

**EAU CLAIRE
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of December 18, 2017

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, Scott Kmetz, Andy Becker, Kirk Jansen, Brian Jenquine, Catherine Lee, Eric Nelson, Marian Ritland

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Leah Ness, Pat Ivory

Visitors Present: Ann Francis, Jeremy Gragert, Kristina Heideman

Minutes. The minutes from the November 21, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

1. Discussion of Complete Streets Program. The Committee briefly discussed the complete streets work plan item. It was noted that letters of support should be coming from the Healthy Communities task force and Sustainability Committee. The Committee discussed making contacts with other groups such as the West Central Regional Planning Commission, Third Ward, East Side Hill, Transit Alliance, and the School Board to obtain similar letters. The Committee is tentatively looking at meeting with Dave Solberg in February.

2. Discussion of 2018 Work Program. The Committee reviewed the draft 2018 work program. Pat Ivory discussed the draft and noted the status of the work items on the 2017 work program.

ACTION TAKEN: Scott Kmetz moved to approve the 2018 work program. Catherine Lee seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

3. Discussion of 2018 CIP Projects. The Committee continued their review of the 2018 CIP street projects. The Committee discussed all the 2018 CIP street projects in November and will now discuss seven projects in detail. These projects included: Harding Avenue, Washington Street, Graham Avenue, Lake Street, West Grand Avenue, Fenwick Avenue, and Hendrickson Drive.

Regarding Harding Avenue and Washington Street, Leah Ness provided an overview of the citizen survey results for the project and also noted that the East Side Hill Neighborhood supported closing Lee Street. The Committee discussed alternatives to better accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. Suggestions included lane width reductions that would provide three lanes, a 10' pathway, and a barrier separating the two. An option to the pathway would be a sidewalk and contra-flow bicycle lane. Widening the existing sidewalk was also discussed,

but substantial additional costs would be involved. Providing safety warning lights in the vicinity of the Jefferson Street intersection (both on Harding and Jefferson) was also discussed. It was noted that Harding and Washington are both important connections to the Downtown and community-wide input should be important. Leah noted that the Engineering Department would be developing a design or design alternatives that would be discussed by the Committee after they are presented to the East Side Hill and Third Ward Neighborhoods.

Other streets discussed:


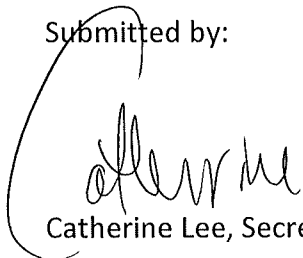
- Graham Avenue from Eau Claire Street to Lake Street. Items discussed: bumpouts at the intersections, additional crosswalks, and sharrows. The intersection of Graham and Eau Claire Street was also discussed and the need for enhanced pedestrian crosswalks or signals due to the proximity of the new performing arts center. The street is listed as a bicycle route. Leah noted that East Grand Avenue between the Chippewa River and Farwell Street would be delayed until details of some possible redevelopment in the area is finalized.
- Lake Street from the Chippewa River to Farwell Street. The Committee noted the narrow sidewalks and multiple travel lanes along this section of Lake Street. The Committee questioned whether the street could be reduced to three travel lanes, thus allowing for wider sidewalks, possible bicycle lanes, and street trees. The recreational trail extends along the Chippewa River to the north of Lake Street. The street is listed as a bicycle route.
- West Grand Avenue from the Chippewa River pedestrian bridge to Oxford Avenue. Items discussed included: crosswalks, possible bumpouts, sharrows, stop signs for all legs of the First Avenue/Grand Avenue intersection, possible extension of the green space located west of the bridge, and a possible small landscaped traffic circle at Oxford. Grand Avenue is identified as a potential bicycle boulevard extending from Carson Park to Boyd Park.
- Fenwick Avenue from Keith Street to Donnellan Lane. This section is in front of Regis High School. Items discussed included: bumpouts, additional crosswalks, and sharrows. Fenwick is listed as a bicycle route. A directional sign for the pedestrian underpass was also suggested.
- Hendrickson Drive and Clairemont Avenue Frontage Road. The installation of an 8-foot trail on the north side of the frontage road extending from Stein Boulevard to Hendrickson Drive was discussed. (The State DOT is constructing a trail on the east side of Hendrickson Drive from Short Street to Clairemont Avenue.) If the trail is not feasible, then a sidewalk would be an alternative. In addition, crosswalks with bumpouts from the trail/sidewalk to the south side of the frontage road were discussed. It was noted that if only a sidewalk could be installed, that bicycle lanes should be considered without the installation of bumpouts. Finally, the Committee discussed the possibility of installing a crosswalk across Hendrickson Drive on the south side of the intersection. Leah indicated that the State DOT controls this intersection and could be contacted, but they would need to agree to a crosswalk.

4. Other items.

- a) **UWEC Bike Share.** Kristina Haideman, a student from the UWEC student senate, was present at the meeting and discussed the University's interest in starting up a bike share program. The University has some funds available for the program, but is looking for partners. She indicated that she would be scheduling a meeting of interested organizations in January.
- b) **Committee Vacancies.** Pat Ivory informed the Committee that one of the two vacancies on the Committee was recently filled by the City Council. One additional vacancy remains. Pat and Leah also thanked Marian Ritland and Dick Johnston for their work on the Committee.
- c) **Reports to staff on safety issues or concerns.** Concerns noted included:
 - Snow removal from sidewalks, the area near Micon Cinema was mentioned.
- d) **Appreciation Breakfast.** Staff reminded the Committee about the appreciation breakfast scheduled for January 10th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by:



Catherine Lee, Secretary