

Minutes from the November 15, 2007 meeting of the WMPO BikePed Committee:

1. Resolution Adopting the Cross City Trail map

A map showing the preferred alignment for the Cross City Trail was distributed to the committee for adoption. A resolution adopting the map passed unanimously. The map will be presented to the Wilmington City Council in January 2008 for adoption.

2. Prioritization of the Universe of Bicycle Projects

The committee discussed criteria that will be used to prioritize the list of 53 bicycle projects. The criteria developed include: 1) East Coast Greenway/River to the Sea Bikeway/Cross City Trail, 2) population served, 3) proximity to schools, parks & attractions, 4) cost, 5) existing infrastructure, and 6) multimodal opportunities. Chris, Anthony and Niel agreed to assist Joshua in the development of the matrix.

3. River to the Sea Bikeway Ride

The committee selected Saturday, May 3, 2008 as the date for the next River to the Sea Ride from downtown Wilmington to Wrightsville Beach and back. Chris, Dave, Bobby, Tom and someone from the American Institute of Architects Local chapter volunteered to serve on the organization committee.

4. Update on Dawson Street Crossing

A few months back, the WMBPC, TCC and TAC all passed resolutions supporting safety improvements to the River to the Sea Bikeway crossing at Dawson Street. City/WMPO staff met with NCDOT staff from Division 3 and the Bike-Ped Division and developed a solution. The road will be narrowed to three lanes at the crossing and a pedestrian refuge island will be installed to allow bikers and walkers to cross the roadway in two stages. The island will also improve the sightlines for bikes and walkers attempting to cross the street. The improvements will be funded jointly by Division 3 and the Bike-Ped Division.

5. Update on Safe Routes to School Applications

Joshua updated the committee on the status of Safe Routes to School applications. Bradley Creek, Holly Tree and Parsley Elementary Schools have all been selected by NCDOT as demonstration schools and, as such, they are eligible for \$100,000-\$250,000 in grant funding for engineering, encouragement, education, enforcement and evaluation projects. The city/WMPO will be submitting applications for all three schools. They are due at 5:00pm on December 14, 2007.

6. Update on Safe Routes to School workshop

The committee discussed concerns about the Hawkeswater development surrounding Belville Elementary School and the lack of bicycle and pedestrian connectivity with the school. The developer has agreed to add pedestrian access easements to the subdivision plat for possible future use depending on cooperation from the school board. The development is located in unincorporated Brunswick County.

7. Update on Brunswick County Greenway

Niel and Dave discussed the progress that has occurred with the potential greenway along the high-tension powerline easement between the Brunswick Forest development and the planned Brunswick County Nature Park just north of Town Creek. The Town of Leland, Brunswick County and the Brunswick Forest developer have all been in communication.

8. WMPO BikePed Committee Holiday Party

The holiday party will be held at 5:15pm on December 20, 2008 at the Water Street

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Restaurant (Water Street between Market Street and Dock Street). Chris agreed to confirm with the restaurant owner prior to the get together.

8. Other business

The committee discussed inviting Carmen, the New Hanover County Board of Education facilities manager, to the next meeting in January to discuss bicycle and pedestrian accommodations at area schools. The committee also agreed to investigate state school design standards and land requirements to discuss at a future meeting.

Adjournment