# City of Houston
# Bicycle Advisory Committee

City Hall Annex Council Chambers, 900 Bagby Street, Public Level
Wednesday, July 24, 2019
2:30-4:30pm

## Agenda

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Following Items:

1. Director's Report
2. Chair's Report
3. Approval of April Minutes
4. Public Comment
5. BAC Communication Procedures
    a. Possible Action: Adopt new communications procedures
6. Presentation on Houston Bike Plan Biennial Report
7. No Parking in the Bike Lane Update
8. Build 50 Challenge Update
9. Vision Zero Update
10. E-Bikes on Trails
11. Announcements

The public is invited to speak for up to two (2) minutes each either at the beginning of the meeting or at the end. The public is also encouraged to submit written comments to bac@houstontx.gov. Updates and committee notes will be available

**Minutes of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)**

**July 24, 2019**
Meeting held in
Council Chambers, Public Level, City Hall Annex
2:30 p.m.

**Call to Order**
Chair Maya Ford called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. with a quorum present.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maya Ford, Chair | |
| Clark Martinson, Vice Chair | Absent |
| Toloria Allen | |
| Kristine Anthony | Absent |
| Katrina Bayer | |
| Oni Blair | |
| Neil Bremner | Absent |
| Robin Holzer | |
| Beth Martin | |
| Yuhayna Mahmud | |
| Clint McManus | |
| Veon McReynolds | |
| Amar Mohite | |
| Alejandro Perez | Absent |
| Ana Ramirez Huerta | Absent |
| Sandra Rodriguez | |
| Mike VanDusen | |
| Adam Williams | |

**EXOFFICIO MEMBERS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Ian Hlavacek | Absent |
| Margaret Wallace Brown | |
| Juvenal Robles | |

**1. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
The Director's Report was given by Interim Director Margaret Wallace Brown. Jennifer Ostlind was on vacation. Interim Director Brown thanked the Committee for their service and listed their value the Committee adds to implementing the Houston Bike Plan. She established a commitment to completing the Vision Zero Action Plan by September 30, 2020.

**2. CHAIR'S REPORT**
Chair Maya Ford provided the Chair's Report. Chair Ford congratulated the Planning Department for carrying out the Vision Zero Executive Order. In the last nine months, the Committee brought Vision Zero to the table and wrote a resolution for the Mayor to pass a Vision Zero Executive Order.

**3. APPROVAL OF APRIL MINUTES**
Committee action: Approve the April 24, 2019 Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting minutes.

Motion: **VanDusen** Second: **Mahmud** Vote: **Unanimous** Abstaining: **None**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**
Public comment was invited after approval of the minutes and again at the end of the meeting.

Jessica Wiggins spoke at the end of the meeting. She stated that a strong EO is important to advocacy organizations because it gives them tools to hold governments accountable. The absence of shorter-term goals does not help advocates or the all of us be successful in meeting the long-term vision of eliminating traffic deaths. Jessica spoke to the Vision Zero Network about Houston's EO and she believes the EO lacks three of the nine goals: Transparency, Accountability and Equity.

**5. BAC COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES**
Staff member Melissa Beeler shared a draft framework for new Committee communications procedures, per Chair Ford's request. The framework would establish monthly BAC/Bike Plan updates in the Planning Department's Monthly Planner newsletter and clear internal procedures to disseminate BAC activities. Discussion ensued. The scope listed in the procedures was amended to include monthly and yearly totals of crashes and fatalities for all road users, pedestrians and bicyclists. The Committee did not think a vote was necessary to establish the procedures.

**6. PRESENTATION ON HOUSTON BIKE PLAN BIENNIAL REPORT**
Staff member Melissa Beeler presented on the purpose and outline of the Biennial Report and provided preliminary data for two goals of the Houston Bike Plan. The purpose of the report is to assess performance of Plan implementation and identify opportunities to improve progress towards achieving the Plan's vision. An update will be given at subsequent meetings.

