

2019 Performance Oversight Questions
Bicycle Advisory Council

1. Please provide a list of the Council's current members. For each member, please provide the following:

- The member's name.
- The Ward, agency or organization the member represents.
- Who appointed the member.
- When the member's term expires.
- Attendance record.

D.C. Bicycle Advisory Council Membership and Meeting Attendance				
Member	Representing	Appointed By	Term Expiration	FY 2018 Attendance Record
Sade Adeeyo	At-Large Grosso	Grosso	8/19/2019	17%
Aaron Holmes	At-Large Bonds	Bonds	2/9/2020	17%
Jeff Johnson	At-Large Silverman	Silverman	7/14/2021	83%
Randall Myers	At-Large White	White	1/24/2020	83%
<i>Vacant</i>	At-Large Mendelson	Mendelson	NA	NA
Emily Oaksford ⁱ	Ward 1	Nadeau	7/24/2018	50%
David Alexander	Ward 2	Evans	7/26/2019	67%
Emily Curley ⁱⁱ	Ward 3	Cheh	1/24/2020	NA
Rachel Maisler ⁱⁱⁱ	Ward 4	Todd	11/14/2020	70%
Tom Bridge	Ward 5	McDuffie	3/28/2019	67%
David Cranor	Ward 6	Allen	3/23/2021	100%

Casey Studhalter	Ward 7	Alexander	9/27/2019	33%
Jay Stewart	Ward 8	White	5/10/2020	17%
Mike Goodno	DDOT	NA	NA	83%
Terry Thorne	MPD	NA	NA	67%
Kristin Calkins ^{vi}	OP	NA	NA	100%
Nick Kushner	DPR	NA	NA	17%
Vacant	DCPS	NA	NA	NA

i. Reappointment in is process.

ii. Did not serve in FY18. Appointed in Jan. 2019.

iii. Appointed Nov. 14, 2017

iv. Designated May 2018.

2. Please provide a list of the Council’s meeting dates, times, and locations for FY 2018 and FY 2019 to date.

BAC meetings are held from 6 to 8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of odd-numbered months at 441 4th St NW. Meetings took place on the following dates:

- 11/1/17
- 1/10/18
- 3/7/18
- 5/2/18
- 7/11/18
- 9/5/18
- 11/7/18
- 1/9/19

During the even months, the BAC’s three committees (Legislative, Bicycle Facilities, and Safety Education and Enforcement) met as needed.

3. Did the Council receive funds in FY 2018? If so, please provide the following:

- **The amount of the funding.**
- **The source of the funding.**
- **A list of all expenditures.**
- **A description of how these funds furthered the Council’s mission.**

In fiscal year 2018, BAC received \$9,673 from funds offered by the District to administer the council. There was no other income. As we are a volunteer organization, the funds were used primarily for administrative support functions, as well as to cover a \$50 fee for the BAC chair to

attend the DC Vision Zero conference. The majority, \$9,623, were payments to the BAC administrative assistant. These funds were used to maintain our website, to support social media outreach to publicize our activities and meetings, answer press inquiries, help prepare BAC member testimony and comments, and prepare and circulate a monthly report on council activities. We have continued to improve our outreach efforts and visibility.

4. Please describe the Council's activities in FY 2018, highlighting what the Council considers its three biggest accomplishments in FY 2018.

The Council held bi-monthly committee and Council meetings. DDOT Director Jeff Marootian attended one Council meeting. Staff from DDOT, MPD and other District agencies also attended both Council and committee meetings. The Bicycle Facilities Committee hosted several rides to gather information and discuss issues. This enabled members to provide informed advice and comments to District agencies, as well as federal agencies when relevant to District cycling.

The Safety, Education and Enforcement (SEE) Committee worked diligently to engage with agencies other than DDOT to educate leadership and staff about their role in protecting bicyclist safety. The Committee led in several activities to draw attention to the bicyclist deaths in 2018. The BAC, as a group and as individuals, took an active role in the DC joint Roundtable hearing to examine the state of Vision Zero in the District and how it should be improved. The SEE Committee wrote a letter to the DC Council, Mayor and agency directors with suggestions for improving safety for bicyclists. Also as a group and as individuals BAC took part in several councilmember oversight rides to examine bicycling conditions in the District. We also traveled with DPW enforcement staff to explain the need to ticket vehicles in bike lanes and to better understand from their point of view the problems these city employees face. We rode along with an MPD Traffic Enforcement Officer to observe their interactions with motorists and other road users, and help provide insights on obstructions bicyclists face in DC. The BAC saw a renewed commitment from MPD in working together toward the common goal of Vision Zero. The committee worked with the Department of For Hire Vehicles to update their complaint form to allow bicyclists to report taxi drivers or ride-hail operators blocking the bike lane, and learned from DFHV about vague laws about taxi drop offs that DDOT has proposed regulations to clarify. We also regularly attended hearings and comment upon DDOT proposed transportation plans.

