

HUB Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows meeting May 14, 2015

In attendance: Peter, Dave, Barry, Ivan, Jackie

Guests: Erin O'Melinn (Exec. Dir. HUB), Ely Apeldoorn, Martin Helmus

Regrets: Alex

Notes

Upcoming events:

- Sat. June 6: Bike Tune-up Workshop:
Volunteers: Chris Barber, who volunteered last year to share his bike repair skills, has volunteered again for this year's Workshop. Adrian and Romah Geluk have also volunteered. Dave will be available as well.
Jackie arranged for 2 tents through the Haney Farmers Market (Eileen Dwillies), and a table and 2 chairs through Darlene Slevin (Festival Office). Both bike stands and tool boxes are reserved for us (Haydn Sharp, Greg Moore Youth Centre).
- Sat. June 6: Pitt Meadows Day (ATAC Pitt Meadows): PM ATAC Committee will provide bike parking + info booth. They have enough volunteers.
Jackie to give Peter more brochures (also for Pitt Meadows Cycle).
- Wed. July 1: Canada Day Pitt Meadows: We had been asked if we wanted to participate with an info booth. There will be a cycling area (bike decorating, Cops for Cancer, possibly a cycling demo). According to Peter this is just a small event with few booths. He will not be available. We decided not to participate.
- Sept. 6: Bike to Farms ride. Four farms have expressed interest in participating: Brookfield Farm, Lorea McCready and Red Barn, and back this year will be Golden Ears Cheesecrafters. We did not include Golden Ears Cheese last year because 128th Ave. is unsafe for cycling. This year we'll be able to use the new separated gravel path.
- September 26/27? Meadow Ridge Bike Emergency Response Team (MRBERT) exercise: Jackie hasn't heard from Patrick McCullen of Emergency Services. She will send him an e-mail to ask about the next meeting (done 15/5). The Amazing Disaster Rally in New Westminster that was planned for May 9 was canceled due to too few registrants. According to Patrick they hadn't done any training/courses since last year's exercise, which could be part of the reason why the interest seems to have waned. One of the people involved in the New West exercise may be able to help us organize our exercise in September.
Erin suggested to look at how Metro Vancouver can be of help in promoting MRBERT, e.g. signs at events advertising meetings. See <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/electoral-area-a/services/emergency-planning/Pages/default.aspx>

Past events:

- Sat. April 18, 10 - 2: Earth Day 2015. Our Cycle Recycle was a great success. We gave away 21 bicycles. The weather couldn't have been better and the event saw a record number of visitors. Many

people who entered the draw were not present during the draw, which meant we had to call them and wait for them to come and pick up their bikes. We had one draw in the morning, and one in the afternoon. One lady who won a bike in the morning didn't show up to collect her bike until 3 pm. The Earth Day event finished at 2 pm, so by that time we had given away the bike to someone else, and she wasn't too happy about that. Next year we should provide better, bigger signage to let people know that they need to be present during the draw, and that we may give away the bike to someone else if they're not there to receive the bike.

Jackie had brought two children's helmets to the event in case some kids wanted to try out bikes. Unfortunately they were taken. We could ask one of the local bike shops to donate a few (unisex!) kids' helmets.

Jackie already has one bike for next year, and Ivan needs to pick up another one in Port Moody. Barry will store them.

- Sat. April 20: Bike safety workshop for 1st Haney Cubs (Alex). Alex reported to Jackie that the workshop went well, the kids had fun and learned a thing or two.
- Sun. May 10: Art Studio Bike Tour. (Jackie): went well. We had 13 participants (including Dave, Ivan and Jackie). Dave was awesome! Two of the participants had some mechanical problems with their bikes. Dave first went home to pick up a tire, replaced a tire at one of the studios. Then the tire blew, so they went to Dave's place to fix the problem. After they got back he did his best to fix the brakes of another bike. At least he got a free haircut out of it! Other than that everything went well. We had planned two routes, a hilly and a flat one. Everyone wanted to do the flat route.

