

PBAC Meeting: 10/12/22

Start 7pm.

Present:

PBAC:

Laurie Harmon

Dan Rappaport

David Kimmel

Lisa Serieyssl

Adrian Serieyssl

Perry Jones

City Council Representative:

David Cohen, Councilperson.

Princeton Staff:

Justin Lesko, Engineering.

Public:

Neil Melker

Minutes from September Meeting:

Approved provisionally (as long as Dan doesn't come up with anything that he wants to change. He hasn't been able to see the minutes yet.)

Justin Lesko: Master Plan Update:

Master Plan is going out for review to committees and staff.

Master Plan survey; will be available until Halloween.

Nov 30 open house at library; 4-7. Information Boards will be up, staff will be asking for feedback.

Another Survey will be sent out based on topic areas, along with another open house in the late winter.

After that round, Planning should be ready to go forward with the master plan.

Says feel free to have influence on the other areas, other than the main one you are focused on.

David: Expecting Vision Zero task force to have input on some of the things in the master plan. Not sure about how to handle possible overlap with the PBAC.

Circulation Element in the current plan: Would like PBAC to comment on that. Before Nov 1 would be ideal, but definitely before the open house Nov. 30.

Lisa: Is there a way to see the results of the first retail survey meeting?

Justin: Come to the monthly steering meetings if you like. There are recordings on the Municipal YouTube channel of these meetings. All the results should be gathered by Oct 16 (still waiting on a survey to students) and then a consultant will analyze the data.

Vision Zero; there is a policy subcommittee and a complete streets subcommittee, they are both providing input to the master plan.

Lisa: What about enforcement and data subcommittees from Vision Zero?

Dave: Enforcement should spring from Policy. Data: There are some discrepancies in the data.

Justin: Sent a data set from the Police to the GMTMA.

Justin: Attended the Trail Summit; thought it was well done. Very well attended. He had to leave before the fun part of looking at the maps. Lots of people spoke. Cindy Taylor, the open space manager, also attended.

Lisa: Also attended the trail summit. Each section of the county was grouped by towns. We were grouped with Hopewell, Pennington, Montgomery... Said it would be nice to revisit this in the near future.

Justin: It's important to look at these trails as connecting places, not just as exercise loops.

Laurie: It would be good for Cindy Taylor to come to one of the PBAC meetings to discuss possible trail linkages for the bike network. Justin said he could mention it to her tomorrow.

David Cohen:

Town Council report.

There was a South Brunswick press release to look at dealing with Driver Misbehavior. David and Leticia called a meeting with Princeton Police in response to this press release. Sergeant Mike Strobel in the Princeton Police department, did a report. Lt. Gering was there as well. Police have been acquiring new equipment for radar signs; some display speeds, others don't, but they all record the speeds. They were talking about prioritizing their enforcement based on where these radar signs tell them there are problems. Then, the police department wants to disseminate this information to tell people where they are doing enhanced enforcement. They were talking about where to deploy these signs, and how to deploy them.

Perry: How much do these devices cost?

David: 2 with message, 2 without, cost 10K. "Not too crazy expensive."

Neil: Is there a similar piece of equipment for a stop sign? David: He doesn't know. The state approved traffic cams at intersections, but so many people were appealing the tickets, that the whole program fell apart.

Perry: Reality is that everyone goes 30-35 mph in 25 mph zones.

Lisa: Wants David to know that South Brunswick had a press release about driver misbehavior, and this was part of their Vision Zero program. Lisa wants people to know that this will be the type of Vision Zero program that may end up being implemented in Princeton.

David: Sent out an RFP to Civic Eye for Vision Zero. There was a concern on council about hiring more communication consultants, because they already have a communication consultant for other things. However, they checked, and the current consultant does not have Vision Zero expertise so they decided to do an RFP for Vision Zero.

Discussion about letters to the editor requesting a crosswalk at Jefferson and Hamilton/Wiggins. Traffic Safety recommended against a crosswalk in that location because there are nearby crosswalks in each direction that align with Madison and Moore. There are also parking spaces which would need to be removed because parked cars obstruct visibility of pedestrians entering the crosswalk.

No Engineering Updates.

Witherspoon Bike Parking.

