

**EAU CLAIRE
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Meeting of December 20, 2016

The meeting was chaired by Aaron Salmon in the North Conference Room and called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Members Absent: (There are two vacancies on the Commission.)

Staff Present: Dave Solberg, Pat Ivory

Visitors Present: Jeremy Gragert

Minutes. The minutes from the November 15, 2016 meeting were approved with a spelling change for Jeremy Gragert.

1. Discussion of 2017 CIP Projects.

A. West Hamilton Avenue. Dave Solberg provided an overview of the proposed street reconstruction for West Hamilton Avenue. The project extends from Highway 37 to Craig Road. Dave noted that West Hamilton Avenue to the east of Craig Road has sharrows painted on the road surface. Dave discussed the street reconstruction project, which will be partially funded with Federal funds, the project will either include sharrows or bicycle lanes. In addition, he discussed plans for Short Street to the west that will include bicycle lanes and an off-street trail. He also noted that Highway 37 will be reconstructed in 2018 or 2019 and will include an off-street trail on the east side of the highway.

The Commission discussed the project. They noted that this section of Hamilton Avenue is heavily used by bicyclists due to its proximity to the State and City trail system located to the west. They noted that bicycle lanes would be preferred as it would tie in better with the Short Street reconstruction project to the west that will include bicycle lanes. Dave Solberg noted that parking could be eliminated on the south side of the street to accommodate bicycle lanes.

Jeremy Gragert questioned whether there was a need to provide any curb ramps on the south side of the street to provide pedestrian access to the sidewalk for any transit stops. Dave indicated that he would look to see if any curb ramps should be included.

ACTION TAKEN: Kirk Jansen moved that the Commission would prefer to see bicycle lanes included as part of the project based on the proximity of the street to the recreational trail, the continuation of bicycle lanes on the west side of Highway 37 along Short Street and the future connection with the proposed off-street trail along the east side of Highway 37. This will involve the elimination of parking on the south side of the street. In addition, it

was suggested that Public Works review the need for curb ramps on the south side of the street to access the sidewalk system. Dick Johnston seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

B. Craig Road. Dave Solberg provided an overview of the proposed street reconstruction of Craig Road from Clairemont Avenue to the north end. Dave discussed the proposed construction noting Marshfield Clinic's plans to construct a hospital on the west side of the street. Bicycle lanes are proposed for the street with two vehicle lanes. The hospital project will eliminate several curb-cuts along the west side of Craig Road. He also noted that some design changes will be made to the north side of the intersection of Craig Road and Clairemont including a proposed median within the Craig Road right-of-way in the vicinity of the Clairemont Avenue frontage road. He noted that an additional pedestrian refuge island is being considered to the southwest of the Marshfield parking lot located on the east side of the street. Another refuge island already exists near the northwest corner of the parking lot.

The Commission discussed the project and agreed with the addition of the bicycle lanes and refuge island. They also noted that it would be beneficial to improve the crosswalks at the Craig Road/Clairemont Avenue intersection for those wanting to cross Clairemont Avenue. At a minimum, it was suggested that the existing crosswalks be repainted to make them more visible to motorists.

ACTION TAKEN: Nathan Ruland moved that the Commission support the recommendations as outlined by Dave Solberg noting that a large number of bicyclists are employed at Marshfield Clinic and that the bicycle lanes continue to the south on Craig Road to the south of Clairemont Avenue. In addition, it was suggested that the City should consider re-painting the crosswalks crossing Clairemont Avenue at Craig Road in order for them to be more visible to the motorists. Marian Ritland seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

C. Golf Road/Prill Road. Dave Solberg provided an overview of the reconstruction plans for Golf Road and Prill Road. The City's portion of the project will include Golf Road within the vicinity of the Olive Garden restaurant east to the Highway 53 entrance/exit ramps and on the east side of Highway 53 from the entrance/exit ramps east to the vicinity of the curb-cut for Kohl's Department Store. Dave noted that the State DOT would be doing maintenance work on the bridge over Highway 53 extending from the entrance/exit ramps on the east and west sides of the bridge.

Dave indicated that the initial concept is to extend sidewalk on the north side of Golf Road and Prill Road to provide an improved pedestrian link between the mall area and east side of Highway 53.

The Commission discussed the project and noted that the addition of a crosswalk across Golf Road to the east of the mall entrance road would be beneficial for pedestrians. This would also involve the extension of a short section of sidewalk on the south side of Golf Road to connect with this new crosswalk. Also, when discussing pedestrian circulation patterns in the vicinity of Gateway Drive and Prill Road that consideration should be given to relocating the crosswalk across Prill Road currently on the west side of Gateway Drive to the east side of Gateway Drive. Finally, sidewalks on both sides of Golf Road and Prill Road within the limits of the construction would best serve the pedestrian needs of the area and greatly enhance pedestrian circulation. The Commission asked Dave whether the addition of sidewalks on the south side (in addition to those proposed on the north side) would significantly alter the cost of the project and be feasible.

Dave indicated that he and his staff would review the feasibility of the addition of the sidewalk on the south side of the right-of-way in relation to the traffic impacts on the entrance/exit ramps. He would also study the addition of a crosswalk near the mall entrance and relocating the crosswalk at Gateway Drive.

ACTION TAKEN: Dick Johnston moved that the Commission request the Engineering Department consider the addition of a crosswalk across Golf Road to the east of the mall entrance and connecting sidewalk, and relocation of the crosswalk across Prill Road from the west side of Gateway Drive to the east side of Gateway Drive. In addition, that they also consider sidewalks on the south side of the Golf Road/Prill Road right-of-way in addition to the north side as pedestrians are already walking on both sides of the street, the Highway 53 entrance/exit ramps on the north side of the Golf Road/Prill Road are more difficult to cross for pedestrians due to the traffic volumes and width of the ramps, there are major commercial destinations on both sides of the right-of-way on both sides of Highway 53 and this would reduce the number of pedestrians needing to cross Golf Road/Prill Road. Nathan Ruland seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

2. Discussion of 2016 Work Program Progress Report and Draft 2017 Work Program. Pat Ivory informed the Commission that the City Council had approved the policy statement that will require an approved work program for the Commission. He then reviewed the status of the projects from the 2016 work program and discussed projects that will be carried over into 2017 and potential new work program activities for 2017. The Commission discussed the projects and had suggestions to add to the list. The Commission will discuss and finalize the work program at their January meeting. Pat indicated that he would send out an evaluation form prior to the next meeting for the Commission to prioritize the projects.

3. Other Items.

- a) Bike share program. Aaron Salmon and Pat Ivory provided an overview of recent meetings with bicycle share representatives from Zagster Bike Share and BCycle Bike

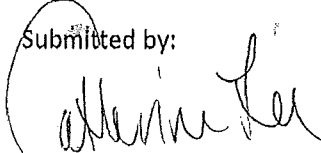
Share. It was noted that meetings with University, Chamber of Commerce, and Visit Eau Claire should be scheduled in the upcoming months.

- b) Commission Vacancies. The Commission reviewed the citizen resource bank listing of people interested in serving on the Commission. Several Commissioners indicated that they were familiar with some of the individuals listed.
- c) Reports to staff on safety issues or concerns. None.
- d) Future agenda items. The Commission suggested that at the beginning of each meeting, that they should take time to recognize any visitors attending the meeting.

The Commission and Pat Ivory noted that this was the last meeting for both Dan May and Martin Goettl and thanked them for their service and contributions to the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine Lee", is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Catherine Lee, Secretary