



## **PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE CITIZENS GROUP**

**Meeting Notes  
9 March 2009  
City Hall – Room 2000**

### **Attendees:**

Shanie Bartlett, Ruth Reeder, Pat Mann, Jerry King, John Patterson, Boyd Walker, Matt Gillman, Yon Lambert, Karen Callahan.

### **Executive Summary:**

This is the first meeting of the full committee since November 3, 2008. However, subcommittees have been meeting. Additional information and continual updates may be found on the City of Alexandria Bicycle and Walking web site at <http://www.alexandriava.gov/localmotion>

The meeting began at 7:00 pm and concluded at 9:00 pm

### **Existing Projects:**

#### **Pedestrian and Bicycle Projects and Funding**

1. Holmes Run/Chambliss Crossing –A contract has been initiated with the vendor, Kimley-Horn, with a community meeting scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss the project. For those interested in this pedestrian/bicycle crossing into Glen Hills Park in Fairfax County, additional meetings are scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm at William Ramsey Rec and May 30, 2009 from 12-2 pm at Buddy Ford Nature Center. Project completion is scheduled for summer/fall 2009. More info >>  
<http://alexandriava.gov/localmotion/info/default.aspx?id=20184>
2. Tarleton Trail – The design for this unpaved connection between Holmes Run Greenway and North Gordon Street has been completed with a new construction start date in spring/summer.
3. Eisenhower Avenue Phase 1B - The existing Eisenhower trails have been resurfaced. The trail now connects with a shared use path that continues westward towards the bridge over Cameron Run near the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter. This is part of a two phase project. The next phase is an underpass under Eisenhower Avenue.



### **Bicycle Parking**

The City is continuing to increase the number of bicycle parking locations throughout the City. We have begun to experiment with on-street bicycle locations. Work is being done on a map of City bicycle parking locations. Contact [Yon.Lambert@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Yon.Lambert@alexandriava.gov) if you know of any locations in the public right of way, which meets general requirements, requiring additional bicycle parking.

### **Wayfinding**

A BAR work session will be held on March 18, 2009 for the final review of the Phase 1 signs and will be on the April 1<sup>st</sup> BAR docket. Phase 1 focuses on Old Town pedestrian and parking signs. As funding becomes available, the focus in the other phases will be on vehicular directions, bicycle trails, neighborhood signs, local attractions, and City gateways. Another wayfinding BAR work session will be in September 2009.

### **New Projects**

**Street Smart Campaign** - March 23<sup>rd</sup> is the kick-off for this campaign lasting until April 17<sup>th</sup>. During this time, Alexandria Police will enforce bicycle safety laws near Metro locations, major bicycle corridors (6-7 locations). In 2008, the police issued over 1,000 warnings and over 400 citations to pedestrians, drivers and bicyclist. City staff will also place posters in bus shelters at subways and other locations with a high bicycle/pedestrian accident volume

**Bicycle-Friendly Community Application** – Part of the Spin City 2009 initiative was to receive accreditation as a Bicycle-Friendly Community. The deadline for submitting parts 1 and 2 of the application for accreditation to the American League of Bicyclist is March 13<sup>th</sup>. There are 5 levels of designations that could be awarded. Input is welcomed from the public. Citizens will be contacted to verify answers on the application. Rankings will be based against those cities and counties having already received designation. Results of the application submittal should be known in early May.

Bicycle counts will begin in three different areas of the City in spring 2009 – King and Union, King and Royal and the Holmes Run Trail. A VDOT bicycle count will be held at Four Mile Run.



**Eco-City Alexandria Update** - The City approved the first Eco-City Action Plan in the region on January 24th. The Phase I consists of 41 goals and 133 action items, which focus on short-term environmental actions. For those interested, on Monday, May 11 there will be a Eco-City Action Plan Open House at the new Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. This will be an opportunity for all to review and discuss the draft Phase II Environmental Action Plan which focuses on long-term actions to make Alexandria an Eco-City. There will also be a “call to action” by asking residents to voluntarily define and commit to specific roles, responsibilities, and actions to promote environmental sustainability throughout the community.

**Active Transportation Update** - City staff is participating in the Rails-to-Trails Active Transportation 2010 campaign and has submitted a “case statement” along with Arlington County. More information is here >> [http://www.railstotrails.org/whatwedo/trailadvocacy/case\\_statements.html](http://www.railstotrails.org/whatwedo/trailadvocacy/case_statements.html)

**Stimulus Funding** - The City has set up a formal framework to assist in acquiring stimulus funds. Projects currently being considered are listed on-line here >> <http://www.alexandriava.gov/recovery/> Preprojects that have been submitted as of April 15, 2009 include: “Bicycle Sharing (\$500,000)”, “Bicycle Parking at Major Transit Stops (\$500,000)”, and “DASH Bus Bike Racks (\$400,000)” among others. A full list is available on-line here >> <http://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/special/stimulus/ARRAPotentialProjectSubmissions041009.pdf>

### **Key Upcoming Events**

April 25<sup>th</sup> will be the City’s Earth Day celebration at Brenman Park from 10 am – 2 pm. The theme is “Take the Green Route”. Focus will be on environmental friendly alternative transportation.

May 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am will be the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Shirlington underpass which is from Glebe Road to Shirlington. More info >> <http://www.commuterpage.com/eventdetail.cfm?eventid=956>

May 15<sup>th</sup> is “Bike To Work Day”. We will celebrate the occasion in Market Square from 6:30 – 8:30 am. There will be all sorts of giveaways from the exhibitors and contributors.

May 9<sup>th</sup> from 10-1 at Cora Kelley Rec will be an adult Confident Cycling Class presented by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA). A second class will be held May 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-9 pm at Mt. Vernon Rec. The focus will be on bicycle skills and maintenance.



In April, the Local Motion Bicycle Ambassadors will kick off their season. They will be assisting at all events with bicycle valet parking, bike safety information, and distributing City bike maps.

### **Public Input/Questions & Answers**

- Woodrow Wilson Bridge trails opens in early June.
- Due to budgetary constraints, there will not be a Arlington-Alexandria Bike Ride this year. A larger bike ride traveling to Washington, DC is scheduled for the end of September. The goal is to have more jurisdictions to participate.
- Mt. Vernon Elementary School's "Weekly Walking Wednesday" begin on April 15<sup>th</sup>. April 22<sup>nd</sup> is their Walk/Bike-to-School Day. Their Bike Rodeo and Family Fun Fair will be on May 9<sup>th</sup>. For information on initiating similar events at other City elementary schools, contact [Yon.Lambert@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Yon.Lambert@alexandriava.gov) .