The three biggest achievements are:

- The renewed commitment from MPD in working with the BAC toward Vision Zero
- David Cranor and Rachel Maisler testifying at the Vision Zero Roundtable, as well as Jeff Johnson who submitted written testimony. In addition to BAC members, more than 70 DC residents submitted testimonies.
- The Facilities Committee's continued commitment to hosting moving meeting which are consistently informative, impactful and educational.

5. Please describe the state of bicycle safety in the District.

In 2018, three bicyclists were killed by drivers in crashes that were entirely preventable compared to two fatalities in 2017. However, the number of reported major and minor crashes in 2018 are lower than in 2017. Beyond these statistics, it's hard to track whether bicycle safety has improved in the District. Many minor injuries, for example, are not reported.

While the Department of Transportation has continued to build bike lanes and infrastructure, many cyclists take to social media and apps (i.e. Bike Lane Uprising and How's My Driving DC) to document dangerous drivers and bike lane obstructions. The Mayor's renewed commitment to the Vision Zero initiative is encouraging, but completely reactive to a deadly year for cyclists and pedestrians. This Council submitted a [letter](#) to the Mayor, DC Council and heads of agencies responsible for implementing Vision Zero. The letter outlines many recommendations for creating a safer environment for all people traveling in Washington, DC. We continue to stand by what we wrote, and look forward to working together with agencies toward Vision Zero.

Fatalities

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Bicyclists	2	3	0

Major Injuries

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Bicyclist	63	43	10

Minor Injuries

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Bicyclist	520	461	101

6. Please describe the Council's major goals for FY 2019 and the plan/timeline for completion.

- Greater interaction with MPD on bike safety and traffic control.
- Improve DDOT's ability to maintain/repair/improve the condition of DC streets, such as removing potholes, promptly filling utility cuts and re-painting current bike lanes.
- More funding and resources for DPW to boot/tow/impound vehicles with excessive unpaid tickets

7. Last year, the Council provided three goals for FY 2018. Did the Council achieve each of these goals? If not, why not? They are listed below:

1) Encourage DDOT and the Mayor's Office to comply with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Act, and Vision Zero Act mandated reporting

As mentioned above, the BAC sent a Vision Zero letter to District leaders. Additionally, the Safety Education and Enforcement Committee focused on building relationships with enforcement agencies like MPD and DPW to educate them about the important role they play in bicyclist safety.

2) Submit to the DC Council ideas for bicycle legislation

David Cranor and Rachel Maisler met with Transportation Committee staff ahead of the September Vision Zero Roundtable. Separately, Rachel Maisler met with Charles Allen to discuss bicycle safety legislation which was proposed in November of 2018.

Separately, the BAC suggested updates to regulations dealing with scooters, e-bikes and bicycles.

3) Complete four facility Committee rides or meetings chosen based on initiatives defined by DDOT and the Office of Planning; and to provide input to relevant DDOT and federal agency projects.

The committee held four meetings in FY '18. DDOT staff attended all meetings, asked for BAC input, and received members' guidance and recommendations about various infrastructure projects.

8. What are the 3 biggest challenges that the Council currently faces?

- Access to data and crash reports. There is a failure to collect crash data.
- Lack of involvement from DPW (i.e. parking enforcement)
- DDOT running behind on several projects of sweeping importance. (WABA sent a [letter](#) to DDOT in January with a list.)

9. How does the Council represent and solicit feedback from residents?

- **What did the Council learn from this feedback in FY 2018?**
- **How has the Council changed its practices as a result of such feedback?**

While the BAC's mission is not to solicit feedback from residents, we have improved our outreach to the community dramatically. Our meetings regularly include community members. We have much better publicity and input from community members.

The Council responds to messages from the public, posts public information online, and encourages the public to participate actively in BAC meetings.

10. Please provide a copy of all official correspondence sent by the Council in FY 2018 and FY 2019 to date.

The [Documents](#) page of the BAC website contains the following testimony, resolutions, and correspondence:

- [Comment - Snow Removal Operations Plan for Winter 2017-2018 \(10/27/17\)](#)
- [Comment - Long Bridge Project \(01/11/18\)](#)
- [Vision Zero letter \(09/20/18\)](#)
- [Bicycle Regulations Suggestions \(Summer-Fall 2018\)](#)
- [Comment - Dockless Sharing Vehicle Rulemaking \(11/16/18\)](#)

11. Does the Council have any suggestions for how to further develop the Capital Bikeshare program?

- Continue building Capital Bikeshare capacity in Wards 7 and 8
- Add more e-bikes to the system
- Work with the Federal government to offer employees Bikeshare memberships as a health benefit

12. Does the Council have any suggestions for how to further develop the dockless bikeshare pilot program?

The BAC wants to see dockless bikesharing succeed and we are greatly concerned that the dockless regulations will severely limit, and perhaps prevent, that success. In November, David Cranor (Ward 6 Rep and BAC Chair at the time) submitted [comments](#) to DDOT on the dockless vehicle regulations.

Additionally, the BAC recommends DDOT:

- Focus on equality and access to bikes East of the River and in outer wards
- Extend Bikeshare Community Partners program to Dockless

13. Does the Council have any suggestions for how to further develop the dockless scooter pilot program?

The BAC suggestions for the scooter policy are reflected in David Cranor's dockless [comment](#).

14. Last year, the Council recommended the following areas as priorities for improvement in the District in FY 2018. Please provide an update on the status of these matters, including what action, if any, both the District and the Council took to improve them in FY 2018 and FY 2019, to date.

- **Consider tougher legislation for distracted driving**

The District implemented higher fines for red light and speed camera violations, but did not pass any new legislation related to distracted driving. The District's most recent distracted driving law ([B21-21, the Enhanced Penalties for Distracted Driving Amendment Act of 2015](#) that was passed in November 2016, signed by the Mayor that December, and became law in March 2017) has yet to be funded.

- **Pass stop-as-yield legislation**

The DC Council did not move forward with any stop-as-yield legislation in 2018. The BAC suggests the Council reconsider introducing stop-as-yield legislation in 2019.

- **Report bicycle theft statistics**

[MPD said](#) they collect this as part of "property theft," but is not categorized separately like vehicle theft is.

15. Please identify the Council's top recommendations for the District's priorities related to bicycling in FY 2019.

- ZERO FATALITIES and fewer injuries
- Funding to build adequate bicycle facilities in every Ward of the city
- Tougher laws and more stringent enforcement around distracted driving

16. Please provide information on the trails, paths, and lanes that have seen improvement over FY 2018. Please also provide a list of trails, paths, and lanes that the Council believes the District should prioritize for improvement in FY 2019.

Improvements

- Broke ground on the Ft. Totten segment of the Metropolitan Branch Trail in July
- SGS installed two-way protected bicycle lanes on 2nd St SW between P and V Streets, on Potomac Ave between S Cap and 1st Streets, and R St between 1st and 2nd Streets.
- DDOT rebuilt Banneker Circle and included bike lanes and new stairs with a bicycle tunnel
- DDOT oversaw construction of a raised cycletrack was installed along Virginia Avenue from 2nd to 9th SE
- DDOT built a two-way cycletrack on K/Water Street in Georgetown
- One additional mile of buffered or simple bike lanes and 1.3 miles of new shared lanes were added in 2018

Priorities:

- Replacement of the damaged Zoo Tunnel bypass of Rock Creek Park Trail
- Building protected bicycling infrastructure in every Ward
- Connecting gaps in bicycling infrastructure
- Maintaining bike lanes (i.e. repairing utility cuts, repainting "[disappearing bike lanes](#)," clearing leaves/snow)

Additional comments:

Overall, DDOT must address and improve transportation and bicycling in Wards 7 and 8. For bicyclists these wards are almost cut off from the rest of the city because of highways, rail construction and traffic patterns. This separation is a remnant of another era in transportation and these wards have been long ignored by DDOT. BAC members have attended public meetings in these wards and we want to stress these problems are huge and will be expensive to correct. This won't be fixed by a new bike lane or two; these are fundamental traffic problems.