

## Calendar Year 2016 Annual Report

### I. Mission.

The primary purpose of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) is to advise the City Council and the Board of County Commissioners on bicycle and pedestrian issues.

### II. Executive Summary.

In 2016 BPAC continued its goal of making all of Durham's streets "complete streets," and engaged in a variety of activities in pursuit of this goal. The activities follow the holistic "5 Es" framework: Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation.

Engineering: The Development Review and Plan Implementation and Evaluation Committees reviewed and commented on numerous development and transportation plans throughout 2016, including comments on a revision to the Unified Development Ordinance and roadway resurfacing plans. The committees also worked with several citizens seeking specific improvements to important commute corridors in Durham.

Education and Encouragement: The Education and Encouragement Committee and continued to focus on Safe Routes to School efforts at schools as well as adult education through targeted outreach at community events. BPAC members continued to assist with the statewide Watch For Me NC safety campaign, supplementing this effort by purchasing additional bicycle lights for bicyclists in need, and coordinated bicycle valet services for the Tour de Fat and other community events.

Enforcement and Evaluation: The Community Engagement Committee, along with Durham Interneighborhood Council, began important conversations with the Durham Police Department around tracking and improving crash rates involving bicyclists and pedestrians. DPD now provides reports twice annually to BPAC on these subjects. This work continues in the combined Education, Encouragement, and Engagement Committee.

Membership: Six new members joined BPAC in 2016 – Akram Al-Turk, Cha'ssem Anderson, Julia Katz, Michael Moorman, Michael Terwilliger, and Jeremy Thornhill. BPAC continues to be served by members who have great energy, knowledge, and passion for bicycle and pedestrian issues. In 2016, the average attendance at the monthly meetings was 76 percent of the membership. Adding monthly committee meetings, presence at outreach events, the annual planning retreat, and other activities, the commitment of BPAC members was strong throughout the year.

In terms of notable infrastructure projects, the City added 2.8 miles of new bike lanes in 2016, mostly in conjunction with pavement projects. One of these projects, on Watts Streets, is believed to be the first contraflow bike lane in North Carolina. Another project, on Club Boulevard, was the culmination of several years of discussion. The City also built more than 800 linear feet of new sidewalks (in addition to sidewalks built as part of development projects) and made repairs to 7,709 linear feet of sidewalk.

### **III. Structure of BPAC**

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) was established in July of 2001. BPAC consists of 17 members. Seven of the members are appointed by the City Council and seven are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The remaining three members are liaisons from existing City/County commissions – the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission, the Recreation Advisory Commission, and the Durham Planning Commission.



*Durham BPAC Members at December 2016 Planning Retreat. Front row, from left: Emily Egge, Max Bushell, Michael Moorman, DeAnna Hall, Jen McDuffie, Ivona Piper, Julia Katz, Akram Al-Turk. Second row: Jeremy Thornhill, Andrew Jacobson, Frank Glover, Esteban Bortiri, Gene Carleton, Rebecca Board.*

Kendra Bridges served as Chair for the first six months of 2016, with Max Bushell serving as Chair for the rest of the year. Cliff Conklin and Andrew Jacobson served as Vice-Chair. Dale McKeel provided staff support to the Commission. Jillian Johnson served as the liaison from the Durham City Council and Ellen Reckhow served as the liaison from the Durham Board of County Commissioners.

In 2016, BPAC had the following committees:

- Development Review (co-chaired by Emily Egge and DeAnna Hall)
- Bike and Pedestrian Plan Implementation and Evaluation (chaired by Randy Best and Andrew Jacobson)
- Education, Encouragement, and Engagement (chaired by Jennifer McDuffie)

