

Notes from the Philadelphia Cycling Committee Meeting

July 20th 2010

Market St and JFK Boulevard Bike Lanes

Special Guests Nancy Goldenberg Vice President of Planning at Center City District (CCD) and Frank Jaskiewicz from JzTI came in to discuss the proposed cycletracks on Market St and JFK between b15th and 20th Streets. CCD surveyed adjacent property owners and managers as to what changes that they would like see on Market and JFK and all of them stated that the addition of bike lanes is the number one transportation improvement needed.

Original proposal was to make both streets two way, but the study determined that is was not feasible especially with the installation of bike lanes.

Preliminary concept 9 foot bike lane and 6 foot landscaped island. One motor vehicle lane on both streets would be eliminated. From 4 lanes to 3 also the width of the streets would be reduced to 10 feet.

Spencer Finch asked about the possibility of a contra-flow bike lane on 15th between Market and JFK. Creating a partial contiguous loop, it is thought that this will help to reduce wrong way riding for cyclists on the 1500 block of Market who will probably use 16th to get to the JFK westbound bike lane.

The idea of raised crosswalks in the bike lane was also discussed, some Committee members raised concern about this. Frank J. said that the design is very preliminary and that it could be modified.

CCD is looking at ways to fund the project. Sarah Stuart suggested a low cost temporary demo using paint and delineators. Nancy G. stated that at this time the CCD would oppose that idea as they would prefer to construct the project all at once.

Station Square Project

Sarah briefed everyone about the soon to be constructed Station Square, which is a project that will alter the frontage of 30th Street Station, 2900 Block of Market St and the IRS/Old Post Office Building Frontage.

There is a concern about the lack of community input on the project. Earlier renderings suggested a pedestrian friendly plaza but the current plans eliminated many of the original ideas and the current lane configuration on Market Street will kept intact. The Bicycle Coalitions has concerns about the lack of bike lanes which would help connect bike lanes west of 34th Street and the proposed 20th to 15th Street bike lanes and the Schuylkill River Park Trail.

There are currently no bike racks planned for Station Square, however the Bicycle Coalition is working with the University City District to investigate bike rack installation. Sarah will work to obtain current plans for the project.

Adopt A Rack Round Two

Charles Carmalt Philadelphia Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator stated that the city is waiting for exact allocation of federal funds available for the Adopt A Rack installation. The plan is for the installation of 400 more on street bike racks.

New Business

TIGER 2 application near completion, numerous projects will cover four states (NJ, NJ, PA and DE). More money for planning is included in this round of funding.

BCGP is proposing a two way cycle-track on the Grays Ferry Bridge which will connect the Grays Ferry Crescent Trail with Paschall Ave and Bartrams Garden. Sarah and John will be meeting with

The BCGP submitted comments on the following projects:

The Walnut Street Bridge/Schuylkill Avenue intersection which a project funded by the original TIGER GREAT PA/NJ funds. The proposal calls for the elimination of the exclusive right turn lane. The Bicycle Coalition favors moving the stop bar and crosswalk east of Schuylkill Ave effectively creating an urban intersection. As well as the addition of extending the bike lane past the stop bar to form a bike box. Which will allow bicyclists to get ahead of turning traffic.

The Parkway Foundations proposed redesign of Eakins Oval . BCGP proposes eliminating or minimizing conflict points around the oval.

Next Meeting

Tuesday August 17th 2010 at 6:30 BCGP Education Office 1500 Walnut St. Suite 305