

MEETING SUMMARY

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

May 19, 2021

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met virtually at 2:00 pm on May 19, 2021, via Microsoft Teams.

See Pages 6 and 7 for meeting attendance.

1. Welcome and Introductions – Kathy Nelson, Chair, City of Grapevine

Kathy Nelson welcomed attendees and introduced herself as the 2021 Chair of BPAC, and Robert Caskey as the Vice-Chair. The February 2021 meeting summary was accepted as submitted.

2. Local Community Updates

a. Connect Dallas Mobility Plan Update – Kathryn Rush, City of Dallas,

Kathryn provided an overview on the City's first ever Dallas Strategic Mobility Plan (DSMP), entitled Connect Dallas, which will provide a roadmap for transportation planning and investment over the next five years. The DSMP addresses Dallas' bicycle and pedestrian needs, environmental sustainability, safety, equity, economic vitality, innovation, and housing. Development of the DSMP was guided by current transportation challenges and the City Council's priorities. Dallas aims to achieve a compact, connected, and multi-modal transportation system, by promoting compact growth and transit-oriented development. Policy modernization and project delivery recommendations included in the DSMP emphasize more development adjacent to transit stops and on vacant or underutilized land in already developed areas, creating a greater implementation of mixed land uses.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC

b. DCTA Activities for Bike Month in May – Mary Worthington, DCTA

Mary provided an update on DCTA's Bike to Work Day Free Ride campaign, offering free commuter rail trips to passengers who bring their bicycles aboard certain train routes on May 21. The event aligns with National Bike Month, which is celebrated across the country, most notably by the League of American Bicyclists as well as other transportation agencies and advocates. The promotion includes travel via the A-train, Connect Bus (Denton and Lewisville), Lewisville Lakeway, DDTTC Evening On-Demand, and University of North Texas' campus shuttles. The outreach includes informing adjacent communities, requesting local organizations spread awareness, encouraging cyclists to ride DCTA, increasing traffic on the promotional web page (includes safety tips), and generating awareness through DCTA's public information channels.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

c. Safe Route to Schools Assessments – Chris Funches, City of Arlington

Chris provided an overview of Arlington’s 2018 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) assessments that were included in the 2019 SRTS call for projects. Assessments included data collection within school attendance zones, pedestrian infrastructure (signage, sidewalks, ADA curb ramps, etc.), as well as analysis of all connectivity. Schools included in the study were Della Icenhower Intermediate, Dunn Elementary, Moore Elementary, Boles Jr. High, Speer Elementary, and Thornton Elementary. The city was awarded approximately \$3.5 million for SRTS construction as a direct result of the effort and are planning to apply for more funding in the future, using the data and analysis derived from the assessments.

d. Upcoming Events – Robert Caskey, Vice-Chair, City of Frisco

Robert Caskey reviewed upcoming events and training opportunities for active transportation professionals.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcoq.org/BPAC.

3. TxDOT Interim Guidance for Design Practices to Accommodate Bicycles – Kenneth Mora, TxDOT

Kenneth provided an overview of TxDOT’s Bicycle Accommodation Design Guidance, which will serve as interim guidance until it is formally adopted into TxDOT’s Roadway Design Manual in July 2021. The guidance outlines flexible options related to planning, designing, engineering, and operating bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Exceptions to the design guidance include project locations that are located outside of a Metropolitan Planning Organization boundary limits with a population greater than 2,500 (urban cluster). Land use context and its influence on roadway users is outlined for urban and rural areas with examples provided for each (e.g., mixed land uses, central business districts, major transit terminals, low development densities, residential neighborhoods). Design guidance for facility types include shared use paths (sidepaths), separated bike lanes, buffered bike lanes, bike lanes, bike accessible shoulders, and shared lanes. Design exceptions and waivers are available for bike facilities if criteria cannot be met.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcoq.org/BPAC.