Other:

- Erin talked about the increase in safe infrastructure and the corresponding increase in numbers of cyclists in Vancouver.
Bike to School programs are expanding throughout Metro Vancouver, with all elementary schools in Surrey receiving cycling education. Also other munis such as New Westminister, Coquitlam? Langley Township will also be offering some Bike to School programs and is inviting Council and staff to participate with ride. Translink subsidizes Bike to School programs (30%). Funding is provided by the municipalities, not by the School Boards. There may be an opportunity to apply for funding through the PACs.
Jackie's been populating the Wikimedia with our local committee's meeting notes and other stuff. This is accessible to the general public, and we need to have a link on our blog as well as on our facebook page. (done)
We should have a hand-out for people coming to our meetings (what do we do, what do we like people to do, how can they participate etc.)
Erin explained the UnGaptheMap tool that can be used by local committees to indicate all the gaps in the local and regional cycling network. She will ask Colin to send us the link. Jackie will ask Russ Carmichael for the binder with the information about the assessment rides we did in 2011 (done 15/5). We can possibly set up a special meeting to get this started. We will discuss this at our next meeting.
- We discussed how to get more people to the meetings/on rides. We can consider doing a survey to find out more about what people expect from our local committee, what inspires/interests them, what kinds of activities they would like to participate in.

- We had a discussion about the Port Mann bridge. No date yet for official opening of bridge for cyclists. HUB has indicated to MOTI that there are still significant issues outstanding that should be resolved before the official opening. Peter is working with Leon LeBrun of Trails BC to see how the dirt trail along the Mary Hill Bypass can be made better and more accessible. This needs to be fixed before a Three Bridges Tour can be organized.
Colin Stein would like to involve MOTI in organizing a Three Bridges Tour, to help strengthen HUB's relationship with MOTI. They could take care of some of the paperwork, and help with advertising/promotion.
- April 27: Meeting with Engineering (Michael Eng, Sharzad, Ryan Oss, Jeff Boehmer) re 203rd St. and 224th Street designs. (Dave, Alex, Jackie, Peter). After the first open house, our committee had supported conventional bike lanes, with buffers, along 203rd. It was felt to be safer than a 'sidewalk-bike lane-parking' lay-out due to the many driveways and some side streets. At the meeting the Engineering Department laid out another proposed design for a bi-directional cycle track on the east side of the road. Everyone at the meeting liked the design. Jackie expressed concern regarding the bi-directional nature of the path, which can lead to dangerous situations in an environment with many cars and few cyclists, as well as a few side streets that lead to elementary schools, with a significant amount of car traffic turning in to and out of those streets at certain times of the day. Driveway and side street crossings will probably be marked with green paint. Russ Carmichael would look into coloured asphalt, which could be cheaper. This project will likely happen this year, otherwise next year.
As the watermain needs to be replaced on 224 Street north of Dewdney, Engineering is considering changing the lay-out, providing bike lanes on both sides, with the bike lane on the east side between parked cars and the sidewalk. The parking on the west side of the street may be eliminated, and the amount of parking on the east side would have to be reduced somewhat to ensure proper sight lines. An open house will be held. There will probably be a fair amount of opposition from local residents. This is an area with lots of seniors residences.
- Bike the Dike with Ike: an appreciation event for Ike de Boer, municipal engineer at the City of Pitt Meadows, who will be retiring in October. Peter will talk to Katia and tell Ike we want to go for a ride with him with "some people (e.g. from Maple Ridge + Pitt Meadows Engineering, local HUB members...)". We will try to get a large number of people out for the ride. PLEASE DO NOT TELL IKE!
- Jackie to drop off HUB brochures to Westwood Cycle and Maple Ridge Cycle. (done)
- Cycling for seniors <http://www.vancourier.com/sports/cycling/at-any-age-a-bicycle-is-made-for-two-at-yaletown-house-1.1789136> (Peter). No news.
- Purchase of helmet cam (Barry, Tracey). Annual allowance: still remaining \$271.08 after Earth Day expenses including Dave's. We did not have time to discuss.