**7. NO PARKING IN THE BIKE LANE UPDATE**
Staff member Melissa Beeler presented a recap of Committee action taken at April's meeting and provided some details on how the City is moving forward to fulfill the action items.

**8. BUILD 50 CHALLENGE UPDATE**
Staff member Pete Eccles provided an update on Harris County Precinct One-funded projects.

In Near Northside, signal work still needs to be completed and should be wrapped up by Labor Day.

All projects in the Regional Spine in Eado, Third Ward and Midtown/Downtown except for Cullen Blvd have been awarded to a contractor. Cleburne and La Branch are prioritized to make substantial progress before the school year begins. Cullen Blvd requires more substantial coordination with TxDOT.

CIP-funded projects: 11th Street and Patterson Street have had more engagement meetings and have not yet gone into design. CIP funding has been unlocked by City Council and can be used to procure a contractor for design and construction.

**9. VISION ZERO UPDATE**
Staff member Lauren Grove presented an update on the progress made toward a Vision Zero Executive Order. The Executive Order will be signed within 2 weeks by Mayor Turner at a press conference. The Planning Department is planning its first Executive Committee meeting, after which an initial Task Force and Data Working Group can begin meeting. The Department is developing a timeline and process for drafting goals and deliverables. Discussion ensued. Committee members expressed concerns over not having data-driven target goals or milestones in the Executive Order.

**10. E-BIKES ON TRAILS**
Chair Ford and Committee Member Beth Martin led a discussion regarding E-Bikes on bayou trails in Houston. Houston B-Cycle has four e-bikes. At this time, electric vehicles are not allowed on bayou trails per City code. Martin also proposed to report on B-Cycle's E-Bike Pilot and the status of the City's dockless mobility recommendations at a future meeting. Discussed ensued.

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Committee member Katrina Bayer announced that the Downtown Management District has officially released the 2018 Downtown Commute Survey. Copies of the executive summary were passed out to the Committee.

Committee Member Sandra Rodriguez announced that she attended a bike ride in Gulfton with the help of Planning Department staff, LINK Houston, BikeHouston and many others. Forty people of all ages attended and rode along proposed bikeways in the area. She would like to do this bike ride every year.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business brought before the Committee, Chair Maya Ford adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

_____ _____

**Maya Ford**
**Chair**

**Margaret Wallace Brown**
**Interim Secretary**

**Houston Bicycle Advisory Committee Communications Procedures**

**Objective**

The purpose of the following communications procedures is to establish procedures for public communication regarding the activities of the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) within the City of Houston Planning & Development Department. These procedures will align expectations regarding the frequency, content and method of dissemination.

**Scope**

The scope of communication under this procedure is all projects, committees, plans, programs and policies coordinated or developed under the City of Houston Planning & Development Department. This includes but is not limited to, the following:

- Bicycle Advisory Committee memos and updates;
- Monthly and yearly total statistics for crashes and fatalities for all road users, pedestrians and bicyclists;
- Bike Plan infrastructure projects updates, such as engagement opportunities and progress reports;
- Education, such as how to use bikeway infrastructure or how to get involved;
- Bikeway Events;
- Any factual bicycle-related information related to the Houston Bike Plan; and
- Articles written with the public in mind that are easy to read and understand.

**Approach**

The Planning & Development Department on behalf of the BAC, will publish a "Houston Bike Plan" section within PDD's existing *Monthly Planner* newsletter.

The *Monthly Planner* is published on a schedule aligned with Bicycle Advisory Committee activities. It is published monthly, approximately two weeks after a meeting of the BAC. Potential newsletter content will be collected at each meeting of the Committee and subcommittees. All content will be reviewed by the BAC Chair. The Planning Department has final approval of all content.

**Timeline**

- Publication: Monthly
- Deadline for content typically needed by the 15th of the month
- Changes can be made up to the Thursday before the 1st of the month
- Monthly Planner release on or around the 12th of the month

# Bicycle Advisory Committee

## BAC Mission

To advise and make recommendations to the commission and the director on issues related to bicycling in the city including, but not limited to, amendments to the Bike Plan, bicycle safety and education, implementation of the Bike Plan, development of strategies for funding projects related to bicycling, and promoting public participation in bicycling.

