

**“CYCLE BROOKFIELD” ANNUAL SUMMIT RECAP**  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025**  
**COMPASSION FACTORY—7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Present:

45 member and non-member attendees. Village President Mike Garvey stopped by. Guest Speakers: Dave Gorman/Working Bikes and Val Kramer/Ride Riverside

## **1. OVERVIEW**

1.1 Chris Valadez gave an overview of the history of Cycle Brookfield

1.2 2025 Cycle Brookfield officer slate was proposed: Chris Valadez, President; Joe O’Connor, Vice President; Pete Janunas, Treasurer; Elaine Jans, Secretary. No other officer nominees were put forth.

1.3 Attendees voted via QR code for the proposed slate, and proposed slate was voted in for 2025.

## **2. CYCLE BROOKFIELD YEAR IN REVIEW**

2.1 Joe O’Connor reviewed Cycle Brookfield activities which included:

- First Friday Slow Rolls
- Member Only Rides
- Indoor Events
- Sponsored Events
- Participation in Community Events

## **3. INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW**

3.1. Joe Seymour, Infrastructure Director, gave a brief recap of the successful 2024 First Cycle Brookfield Summer Social which was held on August 15, 2024 at Imperial Oak Brewing.

3.2 Joe S. presented the “3 B” infrastructure focus for 2025:

- Better bike parking—increase bike racks and bike parking spots
- Better Bike Planning: bike lanes
- Betting on Bike Grants: Currently applied or applying for four grants.

## **4. CHICAGO GRIT**

4.1 Chris V. reported that the Chicago Grit will be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2025. Due to the renovation of Grand Avenue in 2025, the new race course will be: starting at Irish Times to Burlington Avenue, then to Grove Avenue, then to Southview Avenue, then to Elm Avenue then to Burlington Avenue.

## **5. GUEST SPEAKER—DAVE GORMAN—WORKING BIKES**

5.1 Dave G. gave an overview of Working Bikes:

- Is a non-profit, full service bike shop, providing community members and neighbors with affordable refurbished bicycles, accessories, and repair services for 25 years
- Funds raised by their retail store and service department support their nonprofit programs which include local donation programs, international donation program, and volunteer program
- Receive donated bikes from around the Midwest from individuals, recycling events, bike drives, and municipal groups. Donations can be dropped-off at their warehouse, as well any of their partnering drop-off sites.

## **6. GUEST SPEAKER—VAL KRAMER—RIDE RIVERSIDE**

6.1 Val K. gave an overview of Ride Riverside:

- Thanks to support from Cycle Brookfield members Chris Valadez, Joe O'Conner, and Pete Janunas, Ride Riverside held their first "Second Friday Slow Roll on April 12, 2024
- As many as 80 people have participated in the Second Friday slow rolls
- Three take-aways:
  - Everyone needs help from their friends
  - People can change
  - Have hope!

## **7. WRAP UP**

7.1. Chris V. asked attendees to note via QR code any ideas they have for future rides, events or advocacy.

## **8. MISCELLANEOUS**

- There were 2 types of raffles: one was during breaks in the presentation and 2024 Chicago Grit memorabilia was raffled; and the second was at the end of the program where donated items were raffled
- Pizza, beverages and cookies were provided
- New Cycle Brookfield t-shirts were sold
- Membership sign-up and/or renewal was available