

**STREETS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
CITY OF REHOBOTH BEACH**

**May 25, 2012**

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chair Pat Coluzzi on Friday, May 25, 2012 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Pat Coluzzi, Kathy Osterholm, Jim Ellison, Cindy Lovett, Lorraine Zellers (arrived at 9:04 a.m.), Bill Sargent, Dennis Diehl

Absent: Joh Gauger

Audience: Ryan Mavity of Cape Gazette, Patrick Gossett, Karen Zakarian

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Bill Sargent made a motion, seconded by Jim Ellison, to approve the Agenda with the deletion of the March 30, 2012 minutes. The February 3, 2012, February 18, 2012 and February 24, 2012 Minutes had been approved at a previous meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the March 30, 2012 Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. The May 4, 2012 Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes were not available for approval.

Jim Ellison made a motion, seconded by Cindy Lovett, to approve the March 30, 2012 Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Email from Jennifer Rubenstein, 129 Henlopen Avenue, stating that it is important for the Committee to acknowledge the traffic circle yield problem and come up with some ideals to solve it. The City needs to make attempts to solve this ongoing issue.

Pat responded to the email and noted that the report on the City website is findings of the current situation. There is a 153 page report with recommendations to handle the various issues that have been identified by the consultant and the Committee which will be posted on the City website in the next couple of weeks. The Committee has recommended to the City Commissioners that inroad signs be installed at the pedestrian crossings when approaching the traffic circle. It is hopeful to have some sort of resolution in the next 30 days.

DelDOT will be invited to attend the Committee meeting in the near future to discuss the issues with the traffic circle.

**Review/Update Bicycle Map.**

Pat met with the Mayor on May 24, 2012 to get his ideas, thoughts and concerns about the bicycle maps. Mayor Cooper's suggestions were: 1. A trail connector for Henlopen Avenue and Lake Drive. 2. He was not receptive to the idea of bicycle boulevards. 3. Avoid Lake Avenue. 4. Signs should say Bike Friendly and Reach the Beach for Stockley and Laurel Streets and Maryland Avenue.

The consensus of the Committee was to use Bike Friendly, a pictograph and Trail Connector on green signs. The trail connector streets would be Henlopen Avenue, Ocean Drive, Canal Street, Lake Drive and Hickman Street. Lake Avenue will not be colored orange on the map to reflect that it is a street not recommended by families and younger bicyclists. Green signs for Stockley and Laurel Streets and Maryland Avenue would have language that says Reach the Beach on it. Part of Delaware Avenue should not be shown as a bicycle boulevard. Parking on Maryland and Baltimore Avenues will allow for downtown access. Signs could be put up at the bicycle parking stations to alert people to parking. Parking for the bike rack should be shown on the 2012 map at St. Lawrence Street and the Boardwalk. A portion of the trail through Grove Park needs to be determined. Pat will talk with Greg Ferrese about paving a portion of the trail in Grove Park. The map will be changed to correctly show the trail in Grove Park.

Patrick Gossett suggested that if the signing says bike friendly and the Committee is trying to create an atmosphere of positivity, then the maps should reflect only the positive.

Jeff Greene of Delaware Greenways reviewed the 2012 map with the Committee. Various corrections were made. One-way arrows will be added on Lake Drive. He will change the legend to reflect the bike friendly streets with the trail connectors in green and reach the beach streets in blue. An illustration will be placed on the map that shows the signs. The map should reflect the network to Gordon's Pond Trail and not Cape Henlopen State Park.

Pat presented the City's map which was done by a consultant who has designed the 2012 Parking and Walking Guide in layers. She suggested having the same consultant overlay the Committee's 2012 Bicycling Map on the map. At the next meeting, the Committee will need to determine the details needed for the map such as pictures, cut-outs, the legend, colors and what information is needed on the backside for the next meeting.

#### **Discuss locations for Sharrows testing.**

Pat noted that the Mayor is agreeable to putting sharrows on certain streets for a test. Recommended areas to put the sharrows were on Henlopen Avenue and Stockley Street between King Charles and Bayard Avenues. Pat will go out and place the sharrows in the near future.