4. Comprehensive Accessibility Program – Becky Byford, TxDOT

Becky provided an overview of TxDOT’s Comprehensive Accessibility Program (TCAP), which is one of three components to comprise an ADA Transition Plan, the other two being policy practice services and building facilities. TxDOT developed a web viewer tool to assist in TCAP assessment, allowing users to view/analyze detailed active user facilities within corridor segments. The viewer includes full compliance reports and severity scores, which measure ADA compliance based on Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way and can be displayed as a linear density/heat map. The web viewer tool also includes activity scores which estimate the level of pedestrian usage around facilities such as government buildings, schools, hospitals, and bus stops. Severity and activity scores help determine an overall corridor ranking with a defined scoring scale defined in the ADA Transition Plan, and thus help local government prioritize ADA projects.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

5. Trinity Trails Mural Gallery Project and Trail Improvements – Tina Nikolic, TRWD

Tina provided an overview of Tarrant Regional Water District's (TRWD) Trinity Trails Mural Gallery project and various trail improvements. The trail improvements include 1.5 miles of separate soft surface "meandering" trail and 10' concrete trail, creating a dual path that separates bicyclists and pedestrians, reducing conflicts and improving safety. The improvements will be completed in three phases over the course of 12 months, between November of 2020 and November 2021. The Trinity Trails Mural Gallery creates a destination along the trails, encouraging the residents to adventure and explore, and improving the overall quality of the trail experience. The mural project's call for submissions garnered over 200 applications from artists around the world, with 23 ultimately chosen to paint the 27 structures.

More information on the Mural Gallery: Trinitytrailsfw.com

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

6. NCTCOG Updates

a. Update on the Bishop Arts Bicycle Parking Pilot Project – Matt Fall

Matt Fall provided an update for the Bicycle Parking Pilot Project in the Dallas Bishop Arts District completed in December 2020. The project was part of the "Blue-Green-Grey Silo-Busting" initiative approved by the Regional Transportation Council in 2018. The \$38,500 project provides eco-friendly bike parking and public seating for bicyclist and pedestrians. The seating area includes steel bars for locking up to 13 bicycles while seating up to 15 residents comfortably. The parklet design is open sourced so anyone can replicate the structure. The plans and more information can be found at:

https://nctcog.org/nctcg/media/transportation/docsmaps/plan/bike/bishop_Arts_parklet_010821.pdf

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

b. Bicycle and Pedestrian Demand Zones – Julie Anderson

Julie provided an overview of draft bicycle and pedestrian demand zones, which are areas in the region with the potential highest demand for walking and bicycling. These zones may ultimately be incorporated into the Mobility 2045 Update. Criteria considered for these demand zones includes employment and population density, areas with a high density of short trips, low-income populations (EJ), zero car households, and areas with historically high vehicle congestion. As each of these factors use different levels of measurement, the data was normalized to rank the zones with the highest potential mode shift from automotive travel to active transportation. Existing, funded, and planned Regional Veloweb connections were overlaid on top of the demand zones to analyze connectivity to areas with high potential for increasing number of active users. The demand zones are intended to be used to help prioritize the implementation of the Regional Veloweb alignments.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

c. **Best Practices for Trails and Bikeways GIS Fields and Attributes – Daniel Snyder**

Daniel outlined best practices for trails and bikeway GIS fields and attributes for shapefiles in support of NCTCOG's Regional Trails and On-Street Bikeways Network geodatabase. Factors to consider include AASHTO compliant trail widths (minimum 10-14 feet), facility types (e.g., shared use paths, bike lanes, etc.), accurate location of off-street trail alignments, accurate off-street sidepath alignments, on-street bikeway alignments (digitized as centerlines rather than two lines for each side of road) and line snapping.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

d. **Monthly Trail Usage Update – Daniel Snyder**

Daniel provided an update on monthly trail usage across eight locations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Trail usage has continued to remain significantly higher each month since the COVID-19 pandemic began in early 2020. With the exception of the month of February in 2021, where there was not a significant increase, primarily due to the statewide winter storm emergency with below freezing temperatures.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

e. **Possible Additional Regional Database Trail Attributes – Daniel Snyder**

Daniel requested feedback regarding additional regional database trail attributes for trail/bikeway GIS files, including on/off-street facilities, funding status, facility type, local or regional trail, and regional trail names. Attributes for recreation-focused facilities such as park loops are not included in the regional database. However, some ideas considered included are soft surface trails and lighting infrastructure.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

f. **Mobile Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Equipment – Daniel Snyder**

