

Calendar Year 2014 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.

2014 was a year of change for BPAC. Several very active members, including two former chairs, completed their second terms and were not eligible for reappointment. Other long term members resigned for various reasons. Overall, 10 new members were appointed to the Commission in 2014.

Nonetheless, BPAC continues to be served by members of the Durham community who have great energy, knowledge, and passion for bicycle and pedestrian issues. In 2014, the average attendance at the monthly meetings was 77 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.

As 2014 came to a close, the Durham community was shocked by the deaths of three Durham cyclists who were killed in separate crashes with automobiles in Durham and Chapel Hill. The tragedies led to many discussions and calls for action to make the community safer for all.

With the completion of more than 32 miles of bicycle lanes in Durham, miles of new sidewalks, and the completion of the American Tobacco Trail and bridge over I-40, Durham is providing many facilities for recreation and alternative transportation. We look forward to staying engaged with City and County government in making Durham a better place for people who want to walk and bike.

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.

Erik Landfried and Randy Best served as Chair and Vice-Chair in 2014. Dale McKeel provides staff support to the Commission. Don Moffitt is the liaison from the Durham City Council and Ellen Reckhow is the liaison from the Durham County Commissioners.

Ten new members joined BPAC in 2014 – Kendra Bridges, Gene Carleton, Cliff Conklin, Emily Egge, Cynthia Fisher-Richardson, DeAnna Hall, Andrew Jacobson, Ivona Piper, Damon Thomas, and Malcolm White.



Durham BPAC Members at October 2014 Planning Retreat. Front row, from left: Malcolm White, Kendra Bridges, Jen McDuffie, Elise Bielen. Second row: Emily Egge, DeAnna Hall, Dale McKeel (Transportation Dept.), Mary Ross. Back row: Erik Landfried, Randy Best, Andrew Jacobson.

In 2014, BPAC had the following committees:

- Development Review (chaired by Scott Carter and Jeff Bakalchuck)
- Bike and Pedestrian Plan Implementation and Evaluation (chaired by Greg Garneau and Randy Best)
- Community Engagement (chaired by Mathew Palmer, Jennifer McDuffie, and Kendra Bridges)
- Education and Encouragement (chaired by Jennifer McDuffie).

IV. Presentations Made to BPAC

- January: Philip Azar, chair of the INC Traffic Enforcement Committee, presented a draft resolution aimed at improving traffic enforcement on neighborhood streets.
- February: Director of the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Lauren Blackburn presented an overview of the statewide bicycle and pedestrian plan adopted in December 2013. The plan proposes increased cooperation between cities and towns to promote bicycle and pedestrian connections through improvement of data usage, public promotion, safety, and engineering.
- March: Dale McKeel from the City of Durham Transportation Department delivered a presentation about the history of sidewalk construction in Durham and plans to improve the quantity of existing pedestrian infrastructure.
- April: Megan Makoid from Triangle Transit Authority (TTA) summarized the ongoing Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit project and discussed updates to TTA bus services.
- April: Hannah Jacobson from the Durham City-County Planning Department presented information about the Station Area Strategic Infrastructure project (SASI), which studies the areas immediately surrounding Durham-Orange Light Rail transit stations.
- May: Jack Warman, a representative from the citizen advocacy group Bike Durham, provided an introduction to the organization's goals and discussed possibilities for collaboration with BPAC.
- May: BPAC chair Erik Landfried presented the 2013 BPAC Annual Report.
- June: Tom Dawson discussed the most recent version of the Downtown Open Space Plan, which proposes enhanced safety measures, new parks and open areas, and an improved greenway network.
- June: Bernadette Evans, a safety and security specialist for Triangle Transit, led a discussion concerning bicycle and pedestrian safety as it relates to bus operations. Topics such as driver training, incident investigation, and bicyclist precautions for riding near buses were addressed.
- June: Dale McKeel described the reformed NCDOT SPOT process for state and federal funding of local bicycle and pedestrian projects.
- August: Director of Transportation Mark Ahrendsen and Jeff Lecky from the Public Works Department detailed progress and challenges in the Club Boulevard Neckdown Project, which aims to improve pedestrian safety through traffic calming. Following the presentation, there was a community discussion about the impacts of neckdowns on traffic, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
- October: Erik Landfried delivered a presentation introducing the National Complete Streets Coalition process for improving transportation inclusion and accessibility.
- October: Deputy City Manager Bo Ferguson led a discussion in regard to a proposed policy governing memorials on city property.
- November: Ed Sarvis, Assistant Chief of the Durham Police Department, discussed his department's mission and goals. Additionally, he described recent improvements to

police enforcement of bicycle and pedestrian laws, including increased officer training, expansion of bicycle and pedestrian safety monitoring, and enhanced data collection.