#### **IV. Presentations Made to BPAC**

- January: (1) Kayla Seibel and Scott Whiteman of the City-County Planning Department discussed the Station Area Strategic Infrastructure (SASI) project looking at affordable housing, transit, compact neighborhoods, and bicycle and pedestrian access within ½ mile of future light rail stations. (2) BPAC Chair Erik Landfried discussed concerns about changes to the City's Speed Hump Policy that were approved by City Council in June 2015 and did not come to BPAC for review.
- February: (1) Captain Brian Reitz of the Durham Police Department (DPD) reported on 2015 crash data, DPD traffic enforcement activities, and DPD education efforts related to bicycle and pedestrian safety. (2) Pete Nicholas of the Durham Transportation Department discussed the HAWK beacon, a relatively new crosswalk device that will be introduced in Durham on Guess Road as part of the West Ellerbe Creek Trail project.
- March: Aaron Lubeck of Durham Bike Boulevards presented his vision for a network of bicycle boulevards in Durham that could serve cyclists of many ages and abilities and be implemented in a short timeframe.
- April: Bryan Poole of the Durham Transportation Department gave an update on the Durham Bike and Walk Implementation Plan and discussed the project schedule, the website, and wikimapping site.
- May: (1) City Council member Jillian Johnson provided an update on the 2016-17 proposed City budget. (2) BPAC chair Kendra Bridges presented the BPAC 2015 Annual Report.
- June: (1) BPAC member Max Bushell gave a presentation on his analysis of the 2007-2013 bicycle and pedestrian crash data. (2) Bryan Poole of the Durham Transportation Department provided an update on the Bike and Walk Implementation Plan and shared survey results and public outreach efforts.
- July: Captain George Zeipekkis, Central District Commander of the Durham Police Department, provided the semi-annual report to BPAC regarding bicycle and pedestrian crashes and education, community outreach, and enforcement activities.
- August: (1) BPAC chair Max Bushell discussed new bicycle laws that were approved by the N.C. General Assembly in 2016. (2) Bryan Poole of the Durham Transportation Department discussed the Big Jump project and requested BPAC's help and support for Durham application.

- September: (1) Jenny Green of GoTriangle discussed GoTriangle Better Bus Stop project and work with the Durham Public Works Department to fund and construct bus stop improvements. (2) Council member Jillian Johnson provided an overview on the use of participatory budgeting and how it is being used in other communities.
- October: Terry Bellamy, Director of the Transportation Department, discussed Vision Zero, green lanes, complete streets policies, and answered questions from BPAC members.
- November: BPAC member Gene Carleton discussed the work of the Durham Community Trail Watch.
- December: (1) Anne Conlon discussed the work of Bike Durham, a non-profit organization working for bicycle-friendly change in Durham. (2) Dale McKeel discussed the purpose of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) being developed by the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization and requested BPAC's review and comment on the CTP.



*BPAC members review the bicycle and pedestrian network near the R. Kelly Bryant Bridge.*

## **V. BPAC Accomplishments and Activities**

### *A. Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Implementation*

- Participated in the update to the bicycle and pedestrian plans to help determine what bicycle and pedestrian projects that are most critically needed.
- Performed field review of potential trail, bicycle boulevard, and pedestrian/bicycle safety projects.

- Reviewed and commented on resurfacing lists for Durham and state roads.
- Reviewed and commented on Durham Orange Light Rail plan and discussed trail connections and bicycle and pedestrian access to future stations.
- Provided comments and recommendations for reducing the speed limit on roadway corridors in Durham.
- Reviewed connections from neighborhoods to the American Tobacco Trail, and other gaps that can be filled in the bicycle network.

*B. Development Review Activities*

- Provided 182 sets of comments on site plans, including initial reviews and re-reviews. Overall, 98 of 167 submitted site plans were reviewed (59 percent).
- Provided 48 sets of comments on development plans
- Reviewed and commented on proposed UDO changes for downtown and design districts.
- Held training session on development review process for new committee members and revised the site plan review checklist.

*C. Education and Encouragement Committee (From July: Education, Encouragement and Engagement Committee)*

- Worked with the Durham Police Department on the Watch for Me NC campaign and placed educational banners at locations throughout Durham.
- Analyzed bicycle and pedestrian crash data and provided summary tables and maps of findings.
- Engaged in Bike Month through attendance and volunteering at a variety of events.
- Increased the number of schools holding Walk to School and Bike to School events from 6 schools to 12 schools
- Requested and received \$500 for bicycle lights to supplement Watch for Me NC lights (distributed by Police Department).
- Discussed possible changes to Durham’s ordinance regarding bicycle riding on sidewalks.
- Engagement with Durham Police Department: discussed metrics and activities to further goal of decreasing bicycle and pedestrian crashes, educating the public, and collecting data both internally, with the Interneighborhood Council, and with DPD staff. Initiated semi-annual reporting from DPD at BPAC meetings.
- Drafted an article on bicycle and pedestrian safety for publication in a local newspaper.
- Partnered with the Durham Community Trail Watch to educate the public by using education stations at Bike to the Bulls during baseball season.
- Assisted with bicycle rodeo events held at Durham library locations.
- Worked to update and distribute a crash card for cyclists to record data.
- Provided bicycle valet parking and tabled at community events.

