

Minutes from May 8, 2008 meeting of the WMPO BikePed Committee:

Agenda

1. Update on River to the Sea Ride 2008: O'Keefe provided a recap of the 2008 River to Sea Ride, held on May 3. There were

145 participants. According to O'Keefe, the preparation work helped a lot and the event ran rather smoothly. There was a

little bit of confusion regarding the police escort, but it worked out in the end.

Some suggestions for improving next year's ride include:

- a) police escort over Bradley Creek Bridge, with possible closure of part of the bridge
- b) soliciting help from a motorcycle group to provide escort
- c) add bus information to ride brochure for those who may be too tired to continue or experience equipment problems
- d) publicize pedestrian push button at Eastwood Road and Wrightsville Avenue
- e) advertise ride in other cities

2. Update on Wilmington Pedestrian Plan: RJ Eldridge from Toole Design Group presented the Walk Wilmington Pedestrian Plan to

the committee.

3. Discussion of Wilmington Pedestrian Plan: The committee then identified pedestrian constraints and opportunities within the

city, including:

- a) North Carolina is very automobile-centric
- b) city should use events to promote walking similar to Bogota, Columbia
- c) focus on connecting existing systems
- d) we have a culture of cars, but things are changing
- e) problems with turning vehicles yielding
- f) lack of sidewalks where there are worn paths
- g) no way to cross arterials, specifically Military Cutoff Road

4. Other business: Ride Bike to Work Week: The committee brainstormed different ideas for the upcoming Bike to Work Week.

Adjournment