

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
Date April 3, 2008**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Heidi Perry, Chair
Tom High
John O’Leary
Katie Schwing
Daniel Amoni
Charlie Hileman

STAFF

Adena Messinger

GUESTS

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BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

Dave Deming, Vice Chair

I. Call to Order

Heidi Perry called the meeting to order at 7:41 PM.

II. Letter to Chapel Hill Transit, continued

Heidi distributed an updated version of the draft letter to Chapel Hill Transit and TAB members took a moment to read and provide comments. The discussion circled around what should be the key elements of the letter, with several members expressing that the Transit Forum should be the primary focus. Other issues that the TAB noted, but agreed could go in a separate letter, include Carolina North, long-range transit plan, and the need to more efficiently use existing resources by thinking “outside the box”.

Regarding the Transit Forum, the key points that the TAB wanted to communicate in the letter were as follows: 1) the forum should begin with a re-cap of the previous year’s forum and include the status of the requests; 2) the forum should be unified in that it should include all three partners (UNC, Carrboro, Chapel Hill); 3) there should be elected officials from both Towns at the forum; 4) at the end of each forum there should be a list of all of the items discussed; and 5) Carrboro should create a prioritized list of transit improvements from that list (similar to the TIP projects) and this list should be revisited each year.

Other ideas that were shared:

- Transit forum should be followed by a public follow up – some sort of PR piece that gets out what was brought up at the meeting.
- Interest in presenting other transit concerns to the Board during their review of the annual budget

Charlie Hileman agreed to compile the comments and prepare a next draft.

III. Spanish language bicycle flyer, continued

Heidi shared that she could not (yet) find any images that seemed suitable. There was some discussion as to what format would be used to communicate basic bicycle safety tips and laws. Flyers, posters, newspaper ads, and maps were all offered as possibilities.

Heidi passed along that Perry Morgan, Chair of the Chapel Hill bicycle and pedestrian advisory board indicated that Chapel Hill would be interested in participating in the campaign.

The TAB did not come to any decisions about how to move forward, and concluded that it would be appropriate to table the discussion until after the April 10th bicycle plan public workshop.

IV. Bike to Work Week update

Katie reported that Performance Bicycle would be amenable to using their lot for a BTWW activity; however, they did not offer to help staff a table or be involved in an event. One avenue for raising awareness of bike to work week and month is to have something at Carrboro Day (May 4th). Staff shared some event idea from the League of American Bicyclists website. No specific event was decided on.

V. Update on bicycle signage request to the Orange County Board of County Commissioners

Heidi gave the update and shared that she emailed the Carrboro Board of Aldermen to seek their input on moving forward with contacting the OC BoCC, but had not received a reply. She emailed Mayor Chilton directly and he indicated that he would get it on the Board's agenda. In addition to the request for better signage, Heidi suggested that the request include: that when any of the roads are due for repaving, that NCDOT be asked to provide improvements for other modes as well.

After the update, John O'Leary inquired about the roundabout being constructed on Eubanks as part of the new elementary school. Staff shared that no bike lanes are being constructed along Eubanks Rd. as part of this project. A bike lane is being added to the leg of the roundabout that will access the school property.

VI. Approval of Minutes: March 20, 2008

John O'Leary made a motion to approve the March 20, 2008. Tom High seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes (6 – Heidi Perry, Tom High, John O'Leary, Daniel Amoni, Katie Schwing; Charlie Hileman); Nays (0); Absent (1 - Dave Deming)

VII. Committee Liaison update

Tom High, liaison to the Greenways Commission, shared that the Greenways Commission met the previous night to discuss the Bolin Creek greenway trail, and that they decided to move ahead with a recommendation to do the Request for Qualifications for the conceptual plan.

VIII. Other Business

Staff shared several reminders of upcoming events (bicycle plan workshop, parking study presentation to the BoA, Smart Commute Challenge, bike to work week). Additionally, the Board of Aldermen referred an item to the TAB at their April 1st meeting regarding pedestrian friendly signage at the gateways to Carrboro.

Staff responded to previously asked questions from the TAB regarding pedestrian signals:

- The pedestrian signal at Lloyd & Main Sts. seems to be operating as programmed. Wait time will depend on when in the cycle it is pushed. NCDOT indicated that they would not reprogram the signal to be pre-empted by pushing the pedestrian button.
- Staff will collect data at the intersection at BPW & Smith Level Road to see if a pedestrian signal can be installed.

As follow up, staff shared that UNC is thinking about increasing capacity to their coal siding but that there is no plan as of yet. When a plan is developed, they will share it with the Town for comment. The idea would be to have longer trains but fewer deliveries.

John requested a follow up on the bike parking plan for the new Lloyd Street building.

IX. Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.