- December: Dale McKeel and Mark Ahrendsen from the Transportation Department and Clint Blackburn from the Public Works Department discussed proposed neckdowns at selected intersections on Duke and Gregson streets. The neckdowns were one of several items recommended in a 2002 Trinity Park area wide traffic calming study.
- December: Pete Nicholas and Leslie Tracey with the Transportation Department discussed several topics, including (1) policies for the placement of crosswalks and enhanced crosswalk treatments, such as in-street pedestrian crossing signs, LED flashers, etc., (2) the installation of pedestrian signals at signalized installation, (3) detection of bicycles at signalized intersections, and (4) sidewalk and trail closure procedures and associated detour plans.

V. BPAC Accomplishments and Activities

A. Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Implementation

- Reviewed projects that are part of the bicycle and pedestrian functional design study—Hillandale, Morreene, Carpenter-Fletcher, and Cornwallis corridors—and provided comments to the project consultant.
- Participated in the identification of opportunities for new bicycle lanes on streets scheduled to be repaved
- Monitored the progress of the following local bicycle infrastructure projects:
 - Phase E of the ATT
 - Main Street road diet
- Reviewed proposed changes to the City’s sidewalk petition process and recommended changes to City Council.
- Participated in Light Rail Environmental Scoping meetings
- Reported on the prioritization of pedestrian signal projects
- Participated in regional and statewide activities, including the Triangle Bike-Ped Workshop, the N.C. Active Transportation Alliance Legislative and Policy Caucus, and the N.C. Bike Summit (representatives from other BPAC committees also participated in these events).

B. Development Review Activities

- Provided 344 sets of comments on site plans, including initial reviews and re-reviews
- Provided comments on 19 development plans
- Held a training session on what to look for and how to review site plans and development plans.
- Reviewed and discussed design of bicycle parking at apartment buildings near downtown Durham and Ninth Street and provided recommendations to applicants.

2014

BPAC Year in Numbers

479	Bikes parked by BPAC at Tour de Fat
344	Site plans reviewed by BPAC
2083	Patrol hours by Durham Trail Watch volunteers
120	Percent increase in Durham residents who commute to work by bike—from 2007 to 2013
20,000+	Durham Bike & Hike Maps distributed since 2010

C. Education and Encouragement Activities.

- Increased the number of schools holding Walk to School and Bike to School events from 4 schools to 6 schools
- Participated in Durham Earth Day and operated free bike valet parking at the event
- Organized, publicized, raised funds for and implemented (with help from our partners) Bike Month events for Durham including:
 - Evening social event in south Durham at Sunset Grille (included bike mechanics from REI)
 - Evening social event at Bull McCabe's (included bike mechanics from Seven Stars Cycles)
 - Bike-to-Work-Week cyclists' breakfast at Ninth Street Bakery
- Ran Bike Valet Parking for New Belgium Brewery's Tour de Fat. Parked more than 350 bikes
- Helped staff an information table at the Festival for the Eno
- Staffed an information table at the South Durham Farmer's Market.
- Kept the BPAC web site up to date with BPAC minutes, letters and other documents and links
- Raised funds to help cover costs of updating and reprinting the Durham Bike & Hike map by soliciting donations for the map at any event where we were staffing an information table
- Provided free bike valet parking at Durham Centerfest with Durham Bicycle Coalition.
- Educated and informed the public about incidents on the American Tobacco Trail through police presentations at meetings and through BPAC members' participation as Trail Watch Volunteers.

- Participated in Triangle Region’s Watch For Me NC bicycle and pedestrian safety campaign.
- Researched Durham’s current policy of not allowing bicycles on sidewalks and prepared recommendation to City Council.

D. Community Engagement

- Sponsored the Durham Kidical Mass aimed at children and families and including safety education and a fun ride on the American Tobacco Trail.
- Explored potential of Bike Share in Durham.
- Participated in planning and activities for the Thanksgiving in Spring event.
- In celebration of Bike Month, held a Community Meeting in May instead of a regular BPAC meeting.
- Participated in meetings of the Traffic Enforcement Committee of the Durham Inter-Neighborhood Council.
- Solicited proposals for locations of on-street bike corrals in Durham.



A Kidical Mass ride was held during Bike Month 2014.

VI. Focus Areas for 2015

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission held its annual retreat on October 25, 2014. The retreat included an overview of BPAC for the new BPAC members, a review of 2014 goals and accomplishments, and developed goals for 2015, 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,

Erik Landfried, BPAC Chair



Walk to school day.



Bike to school day.



