

CNA General Meeting
Monday, April 11, 2016
Journey IFC

EC Present:

Dave Considine

Chip Harris

Steven Knapp

Nancy Mohn Barnard

Elaine Stegant

Ali Thompson

Anne-Charlotte Patterson

Mary Pustejovsky - Bike Austin

Bike Austin is a non-profit in Austin that focuses on initiatives around biking and sidewalks.

Sidewalks in Austin - 80% of Austin sidewalks are designated functionally unacceptable and ADA non-compliant. There are also a lot of sidewalks missing and often the children and the elderly have to walk in streets. Cost estimates for completing all the sidewalks is 1 billion.

Public Works Department has created a Sidewalk Master Plan, which shows all sidewalks in Austin including areas in which sidewalks are missing and the prioritization level for sidewalk fixes. On the Master Plan map, red is very high priority; blue is high priority. City is considering funding high and very high priority sidewalks.

<https://austintexas.gov/department/pedestrian-program>

Bicycle Master Plan - In 2014 Austin adopted the Bicycle Master Plan, which talks about providing transportation choices through a network of bike lanes that would allow people to not have to drive everywhere. It hopes to improve safety of transportation for all ages.

55% of Austinites in a telephone survey said they would bicycle if they have a place to do it. The implementation of this plan would decrease vehicle congestion for trips under 3 miles. The plan is estimated to take 20K vehicles off road a day, and it would cost less than north Mopac expansion. Although the plan only focuses on the central business district, it would still have a positive impact on the environment.

The plan notes that 40% of people who currently commute by bicycle actually make less than 20k a year. These changes will affect them by helping to provide safe, equitable transportation options.

Last year 102 people were killed in car crashes, which is higher than the murder rate in Austin.

Pustejovsky has brought a petition that asks the city to make the Bicycle and Sidewalk Master Plan a priority-- to provide safe, equitable options for all Austinites. Pustejovsky foresees a bond package to pay for both.

Member Concern -Wants safe bike lanes but pedestrians in bike lanes are not safe for anyone.

Considerine: Will it be an either or situation with streets? Either a sidewalk or a bike lane but not both?

Petition can also be found at ourstreets.bikeaustin.org

Violet Crown Festival - 5/7/16

Nancy Mohn Barnard talks about the Violet Crown Festival. Asks for volunteers.

Hazardous Waste Disposable Event - 4/23/16, 9 am - 11 am

Elaine Stegant is working with Crestview United Methodist Church to collect and dispose of hazardous waste. Volunteers are needed to help load stuff onto trailers: paint, batteries, oil and anti-freeze will be accepted. People can also bring electronics to recycle. The latter will benefit Wooten Elementary. Crestview Methodist has a link somewhere on their website listing additional materials that can be disposed of.

Membership

Current membership is low. Last year the bylaws were changed so that membership followed the calendar year. Elections coming up in May--you have to be a member 7 days in advance in order to vote. Membership costs \$10 per family, which allows for 4 voting adults. We will probably move to Crestview United Methodist Church for the next meeting.

Other Concerns/Announcements

- Neighbor on Morrow and Mullen is concerned about speeding, which has gotten out of control on Morrow. Met with Pool's staff person about what they can do to control traffic on Morrow. Thinking of requesting an island at the intersection.
- CNPCT meeting will be April 19th at 6:30 pm at the Episcopal Church. Looking at planned priorities, sidewalk, traffic, and cut-through traffic. There will be elections for Vice Facilitator and Secretary. The City planning department is drafting a model ordinance outlining how contact teams are conducted. This ordinance could possibly allow the contact team to be disbanded if there is a conflict that can't be resolved. The city can then appoint a new contact team. This gives developers a tool with which to attack

the neighborhood, which is problematic because we are an elected, democratic organization.

- Pool's office -- District 7 Music Initiative Town Hall Meeting that focuses on acoustic, folk and americana music. April 28th , Monkey Nest Coffee House, 6:30 - 8 PM
- Today a middle school-aged girl almost got abducted off Renton drive.