

MINUTES  
May 15, 2012 Meeting

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**Members Present:** Toby Berla, Randy Best, Scott Carter, Dan Clever, Jim Dunlop, Ninna Gagnon, Greg Garneau, Lou Goetz, Jonathon Leach, Mathew Palmer, Merry Rabb, Lars Trost, Cynthia Van Der Wiele

**Members Absent:** Erik Landfried (excused), Dwayne Taylor

**Staff Present:** Dale McKeel

**Guests Present:** Shelly Green, Jack Warman

**A. Introductions**

**B. Approval of Minutes**

- ◆ *Dan moved and Merry seconded to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2012 regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.*

**C. Adjustments to the Agenda**

- ◆ Agenda items involving guests were moved up in the agenda.

**D. Announcements**

- ◆ No announcements.

**E. Public Comment**

- ◆ Jack gave an update for the Durham Bicycle Coalition, which held its first meeting earlier in May. Sixty people were present. The coalition reviewed the survey responses they received as part of its initial efforts. One main subject was how people want to participate. The next full public meeting will be in June, with the primary agenda item to lay the groundwork for moving forward with the coalition.

**F. Committee Reports**

**1. Development Review Committee Report (Dan Clever)**

*First Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Sunset Grill*

- ◆ Meeting was held on Thursday May 3, to avoid a conflict with a bike month event.
- ◆ Present: Dan Clever, Jim Dunlop, Dale McKeel
- ◆ **Reviewed development zoning plans-**
  1. Z1200006- 2125 Guess Road 2- no comments
  2. Z1200008- Old Chapel Hill Residential- will request width for future bike lanes with any roadway improvement
  3. Z1200010- Palladian Multi-family- we are checking with Planning on location of proposed trail through and around property

- ◆ **Discussed the new zoning type for University/College.**
- ◆ **Discussed site plan checklist-** we will share this first with a few BPAC members, and then invite people on the list for a training session.
- ◆ **Comprehensive Plan Update-** the County Commissioners approved the updates to the Comprehensive Plan (the city council approved last month). The new Transportation segment for the Comp Plan is linked below. Thanks to everyone who helped with this!! The Comp Plan now includes language about Complete Streets.
- ◆ <http://durhamnc.gov/ich/cb/ccpd/Documents/Comprehensive%20Plan%20Upda...>

## 2. **Community Engagement Committee Report (Mathew Palmer)**

*First Tuesday of month, 6:30 pm, Geer Street Garden*

- ◆ Updates from TPNA Meeting and Aaron Luebeck Meeting (Bike Blvds). Two meetings were held by the CE Committee in April. Both items were previously covered at the April 2012 BPAC meeting.
- ◆ **Community Engagement Committee: Goal and Objective:** The committee's goal, objective, and strategies were shared and discussed. Good progress was made in respect to identifying the role and goal of this committee - to fulfill Duty #4 of the interlocal agreement: To facilitate citizen participation in local government consideration of matters involving bicycle and pedestrian questions.  
The objective for the CE Committee is to collect and contextualize the pedestrian and bicycle needs and priorities of communities for BPAC's strategic plan and providing advice to Durham's elected officials. Ultimately, BPAC needs to be able to understand and tell the Durham Bike/Ped Story in a compelling way as a byproduct of talking with the public - citizens, neighborhoods, organizations, and businesses.
- ◆ **Community Engagement Committee: Strategy**
  1. Survey: Baseline survey that helps establish alternative transportation mode share; user perspective on bike/ped issues; and interest in potential BPAC or City/County activities (e.g. Safe Routes to School programming; Open Streets);
  2. Workshops: With collected survey data results we have an opportunity to engage with organizations based on location and interest to further develop our understanding (e.g. INC; Downtown Durham Merchants; DARE);
  3. Develop and Tell the Story: Identify the key values that motivate both the public and elected officials to care and participate in bike/ped issues (e.g. safety, health, environment, monetary cost savings);
  4. Inventory and Prioritize: Advise City and County officials on the pedestrian and bicycle needs and priorities of Durham citizens, communities and businesses based on efforts
  5. Plan Process: Use this process, the relationships developed along the way, and associated results to help inform the design and content of updates to the Bike and Pedestrian Plans
- ◆ **The Durham Community** - Whom do we want to try and engage? BPAC Listserv; Individuals and Families Chamber of Commerce - Businesses City Departments - Neighborhood Improvement Services INC / CAN – Neighborhoods; Congregations DPS – Students; Schools Police; Law Enforcement  
Example Scenarios: Engaging Inter-Neighborhood Council - After adapting the CE Presentation for the INC, make short (15 minute) presentation at INC meeting to get input on survey to be disseminated to community members through existing Neighborhood Associate infrastructure (listservs). Disseminate survey through INC channels in order to obtain