#### **Update on progress for Bicycle Parking Stations at First Street and Baltimore Avenue.**

Pat note that a contract has been signed with Vinmet regarding hitching rings for bicycles. Bob Palmer of Daft McCune Walker has done a plan for the Committee. Two parking spaces have been eliminated on First Street at the intersection of Baltimore Avenue. Five planters and half-circle angled bike racks will be placed on First Street. Each rack will hold 12 bikes. The two parking stations are anticipated to be done by June 15, 2012. Monies are allocated in the budget for this project. Permission has been received from the State to use leftover monies for this project. These parking stations will be monitored to see how much they will be used. The plantings may be done by volunteers.

Recommended changes to the Executive Summary were: 1. ES-1. No. 1 is too strong. Rehoboth Beach presents pedestrians and bike riders with many dangers. This statement was changed to [R]ehoboth Beach presents pedestrians and bike riders with many challenges. 2. ES-1. No. 3 should be changed to read Rehoboth's streets have no special provisions. 3. ES-1. Add [I]t is the considered recommendation of Delaware Greenways. 4. ES-1. Change the sentence to read [T]here are times when there is simply no more room.... 5. ES-2. No. 9 should be changed some intersections in Rehoboth. 6. ES-2. Change the language to read [T]here are few wayfinding signs that indicate destinations within or outside of Rehoboth. 7. ES-2. Change the language to read [T]here are limited materials indicating routes where it is relatively safe to ride within Rehoboth. 8. ES-2. Change the language in No. 3 of the guiding principles to read [A]s transportation systems developed over time, they were designed for motor vehicles as the predominant mode of transportation. This plan is about the best balance to reflect the actual demand for the street-space. 9. ES-3. Change the sentence to read [T]he major focus of the Plan is educating visitors and residents alike about safe bicycling and walking and about the wonderful destinations both within and outside the City. 10. ES-3. Change the cycling map to biking map. 11. ES-8. Eliminate [E]xcept for the replacement of the Bayard Avenue Bridge and the new bicycle bridge connecting Schoolvue to Country Club Estates; all other improvements are slated for implementation in the next two to five years. 12. ES-8. Change the last sentence to read [E]ach year, it is recommended that the Committee meet to determine the implementation items for that year and determine the necessary updates to the Pedestrian and Bicycle plus possible action by the Commissioners. A recommended change to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan was on page 7-6. Change the sentence to read [I]t is anticipated that the Early Action Improvements will be completed early in the 2012 summer season.

Pat updated the Committee with regard to the ambassador program. Main Street has interns who are volunteering to be City ambassadors. In the next two days, there will be Parkmobile ambassadors. When they leave, the City ambassador program will be implemented. These ambassadors will be handing out Parkmobile information, the Parking and Walking Guide and the Bicycle Map.

Jeff will be sending the final version of the plan document to the Committee. Once Jeff has finished the Plan by June 11, 2012, Pat will forward copies to all the Commissioners.

#### **Update on Beautification Program.**

Lorraine provided an update on the beautification program. The rain garden was planted in front of City Hall on May 17, 2012. Photographs were provided of the process.

Pat had spoken with Sally Boswell of the Center for Inland Bays who was not happy there is no depression in the rain garden. In order for Sally to put up the informational signage, the depression is needed.

Lorraine will contact Sally regarding the signage. The planters were put up on Lake Gerar Bridge on May 18, 2012. A quote was received from RSC Landscaping for the area by the bridge for plantings. Paul Kuhns has agreed to water the garden area. A few members of the Sussex Gardeners would like to become involved with the rain garden, etc.

Cindy noted that the beach grass has been cut from the Greene Turtle to just past Victoria's, and the greens are coming through. People can email Maria Sadler at DNREC to let her know how much it is liked. This may be a project for next year to do the entire beach grass area on the dunes.

**Discuss items to be included on future agendas.**

An item to be included on the June 1, 2012 agenda will be to discuss the bicycle map.

**Set next meeting.**

The next Committee Meeting will be held on June 1, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business, Chair Pat Coluzzi adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**(Ann M. Womack, CMC, City Secretary)**

**MINUTES APPROVED ON  
JUNE 8, 2012**

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**(Pat Coluzzi, Chair)**