

## Quarterly Bike Program Steering Cmte Notes

December 7, 2022

Via Webex; Notes Released December 28, 2022

### Participants

Melanie Ahrens - Starting Point Preschool  
Clark Bennett - Kalamazoo Bicycle Club  
Dustin Black - Modeshare Kalamazoo  
Zach Dumont - City of Kalamazoo  
Issac Green - Open Roads Bike Program  
Katherine Mills - iCanShine  
Melissa Perrin - iCanShine  
Paul Rehkopf - Bike Friendly Kalamazoo  
Paul Selden - Bike Friendly Kalamazoo  
Scott VanderEnde - Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety  
Ellen VanderMyde - Voyage With Ellen  
Paul Wells - Kalamazoo Bicycle Club  
Emma Youngs - Bronson Healthcare

### Welcome

Members, Diversity & Bicycling Leaders, BFK Committee Members, Guests

### Roll Call

### Meeting Goals

Orient new prospective members  
Share program updates  
Elect Chair for 2023  
Consider additional programs

### Next Quarterly Steering Committee Meeting Date: March 22, 2023; 4pm via Webex

Coincident with BFK's Annual Public Meeting; Review Annual Survey Results; Quarterly Program Updates

### Quick Review of Steering Committee Purpose / Process

Charter - consider matters related to defining and accomplishing named Programs and relay non-binding advice to Program Core Team(s)  
Guests - can join per process as recognized organizational members or as member stakeholders at large  
Members - are named by their organizations, agree to serve as delegates or at-large, allow their emails to be sent as cc's; give Chair contact info. **Action Item: please review roster and notify Chair of changes.**  
Notes - summarize main points and are not formal minutes  
Core Teams - Self-forming and self-directed; Act on priorities between quarterly meetings  
BFK's Volunteer Committees (**Bike Art, Education, Diversity/DEI Cmte is forming**)  
Volunteer Chairs Call Meetings Separately  
For more information, see **Reference** section below

### Program Updates on Long-Term Initiatives: Education, Safety Awareness-Building, Signage

Topics listed based on items of previously agreed-upon steering committee interest. This committee's main purpose is to share information and offer guidance to those implementing. The community is welcome to use the information and implement ideas "at will." Please email additional thoughts to the Chair.

#### 1. Education

##### **All Kids Bike Preschool PE Program Plans at Starting Point Preschool - Melanie Ahrens**

Starting Point Preschool (see <https://startingpointpreschool.org/>) on 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Oshtemo Twp has applied to the Strider Education Foundation to start the process for bringing the All Kids Bike program to their students. The All Kids Bike includes teacher training and certification, a structured 8 lesson curriculum, a fleet of 24 Strider 14x AKB-Specific Bikes, 24 Pedal Conversion Kits, 24 fully-adjustable helmets, and a 5 year support plan. The program cost is \$6,000. Bike Friendly Kalamazoo as a web page to help fundraise for this school at <https://stridereducationfoundation->

[bloom.kindful.com/bike-friendly-kalamazoo-for-starting-point-preschool-2022/bike-friendly-kalamazoo](https://bloom.kindful.com/bike-friendly-kalamazoo-for-starting-point-preschool-2022/bike-friendly-kalamazoo).

### **Education Committee - Emma Youngs**

**Emma Youngs**, Early Childhood Injury Coordinator for Bronson Hospital, was introduced as the new chair of BFK's Education Committee. Emma will be working with 2022 Ed. Cmte chair Sawyer Duncan to organize a bike rodeo in Vicksburg on September 16, 2023. She will be calling an Education Committee meeting fairly early in 2023. Representatives from the schools, local bicycle clubs and bicycling oriented non-profits and informal groups will be invited. [One goal of the Education Committee is to build awareness of existing bicycle training for all ages and abilities, and to find ways to fill in the gaps where they may not currently exist.] Email suggestions for schools you think might benefit from the All Kids Bike Kindergarten PE Program (with teacher/principal/superintendent contact information if you know them) and for who might be good to invite to our Education Committee meeting, to: [education@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](mailto:education@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org).

