



**Summary
GreenPrint Committee**

Date: Tuesday, Cinco de Mayo, 2009 11:00 am Location: Council Conference Room 391

Committee Members: Nevitt, Chair; Linkhart, Vice-Chair; Brown, Lehmann

Other Members Present: Madison, Robb

Agenda: Biking in Denver

Biking in Denver

Summary of Committee Discussion

Overview

Parry Burnap, Director, Denver Bike Initiative, Mayor's Office, introduced a presentation on the multi-faceted components of the City's work to encourage biking in Denver. She noted that the overall goals for City are to increase bicycle mode share for commute trips by 10% by 2010 and to launch a Bike Sharing Program in spring of 2010. Other major bike initiatives discussed include:

Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Committee (MBAC)

Tracy Halasinski, Chair, briefly described the function and work of the group including:

- Advising policymakers on bicycling topics and implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan
- Normalizing the use of bicycles for transportation
- Documenting the implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan
- Ensuring that bicycles are an integral component of the zoning code update
- Advising on the bicycle components for the multimodal plan

Multi-modal Access & Connectivity Plan, street improvements, and related initiatives

Gideon Berger, Community Planning and Development, with David Marquardt and Dick Gannon, Parks and Recreation Department, discussed the City's development multi-modal access and connectivity plan noting that the work includes an inventory and assessment of existing trail and street conditions and needs. Mr. Berger also mentioned the Living Streets Initiative which supports the goal of increasing biking in the City.

Karen Good, Department of Public Works, outlined the departmental work in support of biking in Denver including:

1. Implementing the Mayor's Initiative of providing 6 new miles of bike lanes &/or shared lane markings
2. Using \$250,000 in Economic Stimulus funding for bike infrastructure improvements – all additional bike lanes
3. Maintenance of existing bike infrastructure – replacing out of date or worn markings and signage

Barb Frommell, Community Planning and Development, outlined the data to date on biking in Denver including:

- 2005 – 2007 ACS 3-year Estimates for Denver County
 - 3.1% Commute trips are by “other means” (non-walking, including bikes)
- Annual Bike to Work Day
 - 35,000 commute trips in 2008 (34% increase from 2007)
- 2008 Downtown Denver Partnership Survey
 - 6.5% respondents regularly commute by bike
- 2007 Summer RTD Bike-on-Bus Survey
 - 2% of all summer boardings include a bike
- 1997 Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Travel Behavior Inventory
 - 1.4% of all trips in region by bike

Ms. Frommell noted that all the data has significant limits and it is hoped that better data can be obtained by working with the upcoming DRCOG travel behavior inventory update. She explained that it is critical to answer the data baseline questions so that the City can measure whether the 10% increase has been achieved in the future.

Community Biking Advocates

BikeDenver

Piep Van Heuven, Executive Director, BikeDenver, discussed the group's role and mission to promote and encourage bicycling as an energy efficient, non-polluting, healthy, and enjoyable transportation alternative. She reviewed the group's major activities including:

- Providing bike parking for community events which was introduced at A Taste of Colorado in 2001
- By 2008, the group had parked over 6,000 bikes on 27 days at 11 events with a total attendance of 1.3 million
- In 2009, 30 bike parking days are planned at 13 events with an expected attendance of 1.5 million
- Recognizing Bike Friendly Business
- Community Rides
- Smart Cycling Education

Park Hill Bike Depot

Christopher Dunn, Executive Director, Park Hill Bike Depot, described the one-year old group as a 501c3, non-profit organization, working with Partners in the Park Hill Community including Park Hill Thriving Communities, Recycle Bicycles, the Denver City Bike Planner, local business

representatives, Denver Parks and Recreation, and Park Hill residents all dedicated to increasing biking in the neighborhood. Among the group's activities are:

- Providing over 600 bikes to those who couldn't otherwise afford a bike
- Thousands of visits by people to get help fixing their bikes
- Bike Safety classes
- Bicycle Maintenance Classes

Mr. Dunn said that the organization's goals for the future include expanded hours and programs to meet the needs of the Park Hill neighborhood and other Denver neighborhoods, developing a sustainable and diverse budget, and increasing funding and volunteers. The group would like to redirect the bikes confiscated by the Denver Police Department to community uses.

Denver Bike Sharing Program

Parry Burnap, Mayor's Office, Cindy Bosco, GreenPrint Denver, and Steve Sander, Office of Economic Development, discussed the status of Denver's Bike Sharing Program which is built on the success of the donated program provided for the Democratic National Convention (DNC) last summer. The City has been piloting a bike share program for City employees using the donated DNC bikes with the following results:

- 184 total rides and 2078 miles ridden
- 60-70 "rideable" work days
- Used for work *and* recreational use
- Ten City agencies engaged

The City-wide program will be launched in Spring 2010 with 600 Bikes and 40 stations and will be owned and operated by Denver Bike Sharing—not the City. It will be Web-enabled with returns allowed at any station. Memberships will be available. The first half hour is free with low cost charges thereafter. Already \$1.3 million of the expected \$1.7 million total capital needed has been raised. Annual operating expenses of \$1.5 million are expected and will be covered by annual revenues.

Shelley Smith, Council Legislative Services
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