



CHAPEL HILL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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ATTACHMENT 7

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Foy and Council
FROM: Pam Hemminger, Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission
RE: Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan
DATE: August 19, 2004

The Parks and Recreation Commission met on August 18 and reviewed the information regarding the Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan. The Commission voted unanimously (10-0) to forward the following Comments to the Council:

- The Commission commends the work of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board and staff in compiling the draft plan.
- The Commission believes that the Action Plan should acknowledge that the Town is currently working on a revision to the Master Greenways Plan that will likely have some changes not included in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan.
- The Commission believes that Town and the University should come to an agreement concerning the highest level of trail treatment acceptable to both entities prior to the beginning of any process to upgrade the current trail beyond issues related to maintenance and repair.
- The Commission believes the Active Living By Design committee should have input in future Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan updates.

The Commission sees merit in both sides of the issue of paving Battle Branch Trail and voted 9-1 to recommend that the section in the draft plan regarding the Battle Branch Greenway Trail (beginning on page 16) be set aside for the following reasons:

- The update of the Greenways Master Plan, which should be completed for Council to consider in the next 8 months, will include an analysis of this issue and accompanying recommendation
- The University should be included in these discussions.

Ms. Tyson dissented, noting the idea of promoting the trail as a transportation corridor for bicyclists was important.

The Commission appreciates the opportunity to review this material.

The Parks and Recreation Commission members present for this discussion:

Present
Pam Hemminger, Chair

Absent
Paul Caldwell

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Terri Tyson, Vice Chair
Terry Blalock
Bob Broad
Cory Brooks
Faith Nager
Jerry Neville
Andrea Rohrbacher
Pete Schwartz
Diane VandenBroek