### **Kalamazoo Bicycle Club - Paul Wells**

Kalamazoo Bicycle Club is planning Bike Camp for adults and families this coming spring, possibly offering two separate stand-alone one day programs of their award-winning curriculum plus practical riding experience. Designed for adults and minors, Bike Camp will provide opportunities for families and adults to learn safe and efficient road cycling. Contact **Paul Wells** at [educationchair@kalamazobicycleclub.org](mailto:educationchair@kalamazobicycleclub.org)

### **iCanShine Bike Program Concept - Katherine Mills & Melissa Perin**

iCan Bike programs are for people with disabilities ages eight and up (learn more at <https://icanshine.org/>). The program leaders understand that the vast majority of people with disabilities never experience the thrill of independently riding a two-wheel bicycle during their lifetime. Katherine Mills is organizing an iCan Bike program in the Kalamazoo area June 19-23. The 5-day camps consist of five 75-minute bike-riding sessions per day with a range of four to eight riders per session. Volunteers are needed to fill one or more of these slots who can keep pace alongside with riders on the specially adapted bikes should contact Kathleen Mills at [katherinejane@gmail.com](mailto:katherinejane@gmail.com). The iCan Bike camp typically can accommodate (between 20 and 40 riders). For a video describing the sessions, see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXan4AelOmY>

### Pending Updates We Hope to Receive:

Discover Kalamazoo - Bike Light Giveaway, "Once our visitor center is able to re-open this could be a good way for us to be involved."

Michigan Senate - Bike Light Giveaway - still need to check on this with Sen. McCann's office

Portage Central Middle School - Bike Light Giveaway, Bike Handling Skills (Youth or Adult)

Portage West Middle School - Bike Light Giveaway, Biking education through Riding for Focus

Pretty Lake Camp - Bike skills training - did it occur?

2. Public Safety Messaging & Education (locally tailored multi-faceted "Driving Change" campaign - Urban areas have the highest frequencies of serious bicycle crashes.)

### **City of Kalamazoo - Capt. Scott VanderEnde:** Report Outs on 5 Foot Passing and Community Rides

- KDPS 5-foot passing Educational Effort - During Kalamazoo Bike Week 2022 City of Kalamazoo public safety officers stopped motorists who violated the 5 Foot Safe Passing Law and bicyclists who were breaking traffic laws. The focus was on delivery of educational messages vs. writing citations.
- Bike With a Hero Community Rides: Thought up by community policing division; select urban neighborhoods in Kalamazoo; creating relationship between neighborhoods and police monthly 4 rides; would like to do it again in 2023.

**Joys of Bicycling Public Mural Campaign - Ellen VanderMyde:** Reported on area's first-ever mural dedicated to expressing the joys of bicycling. Ellen VanderMyde was the artist whose proposal was recommended to Bike Friendly Kalamazoo's directors by its Art Committee, following BFK's request

2 *Thank you for everyone's time and input! Your collaboration and contributions are invaluable.*

for proposal process. The mural is located in Portage at 7809 Lovers Lane on a building whose wall is highly visible from The Portage Bikeway, the Southwest Michigan Bikeway and motorists. The site was made available by Jamie Clark, president of Clark Logistics, who also sponsors the Team Clark Logic cycling team. Ellen VanderMyde reported that she and assistant **Yve Holtzclaw** received many positive comments from passersby, including motorists, bicyclists and area residents who stopped to talk with her as she was painting. The community turned out to help paint the mural on October 15.

Public Safety Benefit - awareness-building “billboard can improve feeling that “bikes belong” encourages ridership, engages community support thus reducing feelings of “us vs. them” and possible road rage, increasing ridership correlated with improved public safety, complements infrastructure. BFK’s Bike Art Committee is seeking site suggestions and funding for one or more public murals expressing joys of bicycling. **Patrick Hershberger**, Committee Chair, asks ideas be emailed to [bikeart@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](mailto:bikeart@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org).

Update from Office of Highway Safety Planning - will seek report at March meeting

### 3. Traffic Signs

**Paul Selden** will continue to try to connect engineering staff from the City of Kalamazoo with WMU’s Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities for further discussion about implications of WMU’s analysis of crashes involving wrong-way bicycle riding - see <https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Bicyclists-Facing-Traffic-Crashes-in-Kalamazoo-County-from-2015-to-2019-FINAL-220628.pdf> For more information on the analysis please contact **Dr. Valerian Kwigizile** at [valerian.kwigizile@wmich.edu](mailto:valerian.kwigizile@wmich.edu) or Ali Alhawiti [aliatallhe.alhawiti@wmich.edu](mailto:aliatallhe.alhawiti@wmich.edu)

**Paul Selden** notes he is facilitating and participating in community discussions on signage for Southwest Michigan Bikeway via Kalamazoo Region Bike Route Committee; next meeting date is January 17, 2023; BFK has started related web and Facebook pages. For more information contact [paul@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](mailto:paul@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org) Other community leaders are working out routes and signage, as well.

## Other Business

Election, Call for Vice Chair & Secretary

**Paul Selden** called for candidates for Chair, Vice Chair & Secretary. No other candidates volunteering, Paul Selden was re-elected Chair in 2023; positions of Vice Chair & Secretary are open. Selden thanked the group but observed that an increase in family obligations is making it more difficult to chair the meetings and keep notes updated in a timely basis, as well. Those interested in helping are invited to email [paul@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](mailto:paul@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org). Note: **Collin Banner** will attend meetings and publish notes in 2023.

Bike Friendly Community Award Support

**Paul Selden** noted that he would like to meet with representatives from the two cities in the area who have Bike Friendly Community awards from the American League of Bicyclists to brainstorm ways to dovetail award criteria on the BFC application with opportunities to fulfill those criteria that may be surfaced by Bike Friendly Kalamazoo. He will follow up with the cities in January.

## Comments & Announcements

### Kalamazoo Bike Week: May 13-20, 2023

Offers opportunities for an extra awareness-building spotlight to your bike programs. The City of Kalamazoo’s Parks Dept. may want to conduct another Bike Rodeo on Wednesday May 17.

Please contact [paul@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](mailto:paul@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org) for more information.

**Useful Emails** Email ideas regarding bike education and public bike-themed art to:

- [education@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](mailto:education@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org)
- [bikeart@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org](mailto:bikeart@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org)

BFK is using MailChimp for some but not all of our emails. Will be used in to confirm memberships, poll the community and send important updates. Please help us keep your email addresses up to date.

3 *Thank you for everyone’s time and input! Your collaboration and contributions are invaluable.*

## References / Resources

### Steering Committee Membership

The following approach has been agreed upon:

- a) after meeting, invite delegates from your own organization to round out delegates/alternates list (1-2 delegates, up to 3 alternates); please let the Steering Committee Chair know their contact info as you get it to make sure people are emailed meeting notices
- b) The Chair will be (and has been) following up on ideas for additional organizations / names based on judgement of how representative they may be as a cross-section of relevant bicycling stakeholders. The Chair will reach out and may ask for help in inviting others, especially if a name/organization is suggested that he isn't familiar with. Some of the new guests at this meeting are a result of this effort.
- c) BFK held a Diversity and Bicycling Leadership Meet & Greet meeting in August 2020 and the membership has grown since then; those participating are being invited to sit in as Steering Committee Guests on an ongoing basis.
- c) a Steering Committee Member roster is included in the Reference section below.
- d) It is the role of current members from a named organization to appoint delegates and/or alternates from their own organization, making those decisions internally. The Chair will not directly invite other delegates from member organizations unless members ask for help (e.g., for protocol / diplomatic reasons, etc.).

### Bicycle Program Steering Committee Roster

Bill Adams\* - Village of Vicksburg

Ashton Anthony - City of Kalamazoo (inviting new staff member to take his place in 2021)

Thom Brennan - Kalamazoo Bicycle Club

Deb Carpenter\* - Child Safety Consultant

Amanda Cockcroft - City of Kalamazoo

Neil Conway - City of Kalamazoo

Jeff Christensen - Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office

Keshia Dickason - Girls on the Run

Sawyer Duncan - School Heath and Physical Educators of Michigan

John Dunlop - BFK Advisory Council

Paul Guthrie - Bronson Hospital

Jeff Heppler - Village of Augusta

Kathleen Hoyle - City of Portage

Jennifer Johnson\* - Chain Gang (Bicycle Club)

*Brooke Gieber - Gud Marketing*

John Knowlton - Stones Church

*Keneth Kwayu - Stakeholder At Large*

Valerian Kwigizile - Western Michigan University - Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities

Annie Prior - City of Portage Parks Dept.