## BAC Vision

By 2027, the City of Houston will be a Safer, More Accessible, Gold Level Bike-Friendly City

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

July 24, 2019 2:30-4:30pm
City Hall Annex Council Chamber

# Agenda

- Director's Report
- Chair's Report
- Approval of April Minutes
- Public Comment
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- Presentation on Houston Bike Plan Biennial Report
- No Parking in the Bike Lane Update
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# Houston Bike Plan Biennial Report

Melissa Beeler

Planning & Development Department

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# Purpose & Scope

Purpose: To support and assess performance of Plan implementation

The Plan recommends the report include the following:

- Alignment with Plan Houston goals and approach for implementation
- Highlight progress made on implementation
- Determine relative performance against the previous two years
- Assess trends in relative performance to the vision of Houston as a BFC
- Map exhibits publicly available online
- Develop updates to the strategic plan depending on what is needed and changing context, priorities and available resources
- Determine if new metrics may be more relevant, adjust current metrics if not aligned with overall goals **(BAC has a key role to play here)**
- Identify priority opportunities to continue to improve

# Outline

1. Introduction
   A. Establish purpose of the report
   B. Recap vision, goals of Houston Bike Plan
   C. Articulate alignment with Plan Houston goals and approach for implementation
   D. Describe report structure
2. Progress 2016-2018 (highlight progress)
   A. Miles of bikeways (compared to 2016) (map)
   B. Dollars spent on cycle infrastructure
   C. Progress on projects, policies and programs
3. Goals Performance Analysis
   A. Improve Safety
   B. Increase Access
   C. Increase Ridership
   D. Develop and Maintain Facilities
4. Recommendations

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# Metrics

**Vision: By 2027 Houston will be a Safer, More Accessible, Gold Level Bike-Friendly City**

| Goal Area | BFA Rating Areas: Enforcement | Education | Engineering | Evaluation | Encouragement | Key Outcomes | Performance Metrics | Current Performance | Performance Trend (+ - or neutral) | Data Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Improve Safety | | | | | | ✓ | # of bicycle related crashes reported | 361 | - | H-GAC |
| | | | | | | ✓ | # of bicycle fatalities per 10,000 commuters | 7.4 | + | H-GAC, US Census |
| | | | | ✓ | | | Disparity in bicycle mode share versus fatalities | 3.8 | + | H-GAC, US Census |
| | | ✓ | | | | | # of people who complete an approved bicycle education program | TBD | N/A | TBD |
| | | | | | ✓ | | # of "Bicycle Friendly Businesses" | 4 | Neutral | League of American Bicyclists |
| Increase Access | | | ✓ | | | | % jobs within ½ mile of a high-comfort bike facility | 46% | + | US Census |
| | | | ✓ | | | | % population within ½ mile of a high-comfort bike facility | | | |
| | | | | | | | • Overall population | 38% | + | US Census |
| | | | | | | | • Minority population | 32% | + | US Census |
| | | | | | | | • Low income population | 32% | + | US Census |
| | | | ✓ | | | | % of facilities within ¼ mile of a high-comfort bike facility: | | | |
| | | | | | | | • Transit nodes (transit centers, Park & Rides, and light rail stations) | 37% | + | METRO/City of Houston |
| | | | | | | | • Schools and libraries | 23% | + | City of Houston |
| | | | | | | | • Community and multi-service centers | 33% | + | City of Houston |
| | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | % population with comfortable access to greenways system (bayous and other trails) | 21% | + | US Census |
| Increase Ridership | | | | | | ✓ | Commute mode share | 0.5% | - | US Census |
| | | | | ✓ | | | # of permanent count stations | 2 | Neutral | H-GAC |
| | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | % growth in bicyclists observed through permanent count stations | TBD | N/A | H-GAC |
| | | | | ✓ | | | # of bike boardings on Metro per year | 258,094 | + | METRO |
| | | | | ✓ | | | # of bike share checkouts per year | 98,449 | + | Houston Bike Share |
| | | | | | ✓ | | Annual City events that support increased ridership (e.g., Sunday Streets, Tour de Houston, Bicycle Advisory Committee meetings) | 11 | Neutral | City of Houston |
| Develop and Maintain Facilities | | | ✓ | | | | Miles of high comfort bikeways per capita (per 10,000 people) | 1.17 | + | City of Houston/Census |
| | | | ✓ | | | | % of bikeways in good or better condition | TBD | N/A | City of Houston |
| | | | | | ✓ | | Population within ¼ mile of a bike share station | 27,900 | + | Houston Bike Share |
| | | | | | ✓ | | Jobs within ¼ mile of a bike share station | 155,600 | + | Houston Bike Share |
| | | | ✓ | | | | % of major transit nodes[1] with secured bike parking | 4% | Neutral | METRO |
| | | | | ✓ | | | Dedicated city staff (FTE) for bikeway program | 1 | Neutral | City of Houston |