## **VI. Focus Areas for 2017**

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission held its annual retreat on December 17, 2016. The retreat included an overview of BPAC for the new BPAC members, a review of 2016 goals and accomplishments, and developed goals, outcomes, and activities for 2017, which are attached.

## **VII. Closing**

The members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission appreciate the opportunity to serve the City and County of Durham. We remain committed to our charge of assisting the elected boards in making Durham a better place to walk and bicycle. We hope that you will call upon us whenever our advice or expertise is needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Max Bushell, BPAC Chair



*Bike light sets purchased by BPAC were distributed by Durham officers*

## **Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects Completed in 2016**

### New Bike Lanes / Shoulders

- Broad Street from Guess Rd to Stadium Dr. (1.0 miles)
- Club Blvd from Hillandale Rd to Broad St. (0.9 miles)
- Woodcroft Parkway from Barbee Rd to Carpenter Fletcher Rd (0.75 miles)
- Watts St from Trinity Ave to Lamond Ave – contraflow lane (0.2 miles)
- Green lane intersection paint installed on Chapel Hill St and Club Blvd.

### Bicycle Parking

- 12 new bike racks installed by the City of Durham
- Numerous bike racks installed as part of new development

### Pedestrian Intersection Improvements and Lighting Projects

- Liberty Street/Cleveland & City Hall Plaza Crossing
- 476 new streetlight installations

### Completed Pedestrian Improvements at Signalized Intersections

- Hillsborough Road (US 70 Bus) and LaSalle Street
- Anderson Street and Erwin Road
- Vickers Street/East Forest Hills Boulevard and University Drive
- Shannon Road & University Drive
- Miami Boulevard and Raynor Street
- N. Roxboro St. & William Penn Plaza / Frasier St.
- N. Roxboro & Carver St.
- N. Roxboro & Olympic Ave./Frontier Communications Driveway
- N. Roxboro & Hewitt St./ Oxford Commons Shopping Center
- N. Roxboro & E. Murray Ave./Bon Air Ave.
- Gregson & Peabody St.
- Roxboro & Pettigrew St.
- Erwin Road & Eye Care Drive (APS upgrade)
- Fayetteville Road at Cook Road/Hillside High School (North Intersection)

### Sidewalks

- New sidewalk on Parrish Street (80 linear feet)
- New sidewalk to close gaps on Barbee, Cornwallis and near GoDurham offices (732 linear feet)
- Sidewalk repairs on Buchanan Street between Markham and Club (1380 linear feet)
- Miscellaneous sidewalk repairs throughout the City (6,329 linear feet)
- Sidewalks built as part of new development

### Traffic Calming

- No new speed humps or other traffic calming devices constructed in 2016.

## **2017 BPAC Goals**

All Durham streets should be safe for everyone regardless of whether they are walking, using transit, biking, or in a car. All Durham streets should be "complete streets" and designed for everyone - from small children to senior citizens, from runners to wheelchair users - to use and enjoy. We call on the Durham City Council, Durham County Commissioners, and staff to put in place everything necessary (policies, plans, public processes, staff and funding) to start making all Durham streets "complete." Further, we call for this effort and investment to focus on areas with the most need for multi-modal accommodations, recognizing that communities of color and lower income areas are often disproportionately hindered by lack of sidewalks, safe crossings, bike lanes, and other amenities that make up complete streets.