individual feedback on pedestrian and bicycle issues, needs, and priorities. After obtaining results, work with INC to share trends.

- ◆ **Engaging Durham Public Schools:** After collecting information regarding current bicycle and pedestrian considerations and trends, we will share results and findings with DPS administration, specifically facility operations and wellness coordinator.
- ◆ **BPAC Strategic Plan Implications** - Use survey and workshop findings to inform both BPAC activities for 2012 and beyond. In addition, helps shape the narrative and emphasis in conversation between BPAC commissioners and City/County staff and elected officials.
- ◆ **Projected Next Steps**
  1. Finalize BPAC Community Engagement Presentation (canned for multiple audiences)
  2. Develop individual, organizational, and business baseline survey on Durham bike/ped needs and priorities
  3. Coordinate with Plan Implementation and Evaluation on project prioritization
- ◆ **For Broader BPAC Conversation:** This was born out of building political capital for the advice we share with the City/County
- ◆ **Questions:**
  1. Does this framework make sense to BPAC commissioners?
  2. Is this what the Community Engagement Committee should be focusing on?
  3. What will we do with this information?
- ◆

### 3. **Bike and Pedestrian Plan Implementation and Evaluation Committee Report (Greg Garneau)**

*Second Thursday 6:30 pm, Sunset Grille*

- ◆ Meeting held May 10, 2012. Attendees: Randall Best, Dan Clever, Scott Carter, Heidi Carter, Dale McKeel, and Greg Garneau (Convener)
- ◆ The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2012. (This committee meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month.) NOTE: The time remains the same (6:30 PM) but the meeting place will be announced by Dan Clever who will convene the next meeting. The public is invited.
- ◆ **Other meeting announcements:** The Durham Bicycle Coalition held its first official meeting on Sunday, May 6, 2012. It was attended by several members of the Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission. Approximately 60 people attended this facilitated gathering.
- ◆ **Locations for Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts in Durham** -- The group developed the following list (led by Dan Clever and Dale McKeel):
  1. ATT @ Morehead
  2. ATT @ Woodcroft Pkwy
  3. Anderson @ Duke University Drive
  4. Anderson @ Erwin
  5. Chapel Hill St @ Gregson
  6. W. Main @ Broad
  7. W. Main @ Ninth/Erwin
  8. Lawson @ Fayetteville
  9. Fayetteville @ Brandt
  10. R. Kelly Bryant Bridge

11. E Main @ Elizabeth
12. LaSalle @ Erwin
13. Hillandale @ Club
14. W. Ellerbee Creek Trail @ Maryland
15. Ellerbee Creek Trail @ Murray
16. Cornwallis @ TW Alexander
17. Foster @ Hunt
18. Old Oxford @ Roxboro
19. Roxboro @ Horton
20. Guess @ Umstead
21. Third Fork Creek Trail @ S Roxboro
22. Broad @ Club Blvd.
23. Chapel Hill Rd. @ Cornwallis
24. MLK Jr. @ Hope Valley Rd.

- ◆ **Involvement of the public in identifying the critical bicycle transportation corridors in the City and County** -- this project will be conducted by the Community Engagement Committee. It was suggested that the focus should be on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) effort because this project had generated the inquiry.

- ◆ **Light Rail Environmental Scoping Meeting** -- The second area meeting took place Thursday, May 3, 2012 from 4 PM to 7 PM at the Durham Armory, 212 Foster St., Durham, NC. This public session was in Open House format. Citizens that were unable to attend the public meetings can submit comments online at: [www.ourtransitfuture.com](http://www.ourtransitfuture.com), by mail to: TRTP, Box 530, Morrisville, NC 27560 or by phone at 800-816-7817. All comments are to be submitted no later than June 18, 2012. The Federal Register Notice, which includes the Project's Purpose and Need, Study Area, and EIS Alternatives, is at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-04-03/pdf/2012-7897.pdf>. More information also is available at: [www.ourtransitfuture.com](http://www.ourtransitfuture.com).

Environmental work follows the selection of light rail transit as the preferred technology in the proposed 17-mile corridor by the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization in February 2012. The Triangle has been working for more than five years planning ways to better connect Durham, Chapel Hill and the region by transit.

\*NOTE:\* \*The committee recommends that a letter be forwarded to TRTP addressing the incorporation of a multi-use trail along the Durham-Orange light rail corridor as included in previous plans.

After review of the draft letter, *Greg moved (as committee chair) that Dan send the letter to Triangle Transit on behalf of BPAC. Motion was approved unanimously.*

- ◆ **Phase E of ATT Progress** -- we were reminded of the three upcoming neighborhood meetings:
  1. Monday, May 14th - 6-7 PM - St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, 8306 NC 751, Durham.
  2. Tuesday, May 15th - 6-7 PM - Church Gymnasium, Triangle Presbyterian Church, 5001 Tudor Place, Durham.
  3. Thursday, May 17th - 6-7 PM - 2nd Floor Committee Room, City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza, Durham.
- ◆ **Road Striping Projects** -- Briggs Avenue, Main Street, and Stadium Drive/Olympic Avenue are scheduled for striping.

- ◆ **Sidewalk Repair and Construction** -- as previously reported, the City is due to let a repair contract for numerous locations. ADA ramps are included in the contract.
- ◆ **Petition Sidewalk Assessment Rate** -- the \$35 per linear foot rate proposed by the Public Works staff was adopted by the City Council on the consent agenda, Monday, May 7, 2012.
- ◆ **United States Bicycle Route 1** -- Greg Garneau drove the proposed route(s) north out of Durham to Grissom where it rejoins the original route. He will ride the two alternatives which originate at the Downtown Trail adjacent to the Farmers Market and meet at the intersection of Carpenter and Cheek Roads. Thus far the route appears to be feasible. A full recommendation, to be adopted by BPAC and subsequently presented to the NCDOT for approval, will follow shortly. Here is a link to a map of the old and proposed routes: <https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=203710835465849187175.0004ad6ae8>
- ◆ **Traffic Separation Study** -- Greg Garneau returned comments (below) on the proposed changes by the Thursday deadline, April 26, 2012. To recap -- the meeting was focused on the intersection recommendations from the Chapel Hill Street crossing to the Roxboro St. crossing along the Norfolk & Southern railway corridor through downtown Durham. Greatly increased rail traffic is forecast over the next two decades through the corridor. A major theme emerging from the meeting is the acceptance of this increase and to incorporate it into the planning. Norfolk & Southern attended the meeting. Slides of the proposed changes are available to this committee and can be reviewed by BPAC.
  - Greetings Matthew [West] -- I believe that my comments (and those of other participants that I concur with) were all noted during the meeting, but to make sure that my perspective as a representative of the Durham's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission views are recorded and taken into consideration, permit me to forward to you my recap:
  - Chapel Hill Street crossing -- preserve the existing bike lanes and enhance pedestrian safety as per the plan. Add the pedestrian bridge over West Chapel Hill Street to connect the AMTRAK depot with the Durham Station and with the planned light rail station. Remove the section of sidewalk that does not connect to a crosswalk to the Durham Station and ends abruptly on West Pettigrew Street. Add decorative but effective lighting under the railroad underpass. Consider the lighting for the entire rail corridor as an important element in the plan.
  - Blackwell/Corcoran Street crossing -- enhance and add bicycle facilities to guide bicycle traffic along the Downtown Trail connecting the American Tobacco Trail and the North-South Greenway. This might take the form of a road diet and bicycle lanes, or bicycle lanes along a four lane right-of-way for motorists, or at a minimum sharrows through the crossing. Enhance pedestrian safety as per the plan with sidewalks and decorative, effective fences to prevent foot traffic in the railroad right-of-way. Plan for the installation of a grade separated crossing. Remove sidewalk where it will be too close to an expanded rail corridor but provide connected sidewalk throughout the corridor supported by signalized crossings. Stripe West Pettigrew Street along the corridor (W. Chapel Hill Street to Roxboro) to create bicycle lanes.
  - Mangum Street crossing -- add the pedestrian enhancements as per the plan: sidewalks; signalized crossings; and connected sidewalk throughout. Remove sidewalk where it is too close to an expanded rail corridor and add decorative,

