

Minutes: BASC Monthly Meeting_– Monday, April 22nd, 2024, 5:30 pm The Monkey's Wrench/HUBS Coop

NOTE: All agendas and minutes are in the BASC Fileshare: www.hsvbasc.com

Attendees: (virtual) Jo Beth, Chad, James Moore, Kevin Bernard (new MPO Coordinator) (in-person) Jacob, Brian N., Larry, Trae, David N, Jamie, Andrew, Dario, Austin, Ben P., Morgan

Meeting Time: 5:30pm-6:30pm

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Announcements:

1. Review attendance and Vote to approve March 2024 meeting minutes - Not available, defer to May BASC meeting
1. **Community Concerns (from the public):**
 - a. SeeClickFix- closed or need escalation tickets? None
 - b. Community Events? MAY BIKE MONTH SEE "SPECIAL TOPICS" FOR ALL THE DATES

Section I. City Reports: Past updates in excel sheet "BASC Projects_Actions Summary" in hsvbasc.com → [Minutes and Documents](#)

1. **City Planning:** Jo Beth and Kevin Bernard
 - a. "Bike Lane Now" Excel Live? Alta's (Sarah) bike plan survey will replace "Bike Lane Now" Excel document instead and this will be posted on the MPO (James Vandiver is the POC of the MPO site). Basc will be getting an invitation for the stakeholder meetings by Wednesday. Jo Beth can let you know, week of the 13th of May.
 - i. On the MPO website: <http://www.huntsvillempo.org/bike-rocket-city/>
 - ii. Take the Survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/HSVBikePlan
 - iii. Comment on the Map: <https://huntsville.altaplanning.cloud/>
 - b. Presentation of "Bus Rapid Transport" (BRT) Program? Still interested, but cannot share currently. Waiting on funding, but FTA TOD grant University Drive was awarded. It's a grant for Planning.
 - c. Alta Bike Plan survey/website?
 - d. Vision Zero Meeting notes: Jo Beth can be sent to BASC. HPD would have more detail especially in the next section.
 - e. Any other bike/ped related concerns or needs from the city?
 - i. SeeClickFix.com category and SeeandBeSeen.com "near-miss" form.
2. **City Traffic Engineering:** Jennifer
 - a. Any other bike/ped related concerns or needs from the city? Reserving rooms in the new city building. Under 20 ppl, Jennifer has contacts to who to do that. We should wait until June because of the move. A City Staff member is responsible for people until the end of the meeting/vacating the building. This City Staff member can be from TE.
 - i. SeeClickFix.com category and SeeandBeSeen.com "near-miss" form.
3. **City Huntsville Police Department:**
 - a. Any traffic data to report this month? No update.
 - b. Update of officially reported or on Facebook bike/ped related incidents?
 - c. Any other bike/ped related concerns or needs from the city?
 - i. HPD bike/ped related police reports.
 - ii. Maybe bike to school event last week of may

Section II: Monthly Agenda Topics

1. Present and vote? on BASC becoming an Official Committee:
 - a. Councilman Meredith is interested in sponsoring the initiative to make BASC an official committee in Huntsville. Ordinance is needed and the Huntsville City Boards has met with Legal Department to make this happen. Jacob asked follow-up question in order to understand better what this means for BASC:
 - i. * What will the new bylaws for our group look like? Do we use our current set of bylaws or would new bylaws be created? **Your current bylaws will be sufficient. I am sure the attorney will review them but**

unless there is anything controversial there should be no issues. The bylaws can stay separate and not be included in the ordinance so your Board would have the autonomy to change it as needed without having to go back to Council. If this is created by ordinance it can only be amended by another ordinance which will have to go through the same process, being sponsored, put on the agenda and voted on. That is why I recommend not including your bylaws in the ordinance.