Bicycle parking at the 2014 Full Frame Festival

Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects Completed in 2014

Bike Lanes / Shoulders

- Stagecoach Road, Farrington Road, and Barbee Chapel Road (2 miles)

Bike Racks

- 10 new bike rack installations by the City of Durham
- Numerous bike racks installed as part of new development

Pedestrian Signal Improvements at Intersections

- Martin Luther King Jr Parkway and Archdale Drive
- Renaissance Parkway and Rolando Drive
- Angier Street and Driver Street
- Club Boulevard and Duke Street
- Club Boulevard and Gregson Street

Pedestrian Lighting Projects

- 283 new streetlight installations

Sidewalks

- 8,427 feet of sidewalk repaired
- New sidewalk on Garrett Road between Swarthmore Road and Jordan High School
- New sidewalk and a pedestrian bridge on Dearborn Drive
- Sidewalks built as part of new development

Traffic Calming

- 18 speed humps installed on a total of six streets

Trail Projects

- American Tobacco Trail – bridge over Interstate 40 and connecting trails

2015 BPAC Goals

Overarching BPAC goal: 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 and staff to put in place everything necessary (policies, plans, public processes, staff and funding) to start making all Durham streets "complete."

Sub-goals (to be led, or partially led, by BPAC):

1. Increase dialogue/presence with City Council and County Commissioners by presenting at work sessions and Coffees with Council, sending timely emails, and speaking directly with elected officials. **(Full Commission)**
2. Increase the number of schools in Durham participating in National Walk and Bike to School Days to 15 and encourage Durham Public to add a Bicycle Education curriculum to all DPS elementary schools. **(Education and Encouragement Committee)**
3. Encourage the City to fund and perform a bike share feasibility study in FY 2015-16 and engage key stakeholders to support this goal. **(Community Engagement Committee)**
4. Continue to push City and County staff and elected officials to fund and perform an update to the City/County's Bike and Ped plans in FY 2015-16. **(Bike and Ped Plan Implementation Committee)**
5. Find a pro bono marketing firm to help craft a BPAC communications strategy. **(Education and Encouragement Committee)**
6. Increase education and awareness regarding rules of the road and safe use for all users in Durham. Work with contacts at the DMV to see if specific questions related to ped/bike safety can be added to the driver's rehabilitation exam. **(Education and Encouragement Committee)**
7. Work with Durham Police Department to improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists through increased enforcement and education, and to determine appropriate metrics to track such improvements. **(Community Engagement Committee)**
8. Review and provide feedback on all street projects in Durham, including, but not exclusive to, specific ped/bike projects, road widenings and diets, intersection improvements, and road repaving projects. **(Bike and Ped Plan Implementation Committee)**

Goals BPAC can help support (led by others)

1. Update Bike/Hike map. **(Bike and Ped Plan Implementation Committee)**
2. Continue to support Transportation Department in reviewing new site/corridor plans for compliance with UDO and adopted plans with regards to bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. **(Development Review Committee)**

**2014 Attendance Report -- City Council Appointees
Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission
January 1, 2014 -- December 31, 2014**

Member Name	Appointed By	Jan-14	Retreat # 1	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Retreat # 2	Nov-14	Dec-14	Percent of Meetings Attended
Andrew Jacobson	City	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	EA	EA	P	P	P	P	67%
Brian O'Sullivan	City	P	P	EA	P	P	P	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	83%
Clifford Conklin	County	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	EA	P	50%
Cynthia Fisher-Richardson	County	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	100%
Cynthia Van Der Wiele	County	EA	P	EA	EA	P	EA	EA	P	P	EA	**	**	**	**	50%
Damon Thomas	City (NC Central Rep)	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	P	EA	EA	EA	P	63%
DeAnna Hall	City	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	100%
Dwayne Taylor	County	EA	EA	P	P	EA	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	EA	P	EA	50%
Elise Bielen	Planning Commission	---	---	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	P	83%
Emily Egge	City	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	P	EA	80%
Erik Landfried	City	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Gene Carlton	Recreation Commission	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	EA	P	EA	EA	P	P	50%
Greg Garneau	County	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	**	**	**	**	**	89%
Ivona Piper	County	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	100%
Jeffrey Bakalchuck	DOST	P	EA	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	P	EA	71%
Jennifer McDuffie	County	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Kendra Bridges	City	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Malcolm White	County	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P	EA	EA	60%
Mary Ross	City	EA	P	P	EA	EA	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	P	P	71%
Mathew Palmer	City	P	P	P	P	P	P	EA	EA	P	**	**	**	**	**	78%
Merry Rabb	City	P	P	EA	P	EA	P	P	P	P	**	**	**	**	**	78%
Nicole Heller	City	EA	P	EA	P	EA	P	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	50%
Randall Best	County (Duke)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Scott Carter	County	P	P	P	P	EA	P	P	P	P	**	**	**	**	**	89%
Sue Back	County	EA	EA	EA	P	EA	EA	EA	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	14%

P = Present

A = Absent

EA = Excused Absence

--- = Not a member at the time of this meeting

** = No longer a member of the Commission