

**EAU CLAIRE  
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of December 18, 2018**

The meeting was chaired by Aaron Salmon in the Chippewa Room of the L. E. Phillips Memorial Public Library and called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Aaron Salmon, Kirk Jansen, Catherine Lee, Brian Jenquine, Scott Kmetz, Ann Francis, Andy Becker

**Members Absent:** Carl Mothes (The Committee has one vacancy with the resignation of Eric Nelson)

**Staff Present:** Dave Solberg, Pat Ivory

**Visitors Present:** Jeremy Gragert, Dick Johnston, John Stupek

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

**1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Concerns.** Several safety concerns were noted:

- With the closure of the Fairfax Park Road for the winter, traffic is heavy around South Middle School when dropping off students.
- The lighting along Water Street to the west of Sixth Avenue could be improved.

**2. Discussion of 2019 CIP Program.** Dave Solberg discussed each of the 2019 CIP projects proposed for 2019. An overview of comments included:

- Eddy Lane. Tentative plans call for safety arms to be installed by the railroad for the railroad crossing, installation of bicycle lanes, a sidewalk connection on the north side between Anderson Drive and the recreational trail, a tabletop intersection at Starr Avenue, reduction of the lane width on the north side of the road in the vicinity of the railroad crossing. The Committee supported each of these plans and also suggested consideration for: adding a crosswalk at Kilbourne Avenue, trying to make some improvement at the Anderson Drive intersection, provide an enhanced crosswalk treatment where the trail crosses Eddy Lane, and consider reducing the southwest corner radius of the intersection of Eddy Lane and Western Avenue.
- Forest Street. Tentative plans call for angle parking on the west side of the street, bump-outs at most of the intersections, bicycle lanes, a small parking lot at Oak Street extended, and a trail along the west side of the street (8' to 12' width). The Committee supported these recommendations except that they noted concerns about the installation of the angle parking on the west side of the street that might conflict with the bicycle lanes. The Committee also suggested consideration of: providing a well-

marked and signed trail connection between the trail that extends under Madison Street from Phoenix Park that would connect with the new trail on the west side of Forest Street.

- Riverview Drive. Dave noted that this project would be delayed most likely until 2020.
- State Street. Tentative plans call for roundabouts at Roosevelt, Lexington, MacArthur, and Hamilton, reduction in travel lanes to one in each direction, bike lanes, wider sidewalk on the hill area, a pedestrian only phase at Garfield Avenue, cameras at Garfield Avenue, audible cues at the Garfield intersection, installation of the rapid rectangular flashing beacon in the north section near campus, installation of a bike rail on the steps leading to Putnam Park. The Committee supported each of these recommendations and also suggested consideration for: adding a bike rail for the steps located to the south of the Clairemont Avenue Bridge, a bike activated signal at Garfield Avenue, and some form of a buffered bicycle lane southbound along the hill, and the use of some green paint at selected areas to better identify the bicycle lanes.
- Garfield Avenue. Dave noted that this project would be delayed most likely until 2020. Jeremy Gragert noted that when the street is reconstructed, consideration should be given to prohibiting parking on both sides of the street and adding bicycle lanes.
- Lake Street (Farwell Street to Dewey Street). Tentative plans call for the installation of bicycle lanes. It was also noted that a bicycle box was being considered on the west side of Farwell Street, which also being reconstructed in 2019. The Committee supported these recommendations.
- Lincoln Avenue. This is a residential street with existing sidewalks. No changes are planned. The Committee discussed some possible changes at the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and State Street, but Dave noted that the proposed project would not extend into State Street.
- West Grant Avenue. This is a residential street with existing sidewalks. No changes are planned. The Committee supported the project as planned.
- Fourth Street. This is a two block section with one section that as a rural cross section. Sidewalks may be considered. Several Committee members questioned the need for sidewalk in this section due to the steep topography of the area.
- James Street. This is residential street with existing sidewalks. No changes are planned. The Committee supported the project as planned.
- Dorret Road. This is rural cross section at the present time. Tentative plans call for sidewalks. The Committee concurred with the recommendation.
- Water Street (1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue). Tentative plans call for bicycle lanes. The Committee agreed with the recommendation. They also discussed the intersection at Water Street and First Avenue. There were some comments about the difficulty for bicyclists to bike north from campus due to the current configuration of the sidewalks and crosswalks. It was also mentioned that people walking west on the north side of the Water Street Bridge and wanting to cross the street to the south had to first cross First Avenue. The idea of pedestrian only phase or pedestrian scramble phase was

suggested as a consideration. They also asked if the radius of the northwest corner of the intersection could be reduced.

- Water Street (6<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue). Bicycle lanes currently exist along this section and would be included with the new street. The Committee supported this recommendation. They also noted that street lighting in this area should be improved.
- Meadow Lane. Dave noted that this project would be delayed most likely until 2020.
- Spring Street. This is residential street with existing sidewalks. No changes are planned. The Committee supported the project as planned.
- Melby Street (Anderson Drive to Hastings Way). Tentative plans call for the installation of a sidewalk on the both sides of the street. The recreational trail extends through this area and several worn pathways exist showing pedestrian traffic in this area. The Committee supported the installation of the sidewalk and noted that the alignment of the sidewalk on the north side of the street should accommodate both those walking along the side of the street and also those accessing the trail.
- Madison Street Underpass. This project will be delayed until 2020.
- Trail construction. Plans call for the trails to be constructed along the east side of the Chippewa River from the Pablo Center south to Lake Street, along the south side of the Eau Claire River from Barstow Street, under Farwell Street to Dewey Street, and along the south side of Half Moon Lake north of the tennis center. The Committee supported each of these projects. They noted that consideration should be given to marking the trail crossing of Barstow Street and that the entrance to the trail north of Lake Street should be well marked and made more visible from the street.

**3. Consideration of 2019 Committee Work Program.** The Committee reviewed the draft 2019 work program. The Committee asked to add a mention of the need to discuss the feasibility of creating a mobility coordinator in the future. This coordinator could be in partnership with other organizations such as the School District and area municipalities.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Catherine moved to recommend the 2019 work program with the addition of a discussion regarding the feasibility of creating a mobility coordinator in the future. Andy Becker seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

**4. Other items.**

- a) **Update of Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.** Pat Ivory noted that the City Council had adopted the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Pat thanked the Committee for their work on the project.
- b) **Bike Share Draft Ordinance.** Pat noted that staff was continuing to work on the ordinance for licensing bike share vendors. A draft will be discussed by the Committee most likely at the January meeting.
- c) **Committee membership.** Pat noted that William Berg had been appointed to the Committee by the City Council. It was also noted that this was Kirk Jansen's last

meeting. The Committee and staff thanked Kirk for his work on the Committee over the past three years.

- d) **Future agenda items.** Agenda items for the January meeting will include the continued discussion of the 2019 CIP projects and possibly a discussion about the bike share ordinance.

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

Submitted by:



Catherine Lee, Secretary