Daniel provided information regarding NCTCOG mobile bicycle and pedestrian count equipment that is available for loan and short-term use by local governments. Mobile counters contain two sets of off-street or on-street pneumatic tube counters. A poll was conducted requesting feedback on barriers agencies have that may preclude local government staff from borrowing equipment, how the data can be used, and what season is most preferred for using the counters. BPAC members should contact Daniel if they are interested in borrowing the equipment.

For any questions, please contact Daniel Snyder at: DSnyder@nctcog.org.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

g. 2015-2019 Online Interactive Bicycle/Pedestrian Crash Maps – Bobby Kozub

Bobby provided an overview of the new online, interactive bicycle and pedestrian crash map that will complement the existing 2015-2019 maps posted on the NCTCOG website. The online map allows users to filter injury level, location, and user type per square mile. The interactive map may be shared via web link or used to print selected areas of interest.

2015-2019 Crash Map: <https://arcg.is/1e9nrT>

Crash Information Website: www.nctcog.org/trans/plan/bikeped/bicycle-and-pedestrian-crash-information

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

7. Other Business/ Open Discussion

Kathy announced the date of BPAC's next scheduled meeting, to be held on August 18, 2021.

Members in Attendance at the May 19, 2021, BPAC meeting:

Krishan Patel	City of Allen
Anthony Cisneros	City of Arlington
Heather Houseman	City of Burleson
Marcos Fernandez	City of Carrollton
Shawn Ray	City of Cedar Hill
Laura Melton	City of Cleburne
Jessica Scott	City of Dallas
Chandra Muruganandham	City of Denton
Athena Seaton	City of Duncanville
Alexander Harvey	City of Euless
Mitzi L. Davis	City of Farmers Branch
Jeremy Williams	City of Fort Worth
Robert Caskey	City of Frisco
Josue De La Vega	City of Garland
Brett Huntsman	City of Grand Prairie
Kathy Nelson	City of Grapevine
Letora Anderson	City of Greenville
Christi Pruitt	City of Haltom City
Cody Owen	City of Irving
Cody Maberry	City of Keller
Stacie Anaya	City of Lewisville
Chris Ray	City of Mansfield
Robyn Root	City of McKinney
Wes McClure	City of Mesquite
Heather Dowell	City of Midlothian
Joe Pack	City of North Richland Hills
Drew Brawner	City of Plano
Jessica Shutt	City of Richardson
Larry Wright (For C Monsalve)	City of Rowlett
Eve Morgan	City of The Colony
Colby Collins	City of Waxahachie
Chad Marbut	City of Weatherford
Robert Diaz	City of Wylie
Minesha Reese	Dallas County
Patricio Gallo	DART
Tim Palermo	DCTA
Kevin St. Jacques	Hunt County
Lee Gilbert	Rockwall County
Janna Tidwell	Town of Addison
Kari Biddix	Town of Flower Mound

Jennifer Grissom	Trinity Metro/ Fort Worth Bike Sharing
Phillip Hays	TxDOT Fort Worth
James Palmgren	TxDOT Dallas

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance at the May 19, 2021, BPAC meeting:

Julie Anderson	NCTCOG
Berrien Barks	NCTCOG
Erin Curry	NCTCOG
Matt Fall	NCTCOG
Kevin Kokes	NCTCOG
Bobby Kozub	NCTCOG
Jody Loza	NCTCOG
Jeff Neal	NCTCOG
Tim O'Leary	NCTCOG
Chris Reed	NCTCOG
Sam Simmons	NCTCOG
Daniel Snyder	NCTCOG
David Tidwell	NCTCOG
Karla Weaver	NCTCOG