

Topic: Bicycle KC**Convener:** Andy White**Room:** H**Discussion Summary:**

Bike paths and bicycle lanes:

Bike paths – Convener is not a proponent of bike paths for safety reasons (more people get seriously injured on paths). Paths also have limitations because they aren't available widely. They do have some value in helping novice bicyclists get used to riding.

Bike lanes – A better approach, but current infrastructure doesn't accommodate cycling even though laws do. People would gradually become more comfortable riding on the street if there were dedicated lanes, and more people would be willing to ride.

Other points:

Infrastructure – There are other options to bike paths and bike lanes. In Canada, there are cities where existing roads are altered to dedicate some lanes to bicycling. This optimizes cyclists' ability to navigate through a city.

Safety – Maybe need to have a license to ride bicycle. Lot of people don't understand that bicycle is a vehicle. Participants agreed cyclists need to obey traffic laws consistently; when they don't it just reinforces negative perceptions. Lot of people have anxiety about riding because they don't know what to do.

Bike lane locations – City of Kansas City has had a plan to implement bike lanes, but had to put it on the back burner; now they are in process of updating it. New Paseo Bridge does not include a bicycle lane; can be retrofitted to put in a lane but current plan does not include it. Participants felt this was the wrong approach.

Public awareness/education – Educate public to help change society's attitude towards bicycling and ongoing education for cyclists. Bicycles and vehicles should be able to share the road. Media is starting to cover it more.

Public perception – Kansas City is such a car culture. MoDOT participants mentioned public input where people express opposition to spending money on bike lanes. This puts MoDOT in a position of not being able to implement bike infrastructure. Multi-use paths tend to get more support because people say they will use them.

MARC bicycle pedestrian count – First time this will be done in Kansas City. This will give the region hard data.

Share the Road Task Force is another resource – Deb Ridgway, City of Kansas City, Mo.

Meeting time: Session 3: 11:30 a.m.**Recorder:** Marge Gasnick