

Burlington Walk/Bike Council
Tuesday, March 15, 2011
City Hall Room 12

Minutes

Walk/Bike Impact Study – Chapin Spencer

Chapin gave an overview of the **Economic Impact of Walking and Bicycling in Vermont** and answered numerous questions from the BWBC. This is a Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) funded project in consultation with RSG, Economic and Policy Research, and Local Motion and will be complete by the end of 2011. Local Motion's role is mostly outreach. It will have information on impacts to real estate, tourism, job creation, etc. The BWBC decided to wait on doing a Burlington-specific economic impact study, but it turns out the data from this current study won't allow a town-by-town analysis. Nonetheless, since Burlington is the state's largest city we may be able to make some correlations. RSG is looking at some pretty detailed data, and the BWBC could also look at it. Since this is a publicly funded study we should be able to access the data. **Chapin will look into whether or not RSG can add some town-specific data work.** They are still accepting public comment and the study's working papers are available on the Local Motion website (www.localmotion.org).

Other discussion: Have other states used similar studies to achieve specific goals? Chapin isn't sure, it probably depends on outreach and application. Is it possible to do a before/after comparison? Maybe on home prices. Request to please include the methodology – why some data is used, why other data is excluded, etc.

Safe Streets Collaborative – Jason Van Driesche

Jason gave a brief background on the Safe Streets Collaborative (SafeStreetsVT.org) and reviewed the goals and actions. He is most excited about the first goal which includes SeeClickFix. BWBC folks are welcome to get involved in the Safe Streets program. Other discussion: "intersection observations" are not limited to intersections, it could be a road segment (e.g., Shelburne Road, Pine Street). Suggestion: winter follow-up – volunteer interest will drive some tasks. **Jason requests \$5000 from the BWBC to enable completion of some tasks. Printing Report Recklessness stickers should be added to the request. The BWBC will discuss.** Suggestion: consider stickers instead of signs to attach to ped signals. Note: BWBC funded brochure printing last year.

Event Planning

Jane's Walk – this is a good idea but it's **on hold unless someone volunteers to lead**
Ride of Silence – Jim Brophy has organized in the past, attendance has been meaningful but sparse. Time for someone else to lead this event – **Charlene is willing but would like some help, so this event is tentative– contact her if you're interested**
(Charlene@localmotion.org).

Suggestion: could we partner with other organizations for these events, like Preservation Burlington, BBA, Smart Growth VT, AARP VT, etc.?

Walk Bike Meetup – debrief. Notes need to be typed up, there were a lot of good ideas and an inspiring speaker. Happy hour didn't work as well as hoped for. There will be a more thorough debrief in April.

UPDATES

Pearl Street – a small committee met to talk about specifics of this project and came up with a plan featuring bike lanes on both sides, parallel parking (increase in parking overall), bumpouts for pedestrians, and other improvements. This was a good collaboration between the City, BWBC, and Church Street Marketplace. The fountain at the top of Church Street is related but a separate project.

Bike Path Signage – need a small group to work on this. **Steve, Nic...?**

Bike Map – an intern is working on this

Burlington Bike Path – RSG selected as the consultant, the committee will meet in April. Fall is still the project deadline.

Steering Committee – Jamie has officially landed in Colorado.

127 Path – contact Jennifer if you want to participate in AARP workshop.

Bike Parking Mapping – Will is working on this, contact him if you are interested and want to help.

Bike Route Signage – the City is determining if this is something they can do internally or if they need to hire someone else.

Transportation Plan – last City Council meeting was canceled because of the blizzard, and with a big agenda for the next meeting, this may not be a priority item. Next step is unclear.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 28, 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan