

Kentucky Bicycle and Bikeway Commission



Agenda for KBBC Web Video Meeting with notes
9:30 AM (EDT) January 19, 2016

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Central Office/ Frankfort	Randy Thomas (KBBC), Doug Brent (KBBC), Ryan Watts (KYTC), John Moore (KYTC), Lynn Soporowski (KYTC), Troy Hearn (KYTC), Carol Brent (KYTC), and Ryan Halloran (KYTC)
Edgewood, KY video/telephone	Jason Ramler (KBBC)
Elizabethtown, KY video/telephone	Vince Carman (KBBC)

- Bring the meeting to order
- Approve previous meeting notes (http://transportation.ky.gov/Bike-Walk/Documents/2015%204th%20Quarter%20KBBC_Business_Meeting_final.pdf)
- Treasurer's report
- elect a new treasurer (2 year term)
- Update to Lawrence County Paula Nye Grant (Troy)
- Updates on the USBR 76 signage project (Troy)
- Safe Passing Law legislative updates: the "Safer Passing Law"
 - a. HB 121 / <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/16RS/HB121.htm>
 - b. The other version / <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/16RS/SB80/bill.pdf>
- Review of the current KYTC Pedestrian & Bicycle Travel Policy and related documents
 - a. <http://transportation.ky.gov/Bike-Walk/Documents/KYTC%20Pedestrian%20and%20Bicycle%20Travel%20Policy%20%202002.pdf>
 - b. Updates to the KYTC Highway Design Manual (HD 1501/ Bicycle and pedestrian designs)
Current version / <http://transportation.ky.gov/Highway-Design/Highway%20Design%20Manual/Additional%20Design%20Topics.pdf>
 - c. Rumble Strip/Stripe design changes & the Rumble Strip/Stripe Committee (2014)
- The 2016 fall conference
 - a. Location: maybe looking at Natural Bridge State Park
 - b. Dates: October 20-22, November 3-5, or November 10-12 / these dates are all booked
- Is KY ready for another Bike Summit (or Bike/Ped)?
 - a. Who would be the coordinator/sponsor?
 - b. When would this take place?
 - c. Where would it be?
 - d. Promotion of this for the 2016 Paula Nye Grant cycle
- KY economic impact study for "Cycling in the Bluegrass and Beyond"
 - a. Local examples are currently being studied in Prestonsburg, Northern KY (OKI), and Louisville
 - b. Other state examples (Oregon Example) / <https://www.adventurecycling.org/routes-and-maps/us-bicycle-route-system/benefits-and-building-support/economic-impact/> &

- *Bring the meeting to order.* Chairman Bill Gorton was unable to attend this meeting. Jason Ramler acted as Chairman for the meeting and brought the meeting to order at 9:38am. In attendance at the Transportation Cabinet Office Building were, Commissioners Doug Brent, Randy Thomas, KBBC legal counsel Ryan Halloran. Also in attendance at the Transportation building location were Troy Hearn, John Moore, Lynn Soporowski, Carol Brent and Ryan Watts of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC). In attendance via video were Vince Carman and Jason Ramler. Jason introduced Doug Brent (the newest KBBC Commissioner). Doug greeted everyone and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to participate and to be involved with the KBBC.
- *Approve minutes of last meeting.* Jason Ramler noted that he would like to revise the October 10th, 2015 meeting minutes to show that he abstained from voting on the Paula Nye Grant application from Kenton County. The meeting minutes from October 10, 2015 with changes were approved on motion by Randy Thomas with second from Vince Carman.
- *Treasurer's report.* Bill Gorton is currently acting as treasurer pending election of a new treasurer. Jason Ramler presented the treasurer's report; as of 12-31-2015 the KBBC has \$94,385.49 in their account. This amount doesn't reflect the 2015 Paula Nye disbursement checks that have been mailed to various commissioners in the past 2 weeks. Those check withdrawals from the account will be reflected at the next meeting's report.

Jason mentioned that he would be receptive to taking on the Treasurer duties. He remarked that this position has been difficult in the past because of issues of working with the KYTC Auditor's Office and the yearly reporting requirements. Troy and Lynn stated that their office (the Bike & Ped Program) would be more involved with the required yearly audit and try to make this an easier process. Randy made the motion to elect Jason as the new treasurer and Vince offered a second. All commissioners in attendance were in favor. This is a two year term.

- Troy advised the Commission that the Fayette County Public Schools and the Bluegrass YMCA have located all of the documents required to complete their reporting of expenditures under their 2009 Paula Nye Grant. That project is now complete and closed out.
- Troy updated the commission on the 2015 Paula Nye Grant for Lawrence County. The organization that submitted the 2015 application (Kentucky Self Advocates for Freedom) has been dissolved. The two main persons that were in charge of running this program are city and county employees. The City of Louisa is requesting to assume the responsibility for this program and become the fiscal agent for the grant. The Mayor of Louisa will send a letter requesting to assume the program and to take over the responsibilities associated with the grant requirements. Troy stated that he would forward any required information to the commission and was told by the Commission's legal counsel, Ryan Halloran, that all of the details seemed to be covered. Randy made the motion to allow the City of Louisa to take over this program, upon receipt of the letter from the mayor. Vince seconded that motion and all commissioners in attendance were in favor.

- Troy gave an update on the wayfinding signage work planned for 2016. KYTC will coordinate the installation of the USBR 76 signs along the Trans America Route in KY and the funding has been provided through the Office of Local Programs. . Troy stated that he was informed that the work orders and contracts have been issued for this project. Troy will forward any photos and other information as it becomes available.
- Jason gave a brief update on several of the bills filed with the KY legislature pertaining to bicycling. Two bills pertain to the 3 foot distance required for safe passing of cyclists by motorized traffic. Dixie Moore gave a presentation during the 2015 KBBC Conference about the basic outline of one of the two original bills (SB 80). Senate Bill 80 (<https://legiscan.com/KY/bill/SB80/2016>) is based on her work with edits by Commissioners and legislators. HB121 (HB121/ <https://legiscan.com/KY/bill/HB121/2016>) also mentions the 3 foot space needed when overtaking a bicycle with a motorized vehicle. Both bills also have language that would further define or re-define the requirement for bicyclists to ride as far right as practicable upon the highway in certain situations. One more bill (HB 254 / <https://legiscan.com/KY/bill/HB254/2016>) that has been filed that would require the use of helmets by persons under the age of 12 years while operating a bicycle or being a passenger on a bicycle on all roadways in KY.
 Doug mentioned that there are varied opinions among the bicycling community regarding the 3-foot passing distance, helmet usage and whether to ride in the travel lane or on the shoulder. He noted that the legislators are less likely to consider bills when their advocate community is divided. None of the attendees had researched the helmet bill or had seen the language proposed for the riding position. Doug stated that he would research SB80 and HB121 more and report his findings through email to the commission. Jason mentioned that KBBC had endorsed Dixie Moore's proposed 3-foot passing distance language last fall. Randy made a motion to support the bills that have language about a 3foot specific distance for the passing of bicyclists by motorized vehicles, but only this portion of the bills (SB80 & HB121). Vince seconded that motion and all commissioners that were present were in favor. The commission currently has no position on the bill requiring helmets for minors (under the age of 12). Jason and Doug agreed that by the next quarterly meeting, it would be a moot issue because the legislative session would be over.
- Updates to the KYTC Highway Design Manual (HD 1501/ Bicycle and pedestrian designs):
 Jason encouraged all of the commissioners to review the current Pedestrian and Bicycle Travel Policy (<http://transportation.ky.gov/Bike-Walk/Documents/KYTC%20Pedestrian%20and%20Bicycle%20Travel%20Policy%20%202002.pdf>). Jason commented that this policy was from 2002 and wondered if it needs to be updated. Troy stated that the policy was still very effective and pertinent. Jason asked that his fellow commissioners offer any changes or edits to this document and share with the group during the next regular quarterly meeting or have suggested edits or additions for the annual meeting in November.
 Jason also asked about the portion of the KYTC Design Manual that relates to bicycle and pedestrian issues (HD1500 / <http://transportation.ky.gov/Highway-Design/Highway%20Design%20Manual/Additional%20Design%20Topics.pdf>). He noted that he had been part of project design teams that did not reference the AASHTO bicycle

facilities design guide. Troy stated that he was part of the KYTC Hwy Design Team that reviewed and suggested edited to this section of the KYTC Design Manual. The final drafts of this document does now mirror the AASHTO bicycle and pedestrian facility design guides as well as “other resource guides.” Final drafts of section 1500 are now being reviewed by the Office of Highway Design and other management. Troy said he would send notice of these updates as soon as they were final and posted on the KYTC website. Troy also noted for the past 2 years, for each highway project that requires a traffic forecast, he has been providing a pedestrian and bicyclist travel review to rate accommodations (including none) offering a good, better, best accommodation for each project. There was some discussion of the Cabinet policy concerning rumble strips and the requirement for a 10’ gap for bicyclists and pedestrian movement.

