

## Bikeways and Trails Advisory Committee

<b>Date of Meeting:</b> September 21, 2020 <b>Location:</b> Virtual via WebEx			
<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b> Trina M. Harrell			
<b>Purpose of Meeting</b>			
To advise City Council and work with City agencies on the implementation of the Bikeways and Trails Plan (adopted 4/11). The Committee works to establish improved connectivity between communities and to promote trail projects throughout the City so that all Virginia Beach residents and visitors benefit from pedestrian systems, trails, bicycle on/off road paths and facilities.			
<b>Attendance at Meeting</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Profession or Association</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Attend</b>
Walter Camp	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:wtclegal-BTAC@yahoo.com">wtclegal-BTAC@yahoo.com</a>	WebEx
Amy Frostick	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:amy@jandaracing.com">amy@jandaracing.com</a>	WebEx
William Hart	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:tenniscpa7@aol.com">tenniscpa7@aol.com</a>	phone
Bryan Hickman	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:bhickman@marathonus.com">bhickman@marathonus.com</a>	WebEx
James Raynor	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:jraynor@agi.net">jraynor@agi.net</a>	
Stephen Romine	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:sromine@williamsmullen.com">sromine@williamsmullen.com</a>	WebEx
Kim Shuler	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:Kim.shuler@townebank.net">Kim.shuler@townebank.net</a>	phone
W. Carter Sinclair	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:Sinclair.carter@gmail.com">Sinclair.carter@gmail.com</a>	WebEx
<b>Committee Liaisons</b>			
Barbara Henley	City Council Member	<a href="mailto:bhenley@vbgov.com">bhenley@vbgov.com</a>	
Dee Oliver	Planning Commission	<a href="mailto:Branch.oliver@gmail.com">Branch.oliver@gmail.com</a>	
William "Billy" Vaughan	Agricultural Advisory Commission	<a href="mailto:Wpvaughan71@gmail.com">Wpvaughan71@gmail.com</a>	
Hugh Tierney	Parks & Recreation Commission	<a href="mailto:htierney@empiredevelopment.net">htierney@empiredevelopment.net</a>	WebEx
<b>City Staff</b>			
Michael Kirschman	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:mkirschman@vbgov.com">mkirschman@vbgov.com</a>	WebEx
Chad Morris	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:cmorris@vbgov.com">cmorris@vbgov.com</a>	WebEx
Elaine Linn	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:elinn@vbgov.com">elinn@vbgov.com</a>	WebEx
Trina M. Harrell	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:tmharrel@vbgov.com">tmharrel@vbgov.com</a>	WebEx
Cole Fisher	Planning/Strategic Growth Area	<a href="mailto:cfsfisher@vbgov.com">cfsfisher@vbgov.com</a>	WebEx
<b>Guests</b>			
Guy Tower	Council member	<a href="mailto:gtower@vbgov.com">gtower@vbgov.com</a>	WebEx
Maury Hill	Open Space Advisory Committee	<a href="mailto:mattcj2@msn.com">mattcj2@msn.com</a>	WebEx
Liz Putnam	REI	<a href="mailto:eputnam@rei.com">eputnam@rei.com</a>	WebEx
David Glass	Citizen	<a href="mailto:Fun4glass@gmail.com">Fun4glass@gmail.com</a>	
Michael Nerino	Trek Bicycles Virginia Beach	<a href="mailto:bikemike@cox.net">bikemike@cox.net</a>	WebEx

### Agenda

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|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Welcome                                | 5. Unfinished Business     |
| 2. Welcome New Member                     | 6. Reports                 |
| 3. Nomination of New Chair and Vice Chair | 7. New Business            |
| 4. Approval of Minutes                    | 8. Comments from the Chair |

**Meeting Notes, Decisions, Issues**

**1. Welcome**

Vice Chair Camp called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m. He advised BTAC meetings and activities scheduled for the past six months have been canceled in compliance with City and State orders pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic. He confirmed attendance of those in the meeting.

**2. Welcome newly appointed BTAC Member**

Vice Chair Camp welcomed the newest member, Mr. Carter Sinclair, who was appointed on March 3, 2020.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Vice Chair Camp asked for a motion to approve the meeting notes for February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Kim Shuler made the motion to approve, seconded by Bryan Hickman. Minutes were approved by members present.

**4. Unfinished Business**

**a. Sea Level Wise Adaptation Strategy comments**

Vice Chair Camp stated that in response to Council member Henley's request for comments at the February meeting, an official letter from BTAC to Public Works was sent on February 25, 2020. City Council adopted the revised Strategy in June. Vice Chair Camp composed a memo noting each item in the Plan pertaining to BTAC's mission, including those added or changed due to BTAC comments. It is important to mention there were several inclusions, which create numerous opportunities for the public's investment in flood control strategies. Elaine then forwarded all the materials to the full Committee. BTAC looks forward to partnering with Public Works as projects arise.

