



CITY COUNCIL

Standards of Living Committee

Monday, March 17, 2014
Council Office
5:30 pm

The Standards of Living Committee's responsibilities and topics include but are not limited to Housing Planning strategies, Building, Trades and Property Maintenance Inspection and Enforcement, Public Safety, Public Works, Police, Fire, Neighborhood Parks, Neighborhood Revitalization, Community Development, Customer Service, Graffiti Abatement, Community Group Organization and Support

Committee Members: Mr. Sterner, Mr. Daubert (Co Chairs) and Mr. Marmarou
Although Council committee meetings are open to the public, public comment is not permitted at Council Committee meetings. However, citizens are encouraged to attend and observe the meetings. Comment from citizens or professionals during the meeting may be solicited on agenda topics via invitation by the Committee Chair.

All electronic recording devices must be at the entry door in all meeting rooms and offices, as per Bill No. 27-2012

I. Acknowledge Receipt of Administrative Reports - Questions

II. Legislative Review

Ordinance - Amending City Code Chapter 346 Litter and Advertising Material, Section 103 prohibiting the placement of advertising material on automobiles. **(Waltman)**

III. BAMBA Trail Proposal

IV. Update

- 1. Street Cut Ordinance**
- 2. Update Zoning Backlog**
- 3. Re-paving of Cotton Street**

4. Wyomissing Park Street Lighting

V. 2014 Priorities

Follow-up Items:

April

- **Pagoda MOU**
- **Update Snow Emergency Plan and Snow Removal**
- **Update State Transportation Bill**

BILL NO. _____
AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 346 LITTER AND
ADVERTISING MATERIAL, SECTION 103 PROHIBITING THE PLACEMENT OF
ADVERTISING MATERIAL ON AUTOMOBILE.

THE CITY OF READING HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Amending Chapter 346 Litter and Advertising Material, Section 103 by adding a prohibition for the placement of advertising materials on automobiles as follows:

§ 346-103. Restrictions on distributing advertising matter. [Added 12-10-1980 by Ord. No. 52-1980]

No person, partnership, firm or corporation shall distribute or cause to be distributed any handbills, advertisements, circulars, waste papers or other advertising matter whatever in the City by casting, scattering, placing or handing the same upon any of the streets of the City or on the pavements, sidewalks, alleys, ~~or~~ footways, *or automobiles* thereof. However, nothing herein shall prevent any person from handing any noncommercial literature or other printed matter upon any of the streets, pavements, sidewalks, alleys or footways in the City to any person willing to receive the same, and nothing herein shall prevent any person with permission of the owner from distributing or causing to be distributed handbills, advertisements, circulars or other advertising matter upon private property located within the City.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after its adoption in accordance with Sections 219 and 221 of the City of Reading Home Rule Charter.

Enacted _____, 2013

President of Council

Attest:

City Clerk

Submitted to Mayor: _____

Date: _____

Received by the Mayor's Office: _____

Date: _____

Approved by Mayor: _____

Date: _____

Vetoed by Mayor: _____

Date: _____

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Berks Area Mountain Biking Association (BAMBA) Gravity Trail Proposal

General Objectives:

- Work through the Berks Area Mountain Biking Association and in collaboration with the City of Reading and local land managers to provide a mountain bike specific, multi-skill-level trail utilizing an already established trail on Mt. Penn
- Improve trail sustainability by addressing existing deficient drainage and run off conditions as well as implementing International Mountain Bicycling Association trail building guidelines for all areas
- Create a trail that provides safe conditions for beginner to advanced riders to enjoy challenging themselves and building mountain bike specific skills
- Construct three (3) sections of the trail, each with different sizes and types of features to provide riders an enjoyable variety
- Improve trail identification, traffic flow and access for all users
- Set a precedent for future trail development in other areas (on Mt. Penn and in the greater Berks County region)
- Remove debris and other material in the areas adjacent to the trail(s) to create/maintain a welcoming appearance and improve user safety
- Foster the growth of mountain biking in Berks County and encourage more riders to visit the area for a positive economic impact

Sustainability:

- An already developed, well established trail will be utilized to minimize disturbance to the area and help reduce (negative) impact to the surrounding woodlands
- While a number of benefits can be associated with working with an existing trail, there are a number of issues present due to the heavy use, grade conditions/topography and the lack of proper erosion and run off control measures/techniques present
- There are (2) areas of significant concern: 1) A section of trail approximately one tenth of a mile in length, starting at the proposed trailhead, that has suffered the effects of repeated erosion and run off, exposing a large amount of loose stones, rubble and tree roots, making the trail extremely rough, and 2) An area of concentrated run off to the south of the existing Drenkel Field in which a large amount of water collected from Skyline Drive and the parking/drive area adjacent to Drenkel Field during substantial rainfall creates a channel of water

