

**EAU CLAIRE
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of March 15th, 2022

Members Present: Kmetz, Berg (7:00pm), Brouillard, Sorenson (6:12pm), Larson, Salmon (6:19pm), Henricksen, Francis

Members Absent: Dobson

Staff Present: Wittwer, Hufford, Tietz

Visitors Present: Dena Ryan – Wisconsin DOT

1. Call to Order & Introduction of Visitors. Vice-Chair Francis called the virtual meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. Reading and approval of minutes of the past meetings January 18, 2022. Committee member Henricksen moved to approve the minutes. Committee member Kmetz seconded and it was approved.

3. Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on this Agenda noted as Public Hearings or Items for Public Discussion. None.

4. Public Discussions

Item #1: City Streets Department – Plowing Operations. Staff member Tietz gave overview of snow removal process, street priorities, sanding and salting, sidewalks and trails in partnership with Parks based on critical list. Members shared concerns and asked questions. Discussed role of Streets team and assistance from Parks team on critical sidewalks. Discussed process to clear steps. Discussed process of determining critical sidewalks and feedback/update process. Discussed increased infrastructure without increased staffing. Discussed machinery used to clear sidewalks. Discussed corners that get snow packed from plows, public and private. Discussed City and University roles for snow removal. Discussed how current winter compared to previous winters.

Staff member Tietz will share sidewalk/trail priority list.

Item #2: Wisconsin DOT – Dena Ryan. Dena Ryan discussed process for how WisDOT addresses bike/ped accommodations when doing projects. Members shared concerns and asked questions. Discussed adding plantings along Clairmont to slow and calm traffic, recent accident. Discussed how speed limit is determined on Clairmont. Discussed curb ramp update. Discussed Jeffers Rd and North Crossing, concerns over

projects not being addressed until an accident happens, reaching out directly to Dena Ryan for areas of concern to have issues addressed at scoping level. Discussed involvement of MPO in BPAC meetings. Discussed process