The Ethics of Vision Zero Planning and Disruptive Technology  -  Vision Zero Summit

- Panel:
  - Ann Bagley, FAICP, Bagley Associates
  - Carol Barrett, FAICP, Zucker Systems
  - Rick Mobley, AICP, RS&H

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What We Will Do Today

• Overview of some of the issues.
• Refer to sources of ethical guidance.
• Working in small groups to address the potential issues associated with a new form of transportation and then reporting out.
• Question and answers.
• How to help ensure ethics is addressed at work.
Mobility Planning and Disruption

• Vision Zero is based on an underlying ethical principle that "it can never be ethically acceptable that people are killed or seriously injured when moving within the road transport system." In most road transportation systems, road users bear responsibility for safety. Vision Zero changes this relationship by emphasizing that responsibility is shared by transportation system designers and road users. Not cost benefit. Not an acceptable number of deaths.

• Definition of disruptive technology: one that displaces an established technology and shakes up the industry or a ground-breaking product that creates a completely new industry.

• History of transportation planning is dealing with technical challenges – ancient civilizations separating sewers from sidewalks, automobiles replacing horses.
Current and Emerging Technologies

• What are the challenges

Presentation by Ann Bagley – focus on sidewalks and bicycle planning

Presentation by Rick Mobley – focus on infrastructure design and construction

Presentation by Carol Barrett – ethical implications of new disruptive technology
Many Current Challenges in Meeting Needs of Pedestrians and Cyclists – We don’t design or build it properly Part 1
We don’t design or build it properly Part 2
And if we build it, we don’t maintain it.
We Are All Bound As Professionals

• To do no harm
• To protect the health safety and welfare of the public and users of our facilities
• To be good stewards of our valuable resources
• To address issues that compromise any of the above
Raising Equity Questions

• Ensure equal access
• Facilitate mobility for those with special needs
• Consider all aspects of disabilities
  • Wheelchair bound
  • Mobility impaired
  • Blind
  • Deaf
  • Mental illness
Who Designed and Built These?
We Can Do Better!

Really Wrong

Really Right
Vision Zero Challenges

• Financial
  • Competition for funds
  • Needs far outstrip resources
  • Gas tax doesn’t apply to all road users, but is the major source of funding for roadway improvements.
  • Funding from general purpose monies bears no relationship to road use.
  • Disproportionate impact on low income households.

• Institutional
  • Higher priority for some modes over others
  • Advocates for some modes have better access to decision-makers
  • Resistance from departments assigned to maintenance roles
  • Priority given to utilities over other uses
Key Ethical Issues

- Inclusion of all voices in decision making.
- Those with the fewest choices should be given more.
Relate Key Ethical Issues to Dockless Bicycles

• Companies jump in and wait for results.
• Seeking market share without regard to cost.
• Not able to actually deal with demand.
• Who gets to use the right of way?
  • Access to public transportation
  • Sidewalks? Curbs? Parking spaces?
Dockless Scooters

- New ordinances include requirements for parking in marked areas.
- Permits.
- Pick up standards.
- Can parking spaces be used for storage?
Infrastructure for New Technology

• Who gets to use the right-of-way?
  Parking
  Loading/curbside
  Sidewalks
Sources of Ethical Guidance

• Your own values and culture
• Local plans and ordinances, such as City Equity Office
• Codes of Ethics
  • AICP – Professional Planners
    • Statement of Ethical Principles -- aspirational
    • Code of Conduct – enforceable
  • APA Statement of Ethical Principles
    • Applies to all planning process participants
AICP Aspirational Principles/APA Ethical Principles

a) Conscious of the rights of others.

b) Concern for the long-range consequences. /Pay special attention to the long range consequences.

c) Pay special attention to the interrelatedness of decisions. Pay special attention to the interrelatedness of decisions.
d) Provide timely, adequate, clear, and accurate information. /Provide full, clear, and accurate information.

e) Opportunity for people to have a meaningful impact on the development of plans and programs that may affect them. Include those who lack formal organization or influence. /Rights of citizens to participate in planning decisions.
f) Seek social justice by working to expand choice and opportunity for all persons. Promote racial and economic integration. Urge the alteration of policies, institutions, and decisions that oppose such needs./Strive to expand choice and opportunity for all persons, especially the disadvantaged.

g) Promote excellence of design and endeavor to conserve and preserve the integrity and heritage of the natural and built environment./Protect the integrity of the natural environment and the heritage of the built environment.

h) Deal fairly with all participants in the planning process.
Questions That You Should Always Ask

• Who is better off?
• Who is worse off?
• Can the negative impacts be mitigated?
• Are there practical alternatives?
• Who pays for the direct and indirect costs?
Dealing with the Scenario

• Review hand out and assignment
• 15 minutes to complete.
• Reporting out.
Questions and Answers
How to Address Equity Issues on the Job

• Pros and cons should be a part of every analysis
• Understanding who benefits and how great those benefits are in relation to who loses is critical.
  • Who must be protected at all cost – vulnerable, those without voice or mobility choice, those protected by law

• Engage providers in solving the real problems.
• Avoid regulating anticipated problems.
• Pilot programs can be valuable laboratories.
• Reach out to colleagues in communities with greater experience.
For All Vision Zero Initiatives, There Are Long-Term Interrelated Issues to Consider

• Impact on urban form, infill, and redevelopment.
• Impact on natural and resource landscapes.
• Impact on transportation financing to achieve efficiency and equity.