

**EAU CLAIRE
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Meeting of April 19, 2016

The meeting was chaired by Aaron Salmon in the City Council Chambers and called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Aaron Salmon, Dick Johnston, Catherine Lee, Kirk Jansen, Marian Ritland, Martin Goettl, Dan May

Members Absent: Luke Hoppe, Nathan Ruland, Dave Bohlinger

Staff Present: Leah Ness, Todd Heinz, Pat Ivory

Visitors Present: Eric Anderson

Minutes. The minutes from the March 15, 2016 and April 12, 2016 meetings were approved as written.

1. Discussion of Margaret Street Vehicle Speed Concerns. Eric Anderson, 1512 Lyndale Avenue, discussed concerns of the East Side Hill Neighborhood Association related to vehicle speed on Margaret Street. Eric discussed safety issues related to the current vehicle speeds and the posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour. He indicated that the neighborhood association conducted an internet survey to get input from the residents of the neighborhood relating to vehicle speed, crosswalks, installation of stop signs, bike lanes, and sharrows. The results generally showed a strong preference to reduce the speed limit to 25 miles per hour and add crosswalks and 4-way stop signs at Highland Avenue. He noted that the neighborhood has several schools and churches, and the street extends through the middle of a neighborhood.

He added that the neighborhood felt that a 25 mile per hour speed limit would be more appropriate and that the adopted neighborhood plan recommended the lowering of the speed limit. He also showed statistics related to the severity of injuries on streets with a 30 mile per hour speed limit versus a 25 mile per hour speed limit. He also reported accident numbers along the street that totaled 66 between 2010 and 2014.

Leah Ness indicated that she had been in contact with the neighborhood association and has conducted vehicle speed studies along the street. She also noted that she planned to look at crash data and turning movements at intersections such as Highland Avenue. She added that Margaret Street was reconstructed in 2008, so it would be difficult to make major changes such as narrowing the street. She indicated that other options should be considered to try to slow the traffic including encouraging more on-street parking, safety education, adding crosswalks, and adding vegetative plantings along the boulevard.

The Commission discussed the issue and agreed with the concerns of the neighborhood noting that neighborhood factors such as the presence of multiple schools, churches and the character of the area all should be considerations in addition to the traffic information that is compiled. It was also noted that the crosswalk study was underway. The Commission also questioned whether a 25 mile per hour speed limit would be appropriate for all residential collectors throughout the City.

ACTION TAKEN: Kirk Jansen moved that the Commission concurs with the neighborhood's concerns about the current speed limit and that the City should complete the necessary traffic studies to assist in making decisions about possible changes relating to the posted speed limit and possible crosswalks. Dick Johnston seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

2. Discussion of 2016 Work Program and Budget. The Commission reviewed a draft listing of projects for their 2016 work program. Specific projects discussed by the Commission included Bike to Work Week, improving the content of the web site, materials needed for the educational booth, and outreach to the various neighborhood associations. The Commission asked Pat Ivory to send them a listing of the active neighborhood associations and talk with the City's Information Services Division about options to improve the Commission's content on their website and developing additional social media such as Facebook. Aaron Salmon indicated that he would work with Pat on issues related to Bike to Work Week, and content for the educational booth and website.

It was suggested that each member of the Commission send Pat several possible budget expenditure suggestions prior to the next meeting.

3. Discussion of 2016 CIP Recommendations and 5-Year Street Improvement Program. Leah Ness reviewed a spreadsheet that she had prepared that listed the 2016 street improvement projects that the Commission reviewed and commented on earlier in the year. The spreadsheet indicated the Commission's recommendations for each street and then the action taken by the City Council. Leah indicated that she would email the information to the Commission members.

Leah also briefly reviewed the City's five-year capital street improvement program. This shows the City's tentative street replacement projects for the five-year period from 2016 to 2020. This also will be emailed to the Commission members.

The Commission thanked Leah for both documents noting that they would be very beneficial when looking at future projects.

4. Discussion of Bicycle Friendly Community Site Visit. Pat Ivory discussed the upcoming visit by Steve Clark from the League of American Bicyclists. The visit will be on April 28th and will include a bicycle tour and discussion of bicycle-related improvements for the community. Pat noted that all Commission members were encouraged to attend.

5. Update on Crosswalk Treatment Policy Committee. Martin Goettl updated the Commission on the Crosswalk Treatment Policy Committee. The Committee had their second meeting on April 14th.

6. Appointment of Representative to the Advisory Team for the Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. The Commission was informed that the Chippewa-Eau Claire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is beginning the process to update the Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. To assist in updating the plan, West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is forming a citizens group to provide input into the update process. They are requesting a representative from the Commission on the Advisory Team.

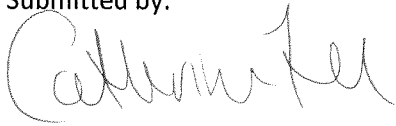
ACTION TAKEN: Marian Ritland moved to nominate Dick Johnston to the Advisory Team. Martin Goettl seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

7. Future Items and Updates.

- a) Walk Your City Program. Kirk Jansen asked to have a discussion about the Walk Your City Program at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Catherine Lee".

Catherine Lee, Secretary