

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
March 4, 2010**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Charlie Hileman, Chair
Austin Brown
Heidi Perry
Seth LaJeunesse
Michael Krasnov
Robin Michler
Sammy Slade, Alderman

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Brubaker

I. Call to Order

Charlie Hileman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM.

II. Approval of minutes

MOTION (LaJeunesse, Michler second): TAB approved the February 18, 2010, meeting minutes. Ayes (4): Hileman, LaJeunesse, Krasnov, Michler. Nays (0). Abstain (2): Brown, Perry. Absent (0).

III. Bike to Work Week planning update

Brubaker provided an update on BtWW planning. The TAB provided feedback on when to hold the events, incentives, and how to get people involved. Hileman suggested a challenge program with Town staff where one or two inspired people can get others to participate. One issue is that many employees live far away. Brown suggested also including the Aldermen. LaJeunesse asked if employers could be involved too. Hileman said that Triangle Transit has pledged for employees and prizes for those who pledge. LaJeunesse described parking cash-out programs. Michler described what Lexington, KY, has done: handing out BtWW event calendars, prizes for bike commuters, and progressive dinners by bike. Slade said there could be collaboration with the Transition Towns Great Unleashing event on May 15.

The TAB discussed advertising strategies, e.g. ads on buses. Hileman asked if we could coordinate with a Safe Routes to School event. Brubaker mentioned a Bike Chapel Hill event being planned by Chapel Hill's Bike-Ped Advisory Board. The TAB discussed potential coordination with the Recyclery.

MOTION (Perry, Brown second): The Transportation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Aldermen that they – and through their encouragement, Town staff – join the TAB members in meeting the SmartCommute Challenge and commit to commuting at least one time during the

SmartCommute Challenge period by a means other than single-occupancy vehicle. Ayes (6): Hileman, Brown, Perry, LaJeunesse, Krasnov, Michler. Nays (0). Abstain (0). Absent (0).

The TAB asked how these events would be advertised. Brubaker said he would let everyone know when the events were set in stone so that they could begin advertising.

IV. Economic stimulus, round two: jobs bill

Brubaker presented the components of the bill. A proposed 90-day obligation limit means that it will likely be restricted to smaller projects that can be implemented quickly. Also, projects have to be eligible for funding under the surface transportation program. The TAB discussed what types of projects could be presented to the MPO per the MPO's request. These included bike lanes and sharrows, maintenance, and safety improvements on N. Greensboro St. The TAB discussed hiring a staff member or temp worker to pursue funding opportunities.

V. Pedestrian activity on N. Greensboro St.

TAB members confirmed that the day and time to propose to NCDOT would be April 19th at 5:30pm. They discussed the importance of inviting division traffic and highway engineers. [Continued after the staff update.] Hileman said suggested going to a Board of Aldermen meeting to present the TAB's work. He talked with Chief Hutchinson and she said the Police Department was stung by the criticism at the Board of Aldermen meeting. The Police Department *has* been enforcing crosswalks. They have a plainclothes officer attempt to cross and an on-duty officer ticket motorists who do not comply with the law. Hileman said that the police cannot get everyone to comply unless there is also an education campaign. When people drive into town, they should realize that they are expected to stop for pedestrians. Krasnov said that this needs to be an on-going campaign that produces a cultural change. The TAB discussed various advertising strategies, e.g. PSAs, ads, and news articles in the *Citizen*; posters placed in strategic locations; coordinating with Carr Mill Mall and Harris Teeter; and putting local high school students to work through service hours. Hileman stressed that the three areas to address are infrastructure, education, and enforcement. The TAB discussed that Brown's research on Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) should be included in the presentation and meeting. The TAB discussed what to present to the Board of Aldermen and when.

VI. Main St. road diet

LaJeunesse asked TAB members how they pictured W. Main St. (south of Hillsborough Rd.). Traffic on that stretch does not warrant four lanes; the ADT is only 11,000. He described a road diet with one lane on each side with a center turn lane, where vehicle delay would not be significantly different. There is an opportunity to comment on this if NCDOT plans to resurface the segment. Michler asked if a center turn lane was necessary for such a short stretch.

VII. Staff update

The TAB discussed further what projects could receive potential “round two” stimulus funds.

VIII. Other business

Slade said he talked with a citizen who is looking to get Triangle Transit service to Carrboro. TAB members thanked Brown for his research on RRFBs.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 PM.