**b. Bike Month**

Even though Bike Month 2020 was canceled, the planning and outreach efforts by the Bike Month Subcommittee were very valuable and will be useful as we plan for Bike Month 2021. Vice Chair Camp asked the members to be prepared to discuss the initiatives and outreach at the October meeting.

**c. Reminder to submit for Transportation Safety Improvement (TSI)**

One of our key roles is to help channel public comments about improving our City's transportation network to staff for evaluation. Elaine thanked the members for bringing forward suggestions they witnessed while traveling throughout the City and advised bicycle/pedestrian safety has improved but there is more to be done. She reinforced the importance of providing these suggestions, including sidewalks, crosswalk disconnection, ADA ramp connections, and visual obstructions so she can research and submit for prioritization.

**5. Reports**

**a. Bike Buddies Program Update – Walter Camp and Elaine Linn**

<https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/parks-recreation/foundation/Pages/bike-buddies.aspx>

- Vice Chair Camp and Elaine Linn reported on the Bike Buddies Program. Bike Buddies is a partnership program with the VB Parks & Recreation Foundation

(VBPRF) to install unique leaf-shaped bike racks in high-need locations determined by City staff and funded by private donations. To date, 30 racks have been sponsored at the Oceanfront and Mount Trashmore, and many more remain available as shown on the link above. Elaine noted that the pandemic forced cancellation of the ribbon cutting ceremony this Spring; however, progress was being made internally for a modified ribbon cutting ceremony this fall.

**b. Reminder of upcoming BTAC meeting schedule:**

Vice Chair Camp reviewed the upcoming meetings listed below:

- October 19, 2020
- November 16, 2020
- January 11, 2021

A suggestion was made to return to in person meetings or a combination of in person and virtual, as some committees and City Council have done. The P&R Administration conference room is not large enough to accommodate all members and potential citizens to safely distance for in person meetings. Also, the room is not equipped with video capabilities to hold blended meetings, in person and virtual combined. Staff will research the options and will discuss with the Chair and Vice Chair to determine the safest format for all involved moving forward.

**c. Volunteer hours**

Elaine was pleased to announce members completed 205 volunteer hours in FY20, which almost tripled the number of hours for FY19 (73.5 hours). She thanked the members for their hard work and dedication serving on the Committee.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Active Transportation Plan**

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, Elaine provided the draft Active Transportation Plan (ATP) to the members for review and comment. Vice Chair Camp advised this would have been presented at a BTAC meeting, but was sent electronically to remain on schedule as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Vice Chair Camp thanked the members for their comments, which were submitted to Elaine on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. He also thanked Elaine for the countless hours involved during the last year of working with the consultants and tailoring the plan to Virginia Beach. Elaine, with the help of the consultants, is reviewing each comment and expects to have a final draft for the Planning Commission recommended for approval to City Council in November. On behalf of the Committee, Vice Chair Camp applauded Elaine for the years involved, her forward thinking vision, and taking our City to the forefront of active transportation.

**b. Discuss annual planning cycle for BTAC Agendas**

Earlier this year, Committee member Bryan Hickman suggested incorporating into the agenda a calendar of recurring BTAC events, such as Bike Month, nominations of projects for grants, and prioritization of locally funded projects. Vice Chair Camp thanked Bryan for this suggestion and expects to incorporate in the near future to support the committee's ability to provide valuable advice to City Council.

## **Bikeways and Trails Advisory Committee**

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**c. COVID-19 Training**

Vice Chair Camp reminded the members to review the required COVID-19 video and respond to Trina once completed. The video is very informative and only take about 25 minutes to complete.

**7. Comments from the Chair**

**a. Bike to Work Day is September 22, 2020!**

If you are planning to participate or know of someone who is, please forward photos or information to Elaine so she can ensure Julie Braley, Public Relations and Content Manager, is aware and could potentially use in future publications.

**b. Member Carter Sinclair is concerned that students are not allowed to ride their bicycles to school. Elaine will take the lead, contact the school system for more clarification, and will report back to the Committee.**

**9. Meeting Adjourn/Next Meeting**

Vice Chair Camp adjourned the meeting at 4:30p.m.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	3:30p.m.	Virtual – via WebEx
<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>DUE BY</b>	<b>ASSIGNED TO</b>
Watch the COVID19 Video	September 23, 2020	All members

**Distribution**

Mayor and City Council  
City Manager  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Bikeways and Trails Advisory Committee  
Nick Anoaia, Open Space Advisory Committee  
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Mark Johnson, Public Works Director  
Mike Shahsiah, Public Works  
Phil Pullen, Public Works  
David Jarman, Public Works  
Toni Alger, Public Works  
William Morgan, PW/Traffic Engineering  
Robert “Bobby” Tajan, Planning Director  
Mark Shea, Planning  
Charles McKenna, Planning  
Planning, Design and Development  
Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Foundation