

**EAU CLAIRE
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of March 20, 2018

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, Scott Kmetz, Andy Becker, Brian Jenquine, Catherine Lee, Ann Francis, Carl Mothes

Members Absent: Kirk Jansen, Eric Nelson

Staff Present: Leah Ness, Pat Ivory

Visitors Present: Scott Larson

Minutes. The minutes from the February 20, 2018 meeting were approved as written.

1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. Pat Ivory provided an overview of the draft of the 2018 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update. Pat discussed the background related to the current plan that was prepared in 2010 and then discussed the various sections of the updated plan noting narratives that were included in the previous plan and then noted sections that were updated and revised. Pat also discussed the opportunities for public input that were provided during 2017. He asked Committee members to review the draft and bring comments and suggestions to the April meeting.

2. Discussion of Work Program. The Committee discussed their 2018 work program. Several Committee members indicated an interest in working on some educational activities such as sponsoring a booth at some of the summer festivals and events. The Neighborhood Night Out and Downtown festivals were mentioned as suggestions. Programs for the School District were also mentioned and Leah Ness noted that a coordinator position may be created for the Safe Routes to School program through a grant program. If this position is approved, BPAC could coordinate with this person to sponsor some bicycle and pedestrian programs. Aaron Salmon also noted that the Committee has traditionally assisted in sponsoring the bicycle valet program for the Thursday night concert series at Phoenix Park.

The Committee also discussed the Chippewa Valley Bicycle Map and it was noted that there may be a need to print additional maps. The Committee discussed the map and noted that it has been very helpful and thanked those involved with the preparation and printing of the map.

Finally, the Committee discussed the bicycle corral program. It was noted that staff is planning to meet with the Water Street BID to assess the use of the bicycle corral along Water Street during the fall of 2017. Based on this input, the Committee could decide whether they could consider purchasing another corral.

ACTION TAKEN: Ann Francis moved to authorize an expenditure of up to \$1,500 to contribute to the printing of the Chippewa Valley Bicycle Map. Brian Jenquine seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

3. Discussion of Signage for Downtown Sidewalks Where Bicycling is Prohibited. Leah Ness discussed the need to provide signage within the Downtown area and along Water Street where bicycling is prohibited on the sidewalks. The City recently reviewed and updated the sections of sidewalk where bicycling and skateboarding would be prohibited, and the areas need to be better marked or identified. Leah presented several sample stencil designs for the sidewalks and signs that would be posted along the sidewalks. Upon review, the Committee indicated their preferred designs. They also indicated that the stencil markings should be located at the end of each block and signage would possibly be placed mid-block. Leah also noted that sharrows would be added to further reinforce that the bicyclists should be using the street.

4. Other items.

- a) **2018 CIP Requests.** Leah reviewed the status of the 2018 CIP requests. Aaron Salmon noted that the Committee still needs to refine the process of commenting on projects. In some instances, the Committee's comments have been incorporated into the staff reports, whereas for other streets, the comments have been included in a letter to the City Engineer. He felt that notation of the Committee's comments should probably be provided separately more often.
- b) **Bike Share.** UWEC has scheduled a meeting to discuss a possible bike share program. The meeting is scheduled for April 13th and staff and Aaron Salmon will attend.
- c) **Complete Streets.** Leah noted that a team of people from Eau Claire will be attending a walkability conference in April. The team may gather some additional information about the Complete Streets program at that time. Therefore, she indicated that staff would be waiting to draft any policy statement until the team returns as valuable information may be obtained at the conference.
- d) **Reports to staff on safety issues or concerns.** Concerns noted included:
 - Ice on the sidewalk on the west side of State Street in the vicinity of Clairemont Avenue.
 - Poor lighting for pedestrians along Water Street between 6th Avenue and 8th Avenue.
 - Difficulty for pedestrians to cross Highway 37 at Hamilton Avenue (this may improve with the improvements scheduled for Highway 37 this summer).
 - The pedestrian crosswalk across South Dewey Street on the north side of Eau Claire Street near the library is somewhat obscured for traffic travelling north.

-Difficulty for pedestrians crossing Clairemont Avenue at Menomonie Street (a traffic study will be undertaken as part of the Sonnetag development, which may address some of the pedestrian issues in the area).

- e) **Future Agenda Items.** Items mentioned included: update of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, presentation on the Safe Routes to School Plan, discussing event dates for possible educational booths, update on the bike share plan, and update on future bicycle corral locations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Catherine Lee by P.J.I.

Catherine Lee, Secretary