effective fencing to prevent dangerous pedestrian crossing of the railroad tracks. Plan for the installation of a grade separated crossing.

- Roxboro Street crossing -- add the pedestrian enhancements as per the plan: sidewalks; signalized crossings; and connected sidewalk throughout. Remove sidewalk where it is too close to an expanded rail corridor and add decorative and effective fencing to prevent dangerous pedestrian crossing of the railroad tracks. Remove the pedestrian crossing at Ramseur Street if it cannot be made safer and/or signalized. Add decorative, effective lighting under the railroad overpass as part of an overall lighting plan for the entire corridor. These comments assume that all crossings and sidewalks will be made ADA compliant. It is further recommended that speed limits throughout the east-west corridor and at each north-south crossing street be kept at or reduced to 25 mph from Main Street to Jackie Robinson Drive. Reason is that all of the new, continued, and planned development of this area has effectively created an expanded civic center from the Durham Freeway north to its present boundary at Geer Street.

#### 4. Education and Encouragement Committee Report (Merry Rabb)

*Second Tuesday, 7 pm, Beyu Caffè*

The BPAC Education and Encouragement Committee did NOT meet in May so there are no meeting minutes. May Bike Month events are going well and keeping us busy.

I do want to pass along the item below for those who have not yet received it. If you can help with the Bike Valet Parking for the Tour De Fat on Saturday June 23 please go to the link below and sign up (you need to do this to get the free t-shirt and beer token I think), and also please let me know if/when you can help so that I can start building a schedule and determining how many additional people we need to recruit. Last year we had two valet parking shifts - one starting in the morning after the bike parade, and one starting in the early afternoon. Our greatest need is in the morning to handle the high volume of people coming in from the parade ride who line up to get their bikes parked.

**From:** Durham Tour de Fat [<mailto:durhamtourdefat@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Saturday, April 14, 2012 10:46 AM

Hi everyone,

It's that time of year again.....spring is in the air, the weather is warm, bikes are coming out of winter hibernation, and the Tour de Fat 2012 planning is underway!

[New Belgium has officially announced the return of the Tour de Fat to Durham on June 23.](#)

We're very excited to be a part of the fun again this year and hope that you are too! If you're interested in volunteering again this summer, we'd be honored to work with you to make 2012 an even more successful year for the Tour. All volunteers will receive a free t-shirt and 2 beer tokens to enjoy before or after your shift. To sign up, visit

<http://nactive.org/content/tour-de-fat-2012-volunteer-signup> and choose your preferred volunteer activity/shift. If you are a trained TIPS server, we'd love for you to work as a shift leader at the beer service station again.

Look forward to seeing you in June!

All the best,  
Durham Tour de Fat Organizing Committee  
(NC Active Transportation Alliance, Triangle Spokes, Durham Bike Co-op, and Durham BPAC)

## **G. Updates from Liaisons**

### **1. DOST – Toby Berla**

- ◆ A presentation was made by the ADA coordinator for Durham with respect to trails, especially natural trails.
- ◆ DOST requested that Parks and Recreation come to explain the plans to continue the Ellerbe Creek Trail along Broad Street on the existing five-foot sidewalk.

### **2. NCCU – Jonathan Leach**

- ◆ No new items this month.

### **3. Duke University – Randy Best**

- ◆ No new items this month.