There was discussion that many of the commissioners do not have experience with highway design but would like to be more knowledgeable of the process. The possibility was raised of having a workshop at the annual conference to discuss the highway design and construction process and at what points the community has input. Jason indicated that he would like for the other commissioners to review the current policy by next meeting. He will research guidance from other states, especially those immediately surrounding Kentucky. By the summer meeting, KBBC could propose revisions and by the annual meeting, there would be a final document to recommend to the Cabinet.

- 2016 Fall Conference/Annual Meeting: Jason reminded everyone that the decision had been made during the 2015 4th quarter meeting to have the 2016 annual meeting at Natural Bridge State. Troy informed everyone that the dates previously mentioned for the annual meeting were not available at Natural Bridge State Park. Lynn confirmed with the Park that November 17-19 is available. Randy mentioned that the bike ride portion of this event that has traditionally been held on the final day (Saturday) has not been well-attended so may not be needed for every year. The priority for the annual meeting should be the meeting itself and not the bike ride. Funding for the meeting was discussed, especially that Adventure Tourism may no longer be able to assist. Bluegrass Cycling Club will be able to provide funding but that will not be enough. It was suggested that no lunch meal be provided to lessen the expenses. Jason reminded everyone that planning for these annual meeting conferences is a lot of work. Jason asked that more commissioners be involved and possibly assign duties for each commissioner. For example, a person be in charge of food, someone in charge of the speakers, and so on. Jason and Troy mentioned that a proposed list of speakers should be ready for the next quarterly meeting (April 19th). Troy will reserve a block of rooms (15-20) at Natural Bridge State Park for the November dates (17-19) and have any updates ready for the next meeting.
- Kentucky Bike Summit: Jason gave a brief history of the last bike ped summit held in the spring of 2013. The KY Rails to Trails Council was awarded a \$15,000 Paula Nye Grant in 2011 to sponsor and organize this event. The event was held in Frankfort and was mainly organized by Kenzie Gleason. Jason explained that the grant application for the event was unsolicited. Since Kenzie Gleason and the KRTC are not interested in sponsoring another summit, there is a need for a different sponsor. No other sponsor has yet come forth. Previously Bill Gorton had asked if KYTC could organize the conference, but that seemed too large a task to be added to the bike ped coordinator position. It was suggested that

KBBC might need to solicit a sponsor in some way. The difference being for this next summit is that the commission would advertise in some way or release a call for sponsors and applications for the specific purpose. The KBBC legal counsel advised that any solicitation would have to be open to anyone and publicly advertised. He recommended that the request for proposals be open to all 501(c) 3 organizations and city/county government agencies in KY. Randy suggested that a written proposal be prepared for the April meeting (if not before) for this purpose. Troy will send all of the information from the 2013 bicycling summit to both Randy and Jason. These two commissioners will research the previous event and provide a summation for the April meeting.

- Kentucky economic impact studies: Randy asked if anyone knew of a current or recent economic impact study that had been done to show the relationship between bicycling and positive economic effects for Kentucky or any of the areas in our state. He feels that a study for the Bluegrass Region or other areas would be very beneficial. He mentioned the Horsey Hundred and Red Bud bicycling events that were held each year in the Bluegrass Region. Randy stated: “The fact that these events draw thousands of bicycle riders and even more people that traveled with those riders, is proof alone that a study should be done”. Randy also discussed attending the National Bike Tour Conference which is centered on bicycle tourism and that many areas publicize their facilities and their economic impact at the conference. He would like to be able to present information about Kentucky at that conference. Doug mentioned that the Iron Man Triathlon in Louisville was also a very large event (with thousands of participants and guests). Vince stated that economic impact studies specific for mountain biking have been done that include KY data. He recommended that the economic information for mountain biking in KY should also be included in any study as well. Jason mentioned that he was aware of a study done by the University of Cincinnati for the area around that college, but didn’t have knowledge of the specific details of the study. Troy had contacted the University of KY Research Library and that no such studies were available for the KY area. Troy and Lynn mentioned that the KY Main Street Program is a statewide program focused on economic development and they have recently been working in partnership with the bike/ped program on other projects. This group may be of help in documenting economic impacts in the future. The Cabinet for Economic Development and the Kentucky Department of Tourism should be responsible for studies concerning economic development but they do not appear to currently have any information on the impact of bicycling. There may be some individual statistics available, for example, the Red Bud Ride or the usage of the Big 4 Bridge in Louisville. Doug will research the Louisville data.
- *Meeting adjourn*
There being no further business, on motion by Vince Carman, seconded by Randy Thomas, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28am AM.