

**CITY OF NEWARK**  
**Newark, Delaware**

**Traffic Committee Meeting**  
**May 5, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Tom Coleman, Andrew Haines, Courtney Mulvanity, Tom Parkins

**Absent:** DC Mark Farrall  
Lt. Dennis Aniunas  
Marvin Howard  
Dave Gula

**Guests:** Chris Hamilton, Councilmember District 4  
Tom Fruehstorfer, Planning & Development Department  
Megan McNerney, Administration  
Heather Dunigan, WILMAPCO  
Susan Grasso, BikeNewark  
David Saunders, BikeNewark  
Savannah Edwards  
Helga Huntley  
Christopher Kitson  
Paul Moser

**1. Request for a proposed bicycle infrastructure pop-up demonstration project on Casho Mill Road.**

Mr. Coleman said this special meeting was requested to reconsider the use of barrels as part of the temporary mockup for the protected bike lane on Casho Mill Road associated with Bike to School week.

Mr. Coleman said this item was discussed at the previous Traffic Committee meeting and based upon the information known at the time of this meeting the committee didn't feel it was appropriate to permit the use of barrels. Ms. Grasso requested the committee reconsider their decision based upon additional information that wasn't available at the previous meeting.

Ms. Grasso said on behalf of BikeNewark, the members considered the point that was raised and the reason for not supporting the improvements. Ms. Grasso said in the letter she clarified that there have been proposed ideas, however there has been no public outreach at this point. Ms. Grasso also feels it would be best for the city not to make decisions prior to public conversation in deciding what should or shouldn't be considered in the range of alternatives.

Ms. Grasso said bicycle infrastructure improvements are changing and improving and feels most people don't have the opportunity to experience the availability of a safer infrastructure. This opportunity would provide a safer infrastructure and would allow public comment and feedback. Ms. Grasso added they were sensitive to the fact that it could be perceived as misleading as to what was coming.

Ms. Grasso apologized that BikeNewark wasn't present at the prior meeting not realizing they needed approval from the Traffic Committee at that point in time.

Mr. Haines said it would be a safety concern if temporary cones were setup in the intersection. Mr. Coleman confirmed that there would be no barrels setup in any of the intersections.

Mr. Coleman said he has had more time to think through how this would be done. Mr. Coleman said the Mayor agreed to pay for the cost of barrels. Mr. Coleman said there would be some cost to the city for the cost of barrels as well.

Ms. Edwards said there is a survey attached to the larger bicycle infrastructure projects and she has conducted extensive research on pop-up bicycle projects across the country. The primary goal is to obtain feedback on what is important and the safest for the community.

Mr. Parkins asked who is completing the survey. Ms. Edwards said the survey is completed by parents/guardians of the children. The survey questions are based on safety and traffic.

Ms. Dunigan said her understanding was one of the concerns at the previous Traffic Committee meeting raised by the members was if the community decides they are in favor of the physical separation of the barrels and if forces the city into making these improvements. Ms. Dunigan said if the community is in favor of the physical separation WILMPAPCO could work with the city on other options that are snow plow friendly that would be more acceptable.

A resident mentioned due to the wide lanes on Casho Mill Road there is a safety concern of vehicles passing on the shoulder. Ms. Grasso said she feels the effort with the project will hopefully change the culture.

Mr. Coleman said DC Farrall was unable to attend the meeting, however his main concern is the baten switch aspect. Mr. Coleman said he is indifferent to the use of the e barrels.

Mr. Parkins inquired as to the time frame of the evaluation period. Ms. Grasso said the goal is to install on Sunday. Bike week at Downes Elementary School begins on Monday for an entire week. Ms. Grasso said Mr. Kitson is with the University of Delaware Engineers Without Borders and has arranged for UD students to participate in the bike trains. An information session will be held on Wednesday afternoon that will be staffed by BikeNewark to discuss the pop-up project. Ms. Grasso said the survey will be conducted for the entire week.

Mr. Parkins asked if there are plans to extend the project if there is inclement weather. Ms. Grasso said in the event of inclement weather, she would expect the demonstration to be postponed.

**Motion by Mr. Parkins, seconded by Mr. Haines to amend the approval to place barrels from Bent Lane to Lafayette Road per the original plan.**

**Motion passed: Unanimous  
Vote: 4 to 0**

Ms. Grasso asked if Mr. Coleman has considered Mr. Kitson's suggestion to use UD Bike Days signs to educate bicyclists on how to ride safely and place along the bike train routes. Mr. Coleman said some homeowner's may object to signs being posted on their property and recommended they be placed on Downes School property to prevent them being removed.

Mr. Parkins asked if the media outlets have been notified. Mr. Coleman said it has been posted on the website.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Any supporting documents pertaining to this meeting will be held on file at the police department.