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that runs directly to the head of Flow Section 2 (Trail Section C on attached map) and causes a large amount of sediment to be removed and/or deposited further down the trail, sometimes as far as Angora Road

- In order to address the two primary areas of concern mentioned above, we propose the following: 1) Introduce new soil to the rough section of trail to create a compacted base, while providing a sloped condition that directs water away from the trail and toward existing positive downslope adjacent to the trail. A number of water bars (considering 3 total) will be installed at key locations to

provide additional aid in diverting water away from the trail to reduce future erosion. And, 2) Creating a shallow but wide (to allow continued vehicle access) diversion swale across the access road that extends eastward from the Drenkel Field Parking area to divert rainwater runoff into an existing swale that runs adjacent to the established trail

In addition to the measures mentioned, all sections of trail will be constructed/implemented using the IMBA Trail Building Solutions guide as an explicit benchmark, with a focus on providing the most sustainable trail solutions possible

Native/adaptive plant species will be planted on portions of features and along trail edges to assist in reduction of erosion and reduce required future maintenance

Safety:

Trailhead will be easily accessible from the existing parking area off Skyline Drive and the trail end will be easily accessible via Angora Road

Trailhead will be identified with mountain bike specific signage, listing safety information, trail etiquette and emergency contact information (see attached for example)

Trail sections will be identified with signage according to name and difficulty level, utilizing the rating system established by the IMBA (see attached)

Trail features will be identified with signage

Trail direction will be identified with signage

All trail features will be constructed in a manner that reduces increased risk but still provides riders of varying skill levels the opportunity to progress

BAMBA will work directly with other clubs and organizations and events like the Duryea Hillclimb to address foot traffic and trail usage, and help establish alternate routes when necessary

BAMBA provides liability insurance coverage through the IMBA, which protects volunteers and members from liability possibly arising from: trail maintenance, trail building, trail cleanup, trail built features and power machine operation (see attached Certificate of Insurance and Liability Waiver)

BAMBA Director, Trail Manager and Downhill Committee Chairperson will resolve any discrepancies or differences of opinion within the Trail Crew concerning safety in all facets and phases of this project during the planning and construction

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Execution / Resources:

A multi-step, phased plan for construction of the trail in smaller, more manageable sections will be created and implemented to allow for safe development of trail features in shorter time frames and impact trail use less significantly

Dirt/material will be sourced from local contractors and construction sites to reduce the need for disturbance of existing soil and also help minimize cost

Existing loose stone and rubble in areas adjacent to the trail will be used to establish the base of many of the features, creating less need for dirt fill

- Materials and dirt will be staged and stockpiled at approved locations to help minimize disturbance and allow for easier construction. The existing wide fire access road directly to the south of Drenkel Field has already been discussed with the City Parks Department as an acceptable location for the bulk of the stockpiled dirt/fill. All material will be kept on the eastern most side of the fire access road to maintain adequate width for vehicle passage. Additional smaller amounts of dirt/fill may be temporarily stockpiled at the juncture of trail sections A and B (see attached map), at an accessible area off Skyline Drive to reduce the distance machinery needs to travel and reduce disturbance
- Equipment/machinery will be sourced from local companies (in the form of donations) to assist in improving run off and drainage conditions as well as in constructing new trail features
- Specific work days will be established and volunteer labor will be organized to help clear debris, improve drainage and runoff, and assist in construction of the various features for each section of trail
- For all aspects of trail construction, BAMBA and it's committee members will maintain open lines of communication with all parties involved, ensuring that all time frames, work dates, equipment usage, material storage, etc. are acceptable prior to execution of any associated work
- BAMBA and it's committee members may request City of Reading services when warranted to assist with items such as: 1) creation of diversion swale, 2) tree removal, 3) rubble/debris removal, 4) fire road and/or gate access and 5) creation of the signage for this specific trail
- BAMBA Director, Trail Manager and Downhill Committee Chairperson will retain the right, along with consultation with City Operations Manager if needed, to make changes to the plan in all facets and phases of this project if required

Precedents / Examples:

- Trexler Nature Preserve (<http://www.trexlernaturepreserve.org>, <http://www.bikevmb.com/trail/trexler-nature-preserve>)
- Rockburn Skills Park (<http://www.rockburnskillspark.org>)
- White Clay Creek State Park (<http://www.destateparks.com/activities/trails/biking/index.asp>)
- Nockamixon State Park (<http://www.ridenox.com>)
- Freedom Park (<http://evma.org/our-trails/>)

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- “Pedal-Driven” non profit documentary film in partnership with the International Mountain Bicycling Association
- “From Where We Stand” mountain biking film showcasing Reading as one of the feature East Coast riding locations (<http://www.pinkbike.com/news/From-Where-We-Stand-Episode-3-Reading-PA.html>)