[1] Major Transit Nodes include Rail Stations, Transit Centers, and Park & Ride Facilities

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# Improve Safety

| Performance Metrics | 2016 (BP) | 2018 | Trend | Data Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| # of bicycle related crashes reported | 361 | 485 | + | HPD |
| # of bicycle fatalities per 10,000 commuters | 7.4 | 11.5 | + | HPD/Census |
| Disparity in bicycle mode share versus fatalities | 3.8 | TBD | TBD | HPD/Census |
| # of people who complete an approved bicycle education program (Learn to Ride, LCI classes) | TBD | TBD | TBD | BH/Bike League |
| # of "Bicycle Friendly Businesses" and Universities | 4 | 8, plus 1 univ. | + | Bike League |

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# Increase Ridership

| Performance Metrics | 2016 (BP) | 2018 | Trend | Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Commute mode share | 0.54% | 0.53% | Neutral | Census |
| # of permanent count stations | 2 | 4 | + | H-GAC |
| % growth in bicyclists observed through permanent count stations | TBD | TBD | TBD | H-GAC |
| # of bike boardings on Metro per year | 258,094 | 279,338 | + | METRO |
| # of bike share checkouts per year | 98,449 | 165,585 | + | B-Cycle |
| Annual City events that support increased ridership (e.g., Bike to Work Day, Sunday Streets, Tour de Houston, Bicycle Advisory Committee meetings) | 11 | TBD | TBD | COH/all |

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# Next Steps

- Complete update of bikeways shapefile (completed and programmed bikeways)
- Complete all metrics
- Update at August BAC Infrastructure Subcommittee meeting
- Solicit recommendations and identify priority opportunities to continue to improve

# No Parking in the Bike Lane Update

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# BAC Action Taken

1. Request the Planning and Development Department to establish an internal policy for nonemergency City vehicles and contractors officially acting on behalf of the City to be prohibited from parking in bike lanes.
2. Request the Planning and Development Department to begin the process of passing a citywide ordinance prohibiting parking of any vehicle in the bike lane unless the vehicle is responding to an emergency and to provide policy recommendations to revise the City's traffic control plan.

# Moving Forward

- Series of 3 meetings to draft language and gain consensus
- Internal stakeholders
  - MOSE
  - HPW
  - PDD
  - ARA/ParkHouston

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# Vision Zero

- Executive Order and Press Conference ~ 2 weeks
- Immediate Actions
  - Initial Executive Committee meeting
    - Designate Task Force members
  - Initial Task Force meeting
  - Data Working Group
  - Stakeholder Engagement

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# Vision Zero

RESOLUTION NO. 20141120-1

WHEREAS, /

WHEREAS, fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 20140612

WHEREAS, standard as beautifu equitably support th "Austin Values and

WHEREAS, improvements to tra Austin "Safe Walk Community Health Safety Symposium, among others; and