- ii. * How many members will be on the new city board? **The number of seats on the Board will be up to you really. The attorney will warn you that legally if there are more than 5 people on the board, Council would have to vote 4/5ths to approve it that is 4 out of the 5 Councilmembers will need to support it. Bike Safety is not a controversial issue and I can't imagine it not receiving the support it would need to pass if you do chose to have more than 5 members (most boards do).**
 - iii. * Will the current BASC members be on the new board? **This will be best answered by legal but I imagine that on the enacting document you can have the original members and their terms outlined and then the ordinance would go on to say that as terms expire new members may be appointed and it will outline most likely that if any position is vacated because of resignation etc. that the appointment to fill that vacancy would be for the unexpired term of the vacated position, so that terms have some continuity. Also, they will likely stagger the initial terms so that everyone isn't rolling off at the same time. I am attaching a couple of ordinances that you can review.**
 - iv. * Could we provide feedback on the ordinance before it is voted on? **Absolutely, we will definitely set up a meeting with legal and Councilmember Meredith, I am sure.**
 - v. * When would the initiative be introduced? **Not until everyone is in agreement on the ordinance. I can't imagine it being done until late May.**
- b. Questions for Sarah.
- i. Attorney and John Meredith can come to our meeting because the process will be easier if we all agree on the details. The timeline is dependent on BASC's pace.
 - ii. BASC will be on the website and in on the City process.
 - iii. Can a staffer be dedicated to this committee like for minutes agenda? Would normally be for members.
 - iv. Is legal going to look at our bylaws? Laura has already read them and we can figure out further prior to BASC May meeting. Keep bylaws separate from ordinance so that if BASC wanted to make a change in the bylaws, it doesn't need to go through legal again.
 - v. Is there any precedence of roles, would we have teeth? HRC, Huntsville Relations Commission?, is an example.
 - vi. Would other city staffer (HPD, Traffic, Planner) need to be written in the ordinance? That would be required to be in the ordinance.
 - 1. Is there an attendance policy? This would be addressed in the ordinance and Laura could outline it.
 - vii. Is there Board ordinance that we can follow (David)? The Huntsville Police Citizens Advisory Council, HPCAC, is a good example. Sarah can share this ordinance. BASC is somewhat unique.
 - viii. Can we write how often we touch base/communication to the Mayor or someone from his department (Chad)? Laura can possibly outline this.
- c. Kevin B.: Would have to talk internally. Jo Beth would need to talk to Dennis more. Jacob has talked. It has to go the board and then approve change the bylaws of the MPO (it takes only be the Technical and Citizen committee). Would have to go to the Wednesday MPO and introduce it as a citizen. James question: what is BASC goal with becoming MPO?
- d. Schedule the vote to approve a motion authorizing Future of BASC subcommittee to move forward and create ordinance with the city. Ordinance would be later approved by BASC.
- i. Not need at this time, but will meet with Laura next month
2. David's update on "first draft" of the "Every single street coded by difficulty to cycle"
- a. He took into account cyclist and road designs (including slopes,etc). (Black is most difficult steep and Research Blvd (traffic)). It is in review. Is green completely flat and safe for beginners? He is open to input:
 - i. Bike routes are not connected by "green" paths David's project makes it more obvious that the bike routes are not made for everyone to bike on. Bike routes are red and black.

- ii. David is going to send this to us.
 - iii. No off-street paths was shown (public right of way only).
 - iv. Bike route is generally the safest and so if there are red parts, then city and BASC should advocate. BASC can use this as standard to advocate because we can VISUALLY see what the current issues of why bike **commuting** is not feasible all over Huntsville area.
 - v. How can David be compensated for the actual data from David because this is great data? Could look into talking to BASC/City/Alta.
- 3. Review of May Bike month event: No change on the dates, no posters yet. hsvbasc.com and BASC Facebook has the latest dates and information.
 - 4. Stella Development Bicycle Parking. The sidewalk is being constructed by the developer, not the city. Jacob tried to get in touch with the developer inquiring about restaurant bicycle parking. No response from developer.
 - a. Planning is negotiating 5 points
 - b. Planning is trying to figure out how to fix the parallel parking. Speed limit. To tie in Meridian and Holmes. Unfortunately, they will not have a sidewalk on the southside of Pratt.
 - c. Is Planning connecting to the transit?
 - 5. BASC google group is being developed and used currently for email discussion. Feedback? Will send a follow up email about this announcement once finalized. Check your spams.
 - 6. Feedback of April BASC ride? Jacob had a good time, excellent turnout from the City. 6 or 7 city attendees and BASC person, Bill Kling went. 3 students from A&M.

Section III: Action Item Review: [See hsvbasc.com](http://hsvbasc.com)--> "BASC projects_Actions Summary" Excel sheet)

Vivian did not complete March 2024 Actions to email the City about Pratt.