Contacts / Key Personel:

- Berks Area Mountain Biking Association (BAMBA) (<http://www.berksmountainbiking.org/default.aspx>)
- Fred Moreadith, BAMBA Director
Phone: 610.781.6164

Email: fredmoreadith@comcast.net

Dane Clay, BAMBA Board Member and Trail Manager

Phone: 484.302.6503

Jeremy Hartman, BAMBA Downhill Committee Chairperson

Phone: 610.406.7243

Todd Bennett, BAMBA Downhill Committee Member

Phone: 610.780.8980

Kyle Sharp, BAMBA Downhill Committee Member

Phone: 484.955.6867

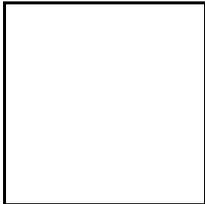
Fred Heinly, BAMBA Downhill Committee Member

Phone: 484.256.6887

Tim Goodman, BAMBA Downhill Committee Member

Phone: 610.413.3982

About Us-BAMBA



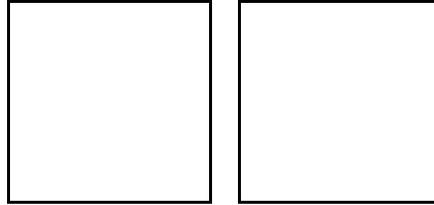
BAMBA was established in 2012 as an IMBA (International Mountain Bicycling Association) Chapter in Berks County, PA

BAMBA is a non-profit educational association whose mission is to create, enhance and preserve great trail experiences for mountain bikers in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

BAMBA seeks to preserve, protect, and promote mountain bike access and diverse riding opportunities within Berks County's public and private lands through education, communication, and unified action.

PURPOSE: The purpose of BAMBA shall be to:

- Ride mountain bikes for fun, fitness, recreation, or competition.
- Establish, maintain, enhance, and preserve mountain biking and multi-use trail networks and trail access, while minimizing environmental impact.
- Promote responsible riding and trail use.
- Promote wellness, fitness, and healthy lifestyles for all ages through mountain biking.
- Educate cyclists and non-cyclists about mountain biking and its benefits.
- Establish partnerships with other clubs, organizations, trail users, government entities, businesses, and land management groups.



BAMBA Board Members

Fred Moreadith, Director
Bob Carson, Treasurer
Brad Bohr, Secretary
Tom Durofchalk, Membership Manager
Cliff Reis, Social Manager
Dane Clay, Trail Manager
Jay Drasher, Environmental Manager
Pat Shields, Business Manager

2014 BAMBA Goals / Projects / Events

- Friend of BAMBA: Berks Conservancy Rockin' for Nature Concert March 20
<http://www.berks-conservancy.org/event/concerts-for-charity>
- Work towards making Reading /Berks an IMBA Ride Center
Ride center designation brings riders and commerce to the region.
<https://www.imba.com/model-trails/ride-centers>
- Promote From Where We Stand (FWWS) Video to Politicians, Land Managers, Chamber of Commerce, Visitors Bureau, etc.
- Trail Head Kiosks: An important component towards IMBA Ride Center® designation.
- Thun Trail completion through RACC property.
- Reading is working with BAMBA on a new Parking Area near Camp Lily/Rotary Park and Fire Road Gate Replacements
- IMBA Mapping Project: BAMBA member Stephan Kincaid leading effort to electronically map local trails - <http://www.mtbproject.com/>
- Down Hill Trail Committee: A Line Rebuild. Proposal submitted to City of Reading
- BAMBA Spring Picnic Saturday, May 31st Egelman's Park
Pivot and Niner reps on hand with Demo Bikes
- IMBA Trail Building Grants - Apply for Grants in 2014 and beyond

- Birdsboro Reservoir Trails Project
Proposed joint venture with IMBA and Natural Lands Trust.
- Downhill Race volunteers needed for 2014 Duryea Downhill Race May 3 and 4
Contact: Fred Heinly, 484-256-6887, fheinly@yahoo.com
- Volunteer at French Creek and Blue Marsh Trail days. Dates TBA.
- Kids Programs-Take a Kid Mt Biking Day in October and other dates TBA.
- BAMBA Merchandise-Buy it, Wear it, Gift it Contact: Brian Holman 610-334- 2185
- Attend a Board Meeting, Present an idea and take the lead: Meetings second Tuesday of the month 7PM Canal St. Restaurant.
- Consider renewing BAMBA/IMBA membership online for \$50 vs. \$30
Best deal includes IMBA socks and a magazine subscription.
- Ride and encourage others to ride!