

## Work Session Agenda Item IV.



BIKE EDINA

Bike Edina Task Force (BETF) was established by the City Council in 2006 and has met continuously on a monthly, or near-monthly basis, since then. The City Council appointed original BETF members. After that time, new member applications were submitted via the City website (until the application was removed) and new members were appointed by the group. Gordon Hughes and Wayne Houle served as staff liaisons, and Mark Nolan currently serves in this role. Meetings are held at City Hall and are open to the public. Meeting minutes are distributed to the ETC, City Council, and staff members.

Below is a brief history of BETF as it relates to our organizational status with the City.

- Established by the City Council in July 2006 “to serve at the pleasure of the Council and accomplish a Comprehensive Bicycle Plan.” The Council appointed Steve Rusk as chair. Mr. Rusk recommended members for the group and the Council approved appointment of these members in August 2006.
- Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan submitted to the City Council in November 2007. BETF requested to continue as a group in some form. Minutes read: “The Council will consider the future of BETF at an upcoming study session regarding the roles of boards and commissions.” While a study session was held in December 2007, the minutes do not show discussion of BETF.
- City Council discussed the future of BETF at a regular meeting in March 2008. Consensus was that the group should continue as “the Bike Task Force committee” and that a member of BETF would be appointed to the ETC.
- ETC ordinance amended to include a member of the BETF or similar group, or who otherwise has an expertise and interest in bicycling as a mode of transportation in April 2008.
- City Council and BETF met in a joint work session in March 2009. Discussion included the “operational structure of the Bike Edina Task Force,” but the minutes do not provide more information.
- City Council and BETF met in a joint work session in February 2010.
- City Council and BETF met in a joint work session in August 3, 2011. “The Council briefly discussed the future of BETF and consensus was to leave the group in its current form, unless the Edina Transportation Commission were to form subgroups, then BETF could be a subgroup. [Note: ETC has not formed modal subgroups.]

- BETF made a request to be reimbursed for a website expense and was informed by Manager Neal: “The City is authorized to pay operating expenses for [organizations] it establishes and controls, such as Planning Commission, Park Board, etc. The City is not authorized to pay operating expenses for organizations that it does not control, such as BETF, League of Women Voters, Edina Hockey Association, etc.” (May 2012)
- BETF discussed its organizational status through 2013. Options considered included whether BETF could continue as a City-sanctioned task force, become a working group of the ETC, or become an independent organization with a formal relationship to the City.
- In 2013, BETF adopted new bylaws, modeled after the City’s standard Board and Commission bylaws, and changed its name to Bike Edina.

Bike Edina seeks clarity from the City Council on our organizational status with the City.