## **H. Old Business**

### **1. NCDOT Access to Transit Project (Dale McKeel, Erik Landfried)**

- ◆ No new information this month. There will be some community engagement meetings held in June. Dale will send the specific information out to the

### **2. Triangle Pedestrian Education and Enforcement Campaign (Dale McKeel)**

- ◆ This is now called “Watch For Me, NC”, and a meeting was held this afternoon to discuss progress. The new head of the Bike/Ped Division at NCDOT attended. Art work is being developed for the campaign. Jonathan mentioned that NCCU and Duke participated in a conference call yesterday.

## **I. New Business**

### **1. Durham Bicyclist's Accident Report (Mathew Palmer)**

- ◆ Mathew mentioned a meeting with a lawyer from Boston who primarily represents bicyclists involved in crashes. The lawyer gave Mathew a wallet-sized card which provides legal information, as well as a small crash report form. The card is available to be modified for local information. The normal process is for a city to pay for the cards, which would include advertising for a local lawyer. The general information on the card was received favorably, however the potential advertising might cause some issues.

### **2. Promoting Durham as a Destination for Bicycling and Walking (Shelly Green)**

- ◆ Shelly, from the Durham Convention and Visitor's Bureau, introduced general information about the Bureau, and then gave a presentation on the listed subject. The primary goal of the bureau is to market Durham to visitors. The primary “motivators” for visits are the two universities, and health care. “Satisfiers” are “things to do in Durham” such as DPAC,

dining and other events. One topic that the Bureau is working on is promoting Durham's available hiking and biking opportunities. Some of the products include a Durham visitor's guide, and working with the City on distributing the bike map, and a web site, which is viewed by about 800,000 people each year ([durham-nc.com](http://durham-nc.com)). The Bureau also has an extensive photo library, which includes many bicycle/pedestrian pictures.

**J. Staff Report / Questions / Announcements**

- ◆ Bike Map – The map revisions have been made, and a first review has been made by the coordinating committee and staff. Photo selection (cover and interior) is the next step coming up. Quotes have been received for printing, and it appears that about 7000 copies will be able to be printed within the budget. A mobile app version will also be developed.
- ◆ Scott mentioned that he is on a committee to discuss development of artwork for bike racks. Their next meeting is in June.
- ◆ Ninna announced that Woodcroft will have a bike workshop on Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ Mathew thanked Ninna, Greg and Dale for helping with bike helmets for children.
- ◆ Mathew also gave kudos to Merry for all the work she and her team has done for Bike Month.
- ◆ Dan mentioned that this was Lars's last meeting with BPAC.

**K. Adjournment**

- ◆ *Lou moved and Greg seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously* and meeting was adjourned at 8:59 PM.



## **Remaining 2012 Durham Bike Month Events**

- Wednesday, May 16: Annual Ride of Silence. (Sponsored by M.S. Fits) This 5 mile police escorted ride will start and finish at the RTP Headquarters parking lot at 12 Davis Drive. Riders will gather beginning at 6pm and the ride leaves promptly at 7. Helmets required, lights encouraged. <http://www.msfits.org/ride-of-silence.html>
- Thursday, May 17: Mad Biker's Breakfast, 7 to 9 am, Mad Hatter's Café (corner of Main and Broad Streets). Food and drink courtesy of Mad Hatter's. Free bike checks provided by Tip Top Cycles mechanics. Sponsored by Durham BPAC.
- Friday May 18, 2012 Bike Month Breakfast and Social, 7 to 9 am, RTP Headquarters (12 Davis Dr.) Cyclists enjoy a free continental breakfast and giveaways. Sponsored by SmartCommute@rtp
- Sunday May 20: Bull City Tipping Point Ride. Low mileage social ride held monthly. For details see <http://www.facebook.com/bullcitytippingpoint>
- Sunday May 27: Fourth Sunday ride sponsored by Seven Stars Cycles, ride leaves at 10AM, an approximately 35 mile self-supported, group ride with Seven Stars Cycles ([www.sevenstarscycles.com](http://www.sevenstarscycles.com)). This is not a no-drop ride, but will be moderately paced (18 mph average). Stars and ends at Seven Stars Cycles in Downtown Durham.
- Saturday June 2 – East Coast Greenway Community Tour (May 12 – July 7) will be in Durham on June 2  
<http://www.cabotcommunitytour.com/>