

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
Bicycle Committee Meeting
3:00pm – 11 March 2009
Hawai‘i Hall Room 309

Call to order: Meeting called to by Chair Pattie Dunn at 3:08pm

Committee meeting attendees: Roxanne Adams, Daniel Alexander, Robin Brandt, Pattie Dunn, Harald Ebeling, Maile Hirao, Michael Laughlin, Hans Nielsen, Tara O’Neill, Harry Partika, Ann Sakuma, Steve Spielman, Maria Stewart

STATUS REPORTS:

Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Bicycling (MACB):

Pattie reported on two bike project proposals from the City and State Transportation departments. The first plan is by the City Transportation Department to improve Waialae Avenue from Kapiolani Boulevard to Kokohead Avenue to make the roadway more bicycle-friendly. The city is currently looking at adding a bike lane going from Kapiolani Boulevard to Sierra Drive provided that contra flow lanes can be eliminated during the afternoon rush hour. Sharrows are being discussed for the portion of Waialae Avenue running between Sierra Drive and Kokohead Avenue.

The second project is under the State Transportation Department for planned improvement of Kalanianaʻole Highway from Makapuu Lookout to Waimanalo Beach Park. The proposal is to widen the shoulder along the proposed route to better accommodate cyclists. Consensus from majority of cyclists was for any additional shoulder to be added to the Mauka section of the roadway running from Makapuu Lookout to the entrance of Sea Life Park to accommodate the slower riders going uphill. Majority felt that cyclists are traveling downhill at the same rate as vehicular traffic and can therefore easily take the lane without obstructing traffic flow.

Cycle Mānoa

Daniel reported that Cycle Mānoa is planning Earth Day activities for April 22, 2009. Some ideas that were proposed are a Bike Expo, stationary races, and Bike to UH day.

Cycle Mānoa continues to host rides for new cyclists to get to know Mānoa on the first Sunday of the month. The group has a facebook site to help organize rides. Weekly meetings are held at Bale Gardens at 5:30pm on Wednesdays.

Repair workshops/clinics - kickstand are held Thursdays from 11am to 3pm at the Campus Center and Sundays from 4pm to 7pm in the Cycle Manoa warehouse located behind St. John’s. Workshops include classes on getting to know your bike, brakes, flat tire repair, and wheel truing. Donations are accepted and Daniel and Harry are currently working with both the Parking and Housing offices to claim abandoned bikes. Kickstand clinic will be moving to another day, not yet determined.

Hans suggested that he go over the EPA standards with Daniel for the bicycle warehouse workshop to make sure that Cycle Mānoa is EPA compliant.

There was discussion regarding campus registration of bicycles to help identify bikes on campus. Under city bicycle registration practices, it is difficult to track the true owner of a bicycle.

Proposal/ Bicycle Committee 2005 Mānoa Bike Plan

The Hawai'i State Department of Transportation (HDOT), City & County of Honolulu's Department of Transportation Services (DOTS), and the Mayor's Action Committee for Bicycling (MACB) recognizes the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as a major transportation hub. Communities adjacent to the Mānoa Campus (including the Mānoa and Moiliili Neighborhood Boards) and the campus community itself have expressed an interest in seeing UH Mānoa take an active role in providing a model for a bike-friendly campus and community. Towards this end, we are requesting your assistance to reform the UH Mānoa Bicycling Committee (UHMBC) and encourage participation from faculty, staff, and student body.

The ultimate goal is to create a bike friendly environment at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa by creating resources and supportive policies for bicycle commuters, recreational cyclist and athletes.

Showers

Specific points in the 2005 Bike Plan were discussed. Many members felt that lack of showers was a stopper for people commuting to work. Roxanne pointed out that many buildings on campus have shower facilities that were being used for other purposes, i.e. storage. An inventory was made of shower facilities and building managers. For instance, Byron Moon manages the Music Department and shower facilities are available in the new music-building wing. Roxanne has agreed to see if she could locate the original inventory that was done.

Harry mentioned that Gartley Hall was going through renovations and he had asked if showers could be included in the renovation plans. It was also mentioned that the new campus center plans included shower facilities that would be available to students. Agreement was that there was a lack of knowledge of available facilities and who had access.

Bike Parking

Bike parking is another issue. Theft of bicycles or parts and pieces of bicycles is a common occurrence on campus. Bike lockers are one solution and there are a few lockers on campus between Sakamaki Hall and SOEST. Per Ray Shito, bike lockers are available and can be requested to be placed near specific buildings. This is unconfirmed to date. Some indicated that they would be willing to pay a fee for a bike locker.

Harry pointed out that the bike enclosure at Frear Hall is accessed by a smart card. This area is enclosed and covered but also includes storage for mopeds and surfboards. Committee recommended having more of these built in strategic locations around campus. Roxanne mentioned that landscaping was upgrading bike parking and trying to move them out of range of sprinkler systems as well as paving some of the areas.

Safe Routes/Safety

Safe routes to and from campus were a big concern and many felt a stopper for people to take up bike commuting. A campus bike map showing bike routes on campus as well as access points would be useful. It was also suggested that current bike commuters map their routes to school on Google "Map My Ride." Riding with another seasoned commuter would also help new riders.

Rider safety is also an issue. Committee should encourage helmet usage as well as the use of front and rear lights. Ideas were discussed regarding funding to purchase lights to give out to UH community. Possibilities of having bike shops do a promotion.

New Student Orientation would be a good time to promote safe riding and guidelines for riding on and around campus.

New Business

Road I/Traffic 101 classes are being offered by HBL and can be found on the HBL website (<http://www.hbl.org/>). Robin Brandt stated that she was a certified League of American Bicyclist trainer and offered to find videos showing safe bike riding practices.

Earth Day is on April 22nd and Cycle Manoa is planning activities for their booth.

May is Bike Month and Bike to Work week is May 11-15, 2009. Last year, a group rode from Sinclair Circle to Tamarind Park for Bike to Work Day. This year there will be activities planned over the week culminating in a noontime rally at Tamarind Park. HBL has asked if UHM would have a group ride down again for the Friday rally.

Other

Committee decided that we needed to survey our ridership. Maile Hirao's group had done a survey as part of their bike sharing proposed program. 80% of the respondents were graduate students. Harry and Maile will put together survey to be posted on the Web.