### **Outcomes and Activities (Committee Lead in Parentheses):**

1. Communicate BPAC's goals by:
  - a. maintaining an active dialogue/presence with City Council and County Commissioners, including activities such as presenting at work sessions and Coffees with Council, sending timely emails, and speaking directly with elected officials. (Full Commission)
  - b. Enhancing BPAC's online presence to help facilitate better dissemination of information to the public and provide an easy and understandable way for the public to provide comments to the BPAC. (Education, Encouragement, and Engagement Committee)
2. Clarify BPAC's role as an advisory commission that serves the entire Durham community by:
  - a. Developing and implementing targeted outreach/event participation goals for BPAC. (Education, Encouragement, and Engagement Committee)
  - b. Improving the way BPAC receives input from the public and communicates with the community. (Education, Encouragement, and Engagement Committee)
  - c. Performing a gap analysis of the work of BPAC in relation to other groups and commissions and identifying opportunities for collaboration and partnership. (Full Commission)
3. Increase the safe use of walking and bicycling as transportation modes for children and adolescents by increasing the number of schools in Durham participating in National Walk and Bike to School Days to 15 and encouraging Durham Public Schools to add a Bicycle Education curriculum to all DPS elementary schools at the 4th grade level. (Education, Encouragement, and Engagement Committee)



4. Improve the connectivity of the bicycle and pedestrian network in Durham by:
  - a. Participating in the update process for the City/County's Bike and Ped plans, including updating the bike/hike map if applicable. (Bike and Ped Plan Implementation Committee)
  - b. Identifying key connectivity gaps and collaborating with other commissions and jurisdictions to address them. (Bike and Ped Plan Implementation Committee)
  - c. Participating in the development of the regional Comprehensive Transportation Plan and the update of the Durham Comprehensive Plan. (Bike and Ped Plan Implementation Committee)
  
5. Improve the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians by:
  - a. Partnering with the Durham Department of Transportation and other city and county departments on Vision Zero (Full Commission)
  - b. Working with Durham Police Department to improve safety of bicyclists and pedestrians through use of metrics to track improvements and biannual attendance and presentations by officers at BPAC meetings. (Education, Encouragement, and Engagement Committee)
  
6. Ensure that appropriate bicycle and pedestrian accommodations are included in new and maintained in existing development and transportation facilities by:
  - a. Reviewing and providing feedback on all transportation projects in Durham, including, but not exclusive to, specific ped/bike projects, road widenings and reconfigurations, intersection improvements, road repaving projects. (Bike and Ped Plan Implementation Committee)
  - b. Reviewing and providing feedback on new site and development plans for compliance with UDO and adopted plans with regards to bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, increasing the number of plans reviewed by 10 percent over 2016. (Development Review Committee)
  - c. Participating in the planning process for large transportation projects such as the Durham-Orange Light Rail and "Fix the Loop" project, advocating for consideration and inclusion of appropriate bicycle and pedestrian accommodations as part of these projects. (Development Review Committee)

**2016 Attendance Report  
Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission  
January 1, 2016 -- December 31, 2016**

Member Name	Appointed By	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-26	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Retreat	Dec-16	Percent of Meetings Attended
Akram Al-Turk	Planning Commission	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	P	100%
Andrew Hutson	City	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	EA	P	---	---	---	---	67%
Andrew Jacobson	City	EA	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	77%
Chas'ssem Anderson	City (NCCU Rep)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	EA	P	67%
Clifford Conklin	County	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	P	EA	---	---	---	---	78%
Damon Thomas	City (NCCU Rep)	A	A	A	A	A	A	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	0%
DeAnna Hall	City	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	77%
Emily Egge	City	EA	P	P	A	P	P	EA	P	P	EA	P	P	P	69%
Esteban Bortiri	City	P	EA	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	77%
Frank Glover	County	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	P	85%
Gene Carleton	RAC	P	P	EA	P	P	EA	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	P	69%
Ivona Piper	County	P	P	EA	P	EA	EA	P	P	P	EA	EA	P	EA	54%
Jennifer McDuffie	County	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	92%
Jeremy Thornhill	County	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Julia Katz	City	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	P	100%
Kendra Bridges	City	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	---	---	---	---	---	---	100%
Max Bushell	County	EA	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	85%
Michael Moorman	County	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	100%
Perry Whitted	DOST	EA	P	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	EA	62%
Randall Best	County (Duke)	P	P	P	P	EA	P	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	83%
Rebecca Board	County	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	85%
<b>Total Percentage of Meetings Attended</b>														<b>76%</b>	

P = Present  
A = Absent  
EA = Excused Absence  
--- = Not a member at the time of this meeting  
\*\* = No longer a member of the Commission