Lisa: Feels that dismissing dispersed bike parking isn't that good of an idea. David C.: Liked the idea of the racks that are part of the tree grates that was in Tineke's report.

#10 bike rack in Tineke's report: David C. is a little concerned about it, because it could be a parklet. Also, #10 is going to be next to a construction zone. David C.: there is a proposal for construction next to #10, but it isn't approved yet.

Lisa feels that bike corrals in the street is a good idea, but wants protection. Lisa: Jim Purcell had said that they would be protected by planters or other barriers.

Perry: What about a curb around the corrals? David C.: Does not recommend asking for infrastructure changes on a new project, and reminded us of the design phase that the municipality had gone through before proceeding with construction.

David K: Would like there to be more spots at #8 near the library.

Adrian: PHS Biking Club members met Mark Freda at Sustainable Princeton mobility event, and they talked about having a bike repair station. Likes the idea of #7 or #9. David C.: Feels that #7 would be the best spot. Laurie: #7 isn't a really good spot because tables are often moved up to the bike parking and block access to a potential bike tool spot.

Laurie: Will suggest to Tineke that more racks be added to #8.

Perry: Problems with tool station is that they are often thrashed. Someone would have to keep it maintained.

Committee Reports

Safe Routes to Schools:

Lisa; this is international walk to schools month.

Lisa: There are more people taking kids to school on bikes, especially with trailers.

PHS Biking Club

They have their first interest meeting tomorrow. They have REI coming to school on 20th to give a safety workshop. They have an event with the Princeton Police. Trying to get involved with as many events as they can.

Events:

Lisa: There will be a bike ride on the LHT on Saturday, 10 miles, leaving from Rosedale Park, up to watershed and down again, starts at 10.

Trenton Cycling Revolution held a unity ride last weekend that Lisa and Adrian went on. Left from E. Trenton Collaborative, towards Isles up Tow Path, then down Warren street.... There were 15 people. Cosponsored Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. They will be scheduling more meetings at Trenton.

NJ Transit Way:

Tineke had shared information about Friends of the Dinky and their petition trying to get support for option #1. It isn't appropriate for committee to sign this, but it is good for individual members to sign it. However, PBAC could ask the council to pass a resolution in support of option #1.

David C.: Would like to urge council, and asked for a letter from PBAC requesting the resolution.

Lisa: Timing? David C.: doesn't know, other than that there is some urgency because the current dinky equipment can't be serviced.

Asking for a resolution from council to support #1. David suggested that other "BCC's" could be asked to weigh in in addition to PBAC.

Perry: Will draft a short letter, using some of Tineke's points.

Alex Grant's letter asking for a crosswalk across Snowden at Smoyer Park. David C. said that an appropriate next place to take this would be to the traffic Safety committee, or Mike Strobel. It wasn't that clear what Alex was asking for.

Dan: There will be a day of remembrance celebration. Early November; remembrance for traffic / bike/ pedestrian serious injuries. Was in Newark last year, was wondering if anyone else has any information?

Neil Melker: 30 year resident of Princeton, bikes daily. Was here on invitation from Tineke. Is interested in applying to PBAC. neilmelkerdds@gmail.com

Here's a link to the Princeton Boards, Commission, and Committees page, which has a link under Quick Links to the "Princeton Board, Commission, or Committee Application", <https://www.princetonnj.gov/328/Boards-Commissions-A-through-M>

David Cohen: There is a request to do a coordinated filling of vacancies of BCC's, for people that have expressed interest in multiple BCC's. (Boards, Committees, and Commissions....)

Lisa: Question about Harrison Street. Now would be a good time to do a corridor study on Harrison street. David said; this has not been submitted to a consultant to do this study.

Next meeting: November 2nd at 7.

Lisa: Complete Streets Training session that is free. Every Thursday. Will send out an email about it. Given by combination of NJDOT Bike Ped department, and other planners specializing in Bike Ped. Central Jersey focused meeting is following Thursday, October 20, on Zoom. 9 am to 12 pm.

Master Plan Circulation element; needs to be a sub committee meeting. David C. will send out a doodle poll. David C. will send to David K, Perry, Lisa, and Laurie.

End 9 pm.

Appendix: Witherspoon bike parking map from Tineke along with number explanations:

