

Bike/Ped Coalition (BPC) of York County Meeting - Wed., January 5, 2022, 9am - Zoom
Next BPC meeting – Wed., Feb. 2, 2022, 9am

Meeting participants: **Liz Duda**, Co-chair (Wholespire YC, TC Healthy Kids); **Alex Boyce** (Rock Hill Planning); **Luther Dasher**, Advocacy (RFATS Citizen Advisory Committee); **Danny Jones** (Rock Hill); **Dr. David Keely** (RFATS Citizen Advisory Committee; Wholespire YC); **Candra Riley** (SC DHEC); **Chris Stephens** (York County); **Janet Wojcik** (Winthrop; Wholespire YC), **Steve Yaffe** (Yaffe Mobility)

Meeting summary: Participants shared items of interest to the group, including groups they are in and initiatives they are working on. People shared ideas and offered support. Strategy discussion covered the mission, vision, focus, people involved (members, partners and leaders), and will continue into next meeting.

Followups

1. Potential future focus:
 - a) Safe access to parks
 - b) Safe routes to schools (continued; important given SC disbanded Safe Routes to School)
 - c) York County bike routes
 - Route assessment
 - Signage
 - Mapping
 - Promotion
 - d) Advocacy activities
 - e) Advisory roles
 - f) Input into comprehensive plans
 - York County
2. Strategy discussion will continue into next meeting.
3. Duda will distribute revised wording proposals for mission, vision, strategy, for people's feedback.
4. All should consider our next action items, structure, membership, leaders.

Items of Interest to the Group

1. Janet Wojcik – Will join **American Fitness Advisory Board** now that the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) is suspending her workgroup, the ActivEarth Task Force. American Fitness Index.org ranking of 100 cities showed the Charlotte area MSA (including Rock Hill) as 67th last year.
 - a) *We could potentially take a deeper look at **safe access to parks** going forward.
2. Luther Dasher – Continues to actively **advocate** by keeping up with People for Bikes; Adventure Cyclists; Rails to Trails; and the Palmetto Cycling Coalition. He sends letters to legislators whenever appropriate and posts information to the BPC Facebook page (which Duda notes we appreciate). As an RFATS Citizen Advisory Committee member, he ensures that cycling is included upfront in discussions (bike paths; lanes). RFATS Policy Committee meetings remaining virtual challenge his ability to keep cycling in the forefront of the mayors' and transportation officials' planning.
 - a) *Dasher can let Duda know if he wants her to connect him to the new Tega Cay mayor who will be joining the RFATS Policy Committee.
3. Danny Jones – Focusing on **York County bike routes**.
 - a) **Signage** - Has been communicating with Tom Bell and Ben Ullman and about signage; drove most of route 1 and all of route 2 and noted a few locations with missing signs and where they need to be replaced. He didn't get to route 3 (though crossed it) or 5 though can in the near future. He did not do the Fort Mill route and is not sure to what extent people use the Bike York County route in Fort Mill. Luther Dasher notes the Fort Mill route has heavy traffic. Unclear if roads and streets are intact, given development. Chris Stephens notes it has been awhile since York County inventoried the routes. Steve Yaffe notes an area on route 2 that

was repaved with at most a foot to the right of the serrated white edge line, against SCDOT standards.

- *Duda reminded Stephens that BPC can support bike routes updates (as Jones is doing).
 - *Had updated data. Might need to create an app.
- b) **Gravel ride routes** - Gravel rides are popular, with people buying gravel bikes in addition to road bikes. He has done gravel rides. Can we connect loop through Kings Mountain Park in Cherokee County? Loop routes are more favorable than “out and back” route. We will be limited if we can’t reach Chester County and maybe Cherokee (Kings Mountain and Blacksburg). Lancaster County also has gravel roads but riders would have to cross a river.
- c) **Mapping** –
- Digital mapping likely will be more successful than paper. Using the digital “[Ride with GPS](#),” we could promote York County. He could work with a technology person. Yaffe has this app and sees the Sharons route; from South Point High School; Rock Hill.
 - Jefferson Street kiosk is still there with nothing on it. We can use that if we decide to print paper maps.
 - Is the [York County Regional Chamber](#) still keeping up with mapping? Some routes said “map this loop” but it didn’t have that info (downloading the route), just the map. *Jones would have to look into that.
- d) Dave Keely notes that the RHSD’s India Hook Elementary [School Improvement Council](#) addressed pedestrian safety on Herlong, collaborating with SC DOT and the city to widen the school zone to include the signal at Ebinport. Still have speeding issues in that section and are working with Rock Hill to periodically have officers monitoring speed as they approach the end of the school zone.
- *With the state’s disbanding of Safe Routes to School, which looked at bike/ped safety, we don’t have the state-level push that we used to have. Awareness needs to be improved of this area.
- e) Chris Stephens shares that the county’s two current priorities: a recode (next 1-2 months); and a 5-year [comprehensive plan](#) update which adds a bike/ped and pedestrian goal to the [transportation element](#) (see the 01/29/2021 [transportation element overview](#), [snapshot](#) and [planning commission meeting notes](#)).
- *Yaffe asks what safety tracking the county does?
 - *Duda asks how the public, including the BPC, can have input into the comprehensive plan update? Stephens noted that the planning commission needs to see it and comment on it first.

Strategy Discussion

4. Mission, vision, strategy
 - a) How to include rolling of all types, as opposed to just bicycling, into mission, vision, strategy
 - b) Duda will write up vision proposal and share in writing with members for feedback
 - c) Goals
 - d) Get the perspective of Amy Gonzalez, Clover, York
 - e) As efforts gain steam in York County, we may want to add transit to our mission.
5. Is our membership base appropriate or are we missing important voices?
 - a) BPCYC should engage/educate the business community so that large employers can be a voice of influence. We could present at a chamber of commerce.
 - b) Confirm that we are including all city/town planners.
 - c) BPC presents to realtors on anything related to neighborhood physical activity and safety with rolling and walking. And what BPC does. Present to realtors on Walkability Score and

- what BPC does. Talk about why scores are so low. They can tell us what we might work on from policy stand pointing
- d) Neighborhood associations – Talk to **Rock Hill Housing and Neighborhood Services** person who facilitates neighborhood associations. We can ask them to present to us on what they are dealing with. Street lighting issues. Rock Hill Council of Neighborhoods works with this person and they have monthly meetings.
 - e) Do our meeting times/dates work for people?
6. Is our structure appropriate?
- a) Should we try to become a group with an executive director, so we have more authority, like Charleston Moves?
 - b) Should BPCYC become a 501c3 non-profit?
 - c) In Forecast 2010, York County established a public health mission.
 - d) A new Park and Rec commission could get a formal county designation.
7. We are looking for leadership.
- a) Rick Lee in Rock Hill resident, former York County council, avid bicyclist, may have ideas; writer@comporium.net (Duda contacted via LinkedIn, inviting him to BPC LinkedIn group and offering to connect, on 1/14)
8. Mull over info and work on next BPC action item
- a) Can look at York County bike routes given, given development
 - b) Look at 2019 action item