Chelsea Maupin - Gud Marketing

Dexter Mitchell - Kalamazoo Township

Jun Oh - Western Michigan University - Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities

Chris Praedel - City of Kalamazoo

Adam Rafels - Stakeholder at Large

Paul Rehkopf\* - Bike Friendly Kalamazoo

Jim Righter - Portage West Middle School

Rachel Roon - Comstock Township

Brian Sanada - Advisor/Stakeholder at Large (has taken new position; membership needs to be confirmed)  
Mike Seals - At Large  
Paul Selden\* - Bike Friendly Kalamazoo - Cmte Chair  
Emily Shinevar - Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (Recently promoted; Replacement TBA)  
Dick Skalski - Oshtemo Township  
*Education Director - League of Michigan Bicyclists (pending confirmation)*  
*Community Policing Officer - City of Portage (to be determined)*  
Larry Stehouwer - Stakeholder at Large  
Scott Vanderende - City of Kalamazoo  
Ron VanHouten - Western Michigan University - Dept. of Psychology  
Paul Wells - Kalamazoo Bicycle Club  
Eric Wimbley - Pretty Lake Camp  
*Donna Whitcomb\* - AMBUCS*  
Guests / Awaiting Confirmation  
Nancy Buchanan - Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
Anna Horner - Oshtemo Township (possibly Karen High)  
Megan Mickelson - Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study  
Jodi Stefforia - Comstock Township  
Ali Townsend - Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study  
\*BFK Board Member  
*Italics indicate possible change in affiliation/status*

Every effort will be made to keep roster up to date. Guests have attended one or more meetings. Some members may be alternates who have not yet attended meeting. Please notify Chair and your own organizational members of any changes.

## National Safety Council

Cause of Death	Odds of Dying
Heart Disease and Cancer	1 in 7
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	1 in 28
Intentional Self-harm	1 in 95
Unintentional Poisoning by and Exposure to Noxious Substances	1 in 96
Motor Vehicle Crash	1 in 114
Fall	1 in 127
Assault by Firearm	1 in 370
Car Occupant	1 in 645
Pedestrian Incident	1 in 647
Motorcycle Rider Incident	1 in 985
Unintentional Drowning and Submersion	1 in 1,188
Exposure to Fire, Flames or Smoke	1 in 1,498
Choking from Inhalation and Ingestion of Food	1 in 3,461
Pedacyclist Incident	1 in 4,486
Firearms Discharge	1 in 6,905
Air and Space Transport Incidents	1 in 9,821
Exposure to Electric Current, Radiation, Temperature and Pressure	1 in 15,212

- from <https://www.nsc.org/work-safety/tools-resources/injury-facts/chart>

**Comprehensive costs of motor-vehicle crashes.** In addition to the economic cost components, the following comprehensive costs also include a measure of the value of lost quality of life, obtained through empirical studies of what people actually pay to reduce their safety and health risks. The average comprehensive costs on a *per injured person* basis were:

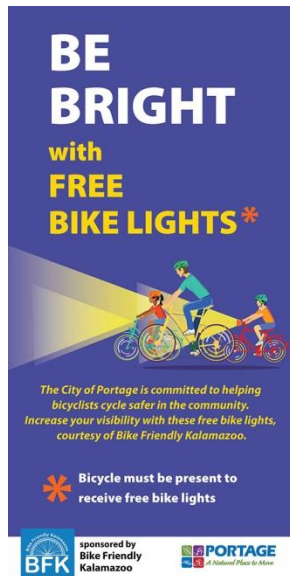
**Average Comprehensive Cost by Injury Severity, 2018**

Death	\$10,855,000
Disabling	\$1,187,000
Evident	\$327,000
Possible injury	\$151,000
No injury observed	\$50,000

Since the lost quality of life figures, included in the comprehensive costs calculations, do not represent real income not received nor expenses incurred, they should not be used to determine the pure economic impact of past crashes.

- from <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/all-injuries/costs/guide-to-calculating-costs/data-details/>

## Be Bright - Bike Light Giveaway Banner - Used by the City of Portage, October 7, 2020



[https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/20-024\\_PortageBeBrightBannerC\\_9-30-20.jpg](https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/20-024_PortageBeBrightBannerC_9-30-20.jpg)

[How To Do A Successful Bike Light Program Giveaway](#) – “... lessons learned from programs around the country” with free downloadable / printable version.

