

Jacksonville Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting Notes
Hybrid Meeting
June 6, 2024 @ 5:30 PM
Ed Ball Building – 3rd Floor Conference Room
214 N Hogan Street – Jacksonville FL

Attendees:

In person: Kelly Jones, Peter Borenstein (BPAC Chair), Sherri Hartsel (COJ), Fatuma Sheikh Mohamed (COJ), Darren Hayes, Steve Tocknell (NFBC), Monty Selim (Groundwork Jax), Matt Fall (COJ), Len Burroughs (NFBC), Wiatt Bowers (AtkinsRealis), Jeremy Norsworthy (JTA), Lauren Rushing (BPAC Vice Chair), Stephanie McCaffrey (BPAC Secretary)

Virtual: Derek Dixon (FDOT), Van Christiansen (Haskell), Robert Barto (East Coast Greenway Alliance), Austin Kelm (SORBA JAX)

Peter Borenstein chaired the meeting. Lauren Rushing moved to approve the May meeting minutes, Peter Borenstein seconded.

II. Presentation and Discussion – JTA’s Creating Safe Spaces Plan, Jeremy Norsworthy

- Discussed Vision Zero and JTA’s role in eliminating fatalities through the Safe Systems Approach
- JTA conducted a Safety Analysis using 2018-2024 crash data, analyzing bicycle and pedestrian crashes within proximity to JTA assets
- JTA is using Customer Roadway Safety Survey with an interactive map to gather feedback
- Next steps
 - JTA is forming a Joint Vision Zero Task Force with COJ in summer 2024
 - Engagement - presenting on the plan at CPACs, NFTPO committees
- The goal of the plan is a Transit Oriented Vision Zero approach that complements the City of Jacksonville’s Vision Zero efforts
 - Develop policy, programs, project priorities
 - Develop a High Injury Network
 - Will create a five year project list - that can be used to bid for funding opportunities
 - USDOT Safe Streets for All grant funding (SS4All)
 - Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding
 - Implement Demonstration projects
 - Joint project will cover all COJ owned roads and will send recommended measures to FDOT

III. Presentation and Discussion – Dangerous by Design 2024, Lauren Rushing, BPAC Vice Chair

- Important to understand statistics, tell the narrative, and understand why we need to take action.
- Vehicle occupant’s safety is increasing, while safety for people outside vehicles is decreasing.
- Florida metros dominate the Top 20 most dangerous places to walk and bike.
- Jacksonville is one of two cities in the Top 20 whose fatality rate decreased.

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- Improvement in fatality rate was likely due to population growth - 274 deaths from 2018 - 2022
- Jacksonville has improved in each report.
- Vision Zero premise - no deaths are acceptable, all are preventable.
 - Derek Dixon agrees - FDOT is looking at how to address distracted driving.
 - Lauren - discussed the role of urban design and infrastructure in improving safety.
- Southern United States, post WWII development pattern of suburban sprawl built around the automobile
 - Looking to learn which southeastern cities have a successful track record
- Understanding the trends - GIS Study - Masters Project - Pedestrian Crash Hotspots in Jacksonville
 - Data showed strong positive correlation with an area's poverty rate and pedestrian fatalities
 - More people walking and biking, lack of lighting, lack of infrastructure
 - Walking for necessity in lower income areas
 - JTA and COJ Vision Zero Action Plans will analyze lighting
 - Strong negative correlation with fatalities occurring often more often in older neighborhoods
- Discussion
 - Encouraging to look at First Mile Last Mile safety improvements in Jacksonville
 - COJ First Mile Last Mile Study on Normandy Blvd- looking to package improvements
 - What is the role of FDOT? Many fatalities are on State owned roads
 - FDOT representation on Vision Zero Task Force
 - Align with FDOT's Target Zero
 - NFBC Pedaling for Safety - training bicyclists to participate in community traffic safety teams - certified as Cycling Savvy instructors
 - Derek Dixon (FDOT) recently attended an bike safety event in Nocatee – fitted bike helmets, people want safe neighborhoods, design changes are improving but he acknowledged its going to take some time and the need for behavior change.
- How can BPAC support the momentum for Vision Zero?
 - BPAC representative on the Task Force
 - Keep up with JTA's activities - Jeremy Norsworthy plans to regularly attend
 - NFBC is ramping up its Pedaling for Safety non-profit efforts
 - Explore bicycle friendly driver certification

San Marco Blvd and Hendricks Ave (SR 13) Improvements

- Group discussed the proposed improvements
- BPAC would like to have regular FDOT project updates

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Announcements

- JTA Transportation Surveys
 - Coordinated Mobility Plan
- Pedaling for a Purpose, Eastside Ride
- APBP conference
- Transportation Infrastructure Summit
- Next Meeting - July 11th

Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm