

**EAU CLAIRE
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of February 19, 2019

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, Catherine Lee, Scott Kmetz, Ann Francis, Bill Berg

Members Absent: Brian Jenquine (The Committee has 3 vacancies.)

Staff Present: Leah Ness, Pat Ivory, Jake Gullickson

Visitors Present: Andy Becker, JJ Henrickson

Minutes. The minutes from the January 15, 2019 meeting were approved as written.

1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Comments. It was noted that the sidewalks on the State Street hill were quite icy. Also, the right eastbound lane of Summit Avenue is getting narrow due to the build-up of snow. Overall, the Committee felt that the City is doing a very good job with the snow removal and keeping the sidewalks passable.

2. Update from Eau Claire Police Department. Sgt. Jake Gullickson from the Eau Claire Police Department was present at the meeting to discuss pedestrian and bicycle issues for the 4th quarter of 2018. Sgt. Gullickson reviewed 5 separate incidents that had occurred during this timeframe.

3. Discussion of 2019 CIP Program. The Committee discussed the State Street reconstruction project that will extend from Hamilton Avenue, north to Garfield Avenue. Leah Ness reviewed the project and plans that would include roundabouts at Hamilton Avenue, Macarthur Avenue, and Lexington Boulevard. Plans for the State Street Hill and the Roosevelt Avenue intersection were also discussed.

ACTION TAKEN: Scott Kmetz moved to submit the letter to the City Council regarding the State Street project. The letter would contain the following: Committee support for the three roundabouts planned for Hamilton Avenue, Macarthur Avenue, and Lexington Boulevard noting that sharrows and ramps should be considered at the Hamilton and Lexington roundabouts, that the crosswalk be kept north of Lexington, bike rails should be added to the stairways located to the south of Clairemont Avenue and the stairways located north of Clairemont that extend down to Putnam Drive, provide adequate lighting for pedestrians near the stairways south of Clairemont Avenue, support for the bicycle lanes between Hamilton and

Lexington with 12' travel lanes and 2' buffered bike lanes, support for buffered bicycle lanes north of Lexington and give consideration to the installation of bollards on the hill section during the summer to provide a more defined separation of the bicycle lane from the travel lane, wider sidewalks (up to 8' in width) on the State Street Hill, a rectangular rapid flashing beacon signal at McKinley Avenue, a small rest area with a bench on both sides of the street in the hill section of the street, a pedestrian only phase for the signal at Garfield Avenue, and sharrows between Bartlett Court and Garfield Avenue. Regarding the intersection at Roosevelt, the larger roundabout option should be considered even if this means delaying work at this intersection until 2020. The Committee feels that the reconstruction without a roundabout would not address pedestrian and bicyclist safety at this location or the complete streets goal of this project. As a second option, the smaller roundabout would be a better option than no roundabout, and the third option would be a raised intersection with a rectangular rapid flashing beacon signal. Ann Francis seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

The Committee then discussed the reconstruction of Forest Street from Madison Street north to Sara Street. Leah Ness reviewed the proposed project that would include: narrowing the pavement from 42' to 39.5', parallel parking on the west side of the street, bump-outs at certain intersections, bicycle lanes, a wider sidewalk along the west side of the street, and a small parking lot at Oak Street extended. It was also noted that the Veteran's Tribute Trail was proposed for the Forest Street open space that would include a trail.

The Committee discussed the proposed project noting the importance of providing a trail connection with the trail extending under Madison Street to Phoenix Park and possible wayfinding signage. It was also noted that a warning type of sign at the east end of the High Bridge trail was needed as the trail approaches Forest Street.

ACTION TAKEN: Ann Francis then moved to submit the letter to the City Council supporting the project as planned, noting the need to provide a trail connection to Phoenix Park and wayfinding signage. Bill Berg seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

Leah noted that she would contact the Parks Division about the installation of a sign at the east end of the High Bridge trail.

4. Review of Draft Bicycle Share Ordinance. The Committee reviewed the draft ordinance that would provide for the licensing of vendors interested in operating a dockless bicycle share operation within the City. The draft had been reviewed by the Committee at their January meeting and Leah noted a couple minor updates since that meeting.

ACTION TAKEN: Catherine Lee moved that the Committee recommend approval of the dockless bicycle share ordinance. Scott Kmetz seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

5. **Appointment to Renewable Energy Action Plan Committee.** The Committee reviewed a letter from Associate Planner Ned Noel regarding a request to appoint a member of the Committee that would serve on the Renewable Energy Action Plan Committee. The Committee indicated that they would wait until their March meeting to make an appointment when more members would be present.

6. **Other items.**

- a) **Committee Vacancies.** It was noted that there are three vacancies on the Committee with the recent resignations of Eric Nelson, Carl Mothes and Andy Becker. Pat Ivory noted that the City Council would be considering appointments for the three positions at an up-coming meeting.
- b) **Bike Friendly Community Application.** Pat Ivory noted the Committee's work plan for this year includes the submittal of an application to the League of American Bicyclists for the Bicycle Friendly Community Program. Pat provided a brief overview of the application process and the need for the Committee to assist in the preparation of the application. The Committee indicated that they would discuss this further at their March meeting.
- c) **Future agenda items.** Agenda items for future meetings will include: a discussion on mobility trends, a presentation on bicycle parking ordinance provisions, and additional discussion on the Bicycle Friendly Community application.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by:



Catherine Lee, Secretary