### Bicycle Program Steering Committee / Core Team Elements

#### Bike Program Steering Committee Elements

- Charter - consider matters related to defining and accomplishing named Programs and relay non-binding advice to Program Core Team(s)
- Composed of stakeholders, organizations and representatives of the groups involved in the implementation of programs and the receipt of the program deliverables (such as but not limited to governmental units, transportation & law enforcement agencies, bicycle clubs & shops, 501c3 organizations, citizen groups and committees, etc.) with aligned missions, goals and programs
- Preference for participants & employees of incorporated organizations, such as non-profits, municipalities and agencies
- Participants are named delegates, with preference for participants whose organizations recognize them as delegates
- One-two delegates from any one organization, with one co-delegate and up to three additional alternates; all are to be named and their contact information shared (at least one email address per participant)
- Chief consideration is given to programs with cross-jurisdictional/agency/organizational implications & may require potential cooperation; others as benefits sharing of ideas
- 2020-21 Programs
  1. Bike Visibility (e.g., bike light giveaway)
  2. League Certified Cycling Instructor training
  3. Bicycle-Motorist Public Service Announcement Campaign (locally tailored “Driving Change” media campaign)
- Additional programs on agenda, as Steering Committee sees best
- All delegates and alternates may attend meetings
- Steering Committee’s recommendations are non-binding
- Size and composition of the Steering Committee may vary
- Self-directed, may elect volunteer chair / secretary
- Include members of Program Core Teams

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- Meet approximately quarterly: e.g., March, June, September & November/December
- Participation is voluntary
- Members do not have set terms
- Steering Committee can modify/further clarify these elements over time
- With the exception of BFK's March Annual Planning Meeting, meetings may or may not be public at the discretion of the Steering Committee

#### Program Core Team Elements

- Program Core Team members represent the independent lead organization(s) responsible for and/or possess authority to implement programs (e.g., expend funds, secure resources)
- Core team members to be named and their associated program roles and affiliations listed
- Membership is voluntary
- Organizations represented recognize Core Team membership
- Members are bound by the policies, procedures and practices of the organizations they represent
- Core Team's recommendations are submitted to the organizations they represent, which organizations then follow their own policies, procedures and practices to execute at their sole discretion
- Decisions and actions are non-binding
- Policies do not supersede those of the organizations they represent
- Organizations members are affiliated with/represent are responsible for implementing the core team decisions
- Core Team meetings are open to named Core Team members; others may be invited but in most cases meetings will not be public
- These elements may be changed over time as Core Team(s) see best

#### Bike Friendly Kalamazoo's Role

- 2020: call and facilitate/chair three quarterly Bike Program Steering Committee meetings (e.g., June, September & November/December)
- 2021: same as 2020; agreed upon by Steering Committee; to be reviewed in December

#### **Previous Meeting Notes**

<https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/about/meetings/>

#### **Links to Bicycle Educational and Safety Programs**

<https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/education-safety/>

#### **Background** (Included for historical reference; 2019-2020 - will become dated over time)

- Meetings on bicyclist visibility/bike light "Be Bright" campaign, bicycle instructor certification and public service educational messaging, October 2019-March 2020
- Strong & clearly overlapping in interests of representative institutional stakeholders better served by combining meetings - proved effective in Grand Rapids
- Progress on program implementation was rapid until COVID-19 considerations slowed the pace
- Bicycle Program Steering Committee / Core Team approach adopted March 26, 2020: larger Steering Cmte advises, smaller Core Teams implement
- Charter - consider matters related to defining and accomplishing named Programs and relay non-binding advice to Program Core Team(s)
- Gud Marketing - proposal on table for \$10,000, \$75,500 & \$150,000 budgets
- Kalamazoo Bicycle Club - LCI "ready," scholarship, grant
- League of Michigan Bicyclists - timing, marketing, participation
- Office of Highway Safety Planning - statewide effort
- City of Kalamazoo - overview of readiness to begin, budget
- City of Portage - overview of readiness to begin, budget
- Bike Friendly Kalamazoo - LCI Scholarship Program & Bike Booster Mini-Grant programs online, Bike Ridership Field Survey results, reminder re. National Insurance Inst. Value of human life
- WMU - has analyzed crash causes