsman-** asked if it might be possible to add a contract provision, and DMD says such a provision is already in place. It is a \$500 fine for contractors who violate this in the field.
 - **Moises Gonzalez-** Who do cyclists report to (is it 311?) when they see violations?
- **Gibson Access Request-Terry Brown** presented following final recommendations
 1. Bicycle warning sign
 2. Design left-turn with narrowing restrictions
 3. New striping of east bound lane for 250 ft adjacent with thermoplastic
 4. Provide green bicycle lane pavement
 5. Walker with a bike lane
 6. General cleanup of the area
 - **Ed Hillsman-** Reported that if it were possible to reduce the radius of the turn from Gibson to Walker.
 - A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted that the recommendation of Greater Albuquerque Bicycle Advisory Committee is that the City of Albuquerque not sponsor the access request at Gibson and Walker.
- **Jason Coffey, COA Parks and Recreation**
 - Discussed lights on Gail Ryba bridge
 - Bollards continue to be installed and Ed noted that it has made a huge improvement in his riding around town.
- **Carrie Barkhurst, COA Planning**
 - 50-mile loop Coors and Eagle Ranch section is having its signage improved.
 - Carrie asked DRC review board what happens in the right of way for Bridge Blvd as well as paving, striping improvements.
 - West I-40 channel improvements. AMAFCA applied for preliminary plat approval for the trail along I-40. This project is being developed in partnership with the City. The trail would be on the west side of the channel between Arroyo Vista and Unser.
 - **Scott Hale-** Had a meeting concerning a bike sensor at Coors and Eagle Ranch. He noted it's impossible to use currently. It's a popular route, but DOT reported that it's BIA and not State of New Mexico jurisdiction, the project has been delayed indefinitely.

- **Discussions/Action Item(s)**

Gabriel Boyle presented the new draft of the 2016 Bike Map and discussed whether:

1. Status Quo
2. Six levels based on speed or four levels of speed, three speeds <25 <30 >35 or 25 and or the two speeds are 25 and under and 30 and over.
3. Colors or one uniform color

Moved, seconded, and voted in agreement that the 2016 Bike Map will identify denotations of speed and will be indicated on the map in the three speed categories.

Moved, seconded and agreed that one or more differentiations (width of line, different colors, dashing, etc.) between will be included on the 2016 Bike Map to inform riders of levels of comfort. The Committee was reminded that these suggestions along with other proposed improvements to the Bike Map still need to be reviewed and approved by the Administration.

MEETING ADJOURNED

NEXT MEETING: March 14, 2016