WHEREAS, nature of traffic safe recommends develo

WHEREAS, being developed by Francisco, Chicago,

WHEREAS, multi community organizations including: AARP, ADA A Austin Fire Department, A Bike Austin, Capital Metro with Disabilities, Plannin Transportation Commission

WHEREAS, Vision injuries in the roadway, and in cities where it has been i

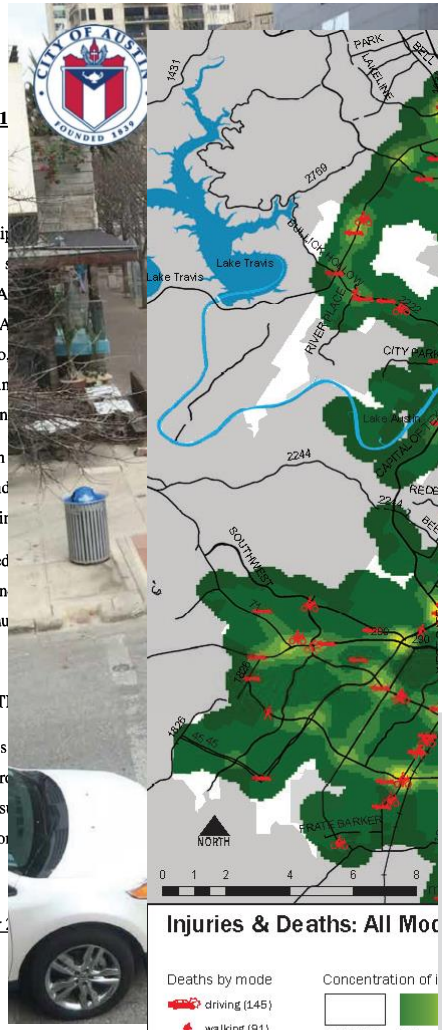
WHEREAS, the Ped Vision Zero for Austin an established strong commu

THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY T

The City Manager is Force should include a br breadth of traffic safety iss policy, along with any reco

ADOPTED: November




## Key Actions

| RESEARCH opportunities for policy change | |
|---|---|
| 51 | Consider changing the cite-and-release policy for people who drive dangerously, as listed in this plan's identified dangerous behaviors, without a license or with a suspended license. |
| 52 | Research enforcement techniques from other cities to enhance compliance with the Distracted Driving Ordinance. |
| 53 | Explore prohibiting motor vehicles passing from the left and turning right in front of a bus within 100 feet of an intersection. |
| 54 | Research and consider the impact of limiting the number or density of alcohol-serving establishments in certain areas. |
| 55 | Research and consider the effect of increasing the liquor tax (to decrease the amount of alcohol people drink). |
| 56 | Consider the traffic safety effects of a ban on (A) right turns on red and (B) left turns across traffic and/or when pedestrians have a walk signal in effect. |
| 57 | Consider the effect of a 24/7 sobriety program for those convicted of alcohol-related crimes. |
| 58 | Explore allowing prosecutors to work county and district cases (misdemeanor and felony cases), as is done in the field of family violence law. |
| 59 | Pursue changes to law via the state legislature to allow automated speed enforcement, including piloting automated speed enforcement in school zones. |
| 60 | Research community-based prevention practices to identify and intervene with at-risk populations. |

## Key Progress Metrics




- Working with Ending Community Homelessness (ECHO), Front Steps, Austin-Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC), and other social service providers, meet the community's short term goals to house Austinites experiencing homelessness.
- Effect of Transportation Demand Management program on VMT.



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# Next Meetings

**Infrastructure Subcommittee**

August 22, 2:30-4:30pm, 611 Walker, 6th Floor

**Education Subcommittee**

September 26, 2:30-4:30pm, 611 Walker, 6th Floor

**Bicycle Advisory Committee**

October 23, 2:30-4:30pm, City Hall Annex Council Chambers