

# City of Wilson Bicycle Plan Advisory Committee

January 23, 2008

## Committee Meeting

City of Wilson Operations Center

### Attendees:

Crag Smith

| Attendance          |                             |   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Name                | Company                     | Email   |
| Craig Smith         | Wilson Police Dept.         | <a href="mailto:csmith@wilsonnc.org">csmith@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| Kathy Garner        | Development Services Dept.  | <a href="mailto:kgarner@wilsonnc.org">kgarner@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| Paula<br>(Funness?) | Wilson Medical Center       |   |
| Jim Bradshaw        | UCPCOG (contract worker)    | <a href="mailto:soundingcastles@simflex.com">soundingcastles@simflex.com</a>  |
| Kevin Whalen        |                             | <a href="mailto:Kevin.whelen@dsm.com">Kevin.whelen@dsm.com</a> or<br><a href="mailto:wolfone_98@yahoo.com">wolfone_98@yahoo.com</a> |
| Chris Abells        | Wilson Fire Department      | <a href="mailto:cabells@wilsonnc.org">cabells@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| Dale Edmonds        | Parks and Recreation        | <a href="mailto:dedmonds@wilsonnc.org">dedmonds@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| Will Deaton         | Development Services Dept.  | <a href="mailto:wdeaton@wilsonnc.org">wdeaton@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| James Lamm          | Retired                     | <a href="mailto:James.lamm@embraqmail.com">James.lamm@embraqmail.com</a>  |
| Jim Davis           | Wilson County School System | <a href="mailto:jdavis@simflex.com">jdavis@simflex.com</a>  |
| Kevin Medeiros      | Development Service         | <a href="mailto:kmediros@wilsonnc.org">kmediros@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| Dennis Patton       | UCPCOG                      | <a href="mailto:dpatton@ucpcog.org">dpatton@ucpcog.org</a>  |
| Roger Lentz         | Development Services        | <a href="mailto:rlentz@wilsonnc.org">rlentz@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| Denise Boswell      | Development Services        | <a href="mailto:dboswell@wilsonnc.org">dboswell@wilsonnc.org</a>  |
| Jennifer Lewis      | Louis Berger Group          | <a href="mailto:jlewis@louisberger.com">jlewis@louisberger.com</a>  |

### Meeting Summary:

#### Introductions:

Roger Lentz opened the meeting by introducing Denise Boswell as the City coordinator/manager for the Bike Plan Project. Denise indicated her interest in the project and that it would be a plan for all Wilson citizens.



Jennifer Lewis presented an overview of the Agenda before taking up the main topics for the meeting. She announced that there would be two “working papers”, one draft report and then a final report and that most of Working Paper 1 would be discussed at this meeting. Jennifer urged all to contact her with any suggested changes.

### **Discussion of Goals and Objectives:**

Jennifer indicated that the goals and objectives generated at the last meeting by the members were combined and assembled into a minimal number of categories (7) – Aesthetic, Environmental, Transportation, Education, Construction, Related Facilities, and Connectivity.

After reviewing the listing of Goals and Objectives, members suggested addition objectives for Education and other categories:

- Inform citizens about the bike racks to be placed on buses,
- Police or Fire Department to provide bike safety educational programs in schools
- Disseminate information about vehicle/biking safety and mutual respect for bicyclist
- Inform public about the bike road symbols and other bike signage
- Prepare video on bike planning and implementation
- Allow bike dealers (sellers) to register bikes

### **Discussion of Community Survey:**

Jennifer indicated that the survey will be used to obtain information about biking interest and needs in the Wilson area. It will be passed out at the Open House (opportunity to invite the public to review plans) and available in other ways. Members suggested the internet (City Web page) for distribution. Members suggested some specific roads to include in questions 10 & 11 (Airport, Nash, Ward, Forest Hills, and Raleigh Rd.). Some indicated they would never ride on Airport Rd or Ward.

Other comments included:

- Road riders find the best ways out of town to go into the open country depending upon location and other riders
- Need best suitable map for appropriate routes in and around the community
- Concern about debris in streets
- Many prefer to take side streets
- Comprehensive plan must address needs of all types of riders

### **Existing Conditions:**

Jim Bradshaw presented a summary of existing conditions along streets that impact biking, including traffic volume, street width, number of lanes, and traffic speed. Various maps displayed this information. In addition, an indication of the potential for off street trails was reviewed via pictures and maps displaying the existing greenway along with use of existing utility easements. Public Policy, including budgetary considerations and development standards, would be required to fulfill this potential. Location of key facilities and other bike influences, including location of the two State Bike Routes that pass through the County were highlighted.

Interest was expressed by members in developing and establishing City policies that would assist in creating the off road (greenway) system that could be used for biking.

### **Suitability Analysis:**

Jennifer Lewis discussed the suitability maps that were developed from the existing conditions and completing a Bicycle Compatibility Index analysis using speed, road width and traffic volume indicators to establish a numerical scale for best and worst conditions for bicycling. The best street would be one with a BCI score of “3” and worse would be one with a score of “14”. No City road ranked as best or worst with streets mostly falling in the 4 to 11 range. Using this analysis Jennifer was able to evaluate the potential routes generated at the last meeting by attendees. Several streets were identified that would need improvements based upon their current condition and/or BCI score in order to be utilized as bike routes.

### **Member Evaluation:**



destinations. Two new maps were generated by attendees in the two teams that displayed additional bike routing options and other concerns, including signalization problems intersections.

Breaking into two teams the attendees reviewed the evaluated routes and determined if others should be added. Attention was given to alternative routes and



**Next Meeting and Other Action:**

Jennifer indicated that after reviewing the options generated at this meeting she would prepare more detailed analysis of costs for various routing treatment options in order for the committee to evaluate priorities for improvements and bike route designation.

Policy plan review was also scheduled for the next meeting.

In addition, the members were asked if there would be interest in a group ride to evaluate possible routings. Members indicated interest in a Sat. ride in March.

The plan for a Open House was briefly discussed to be held prior to the next meeting of the committee that is scheduled for March 26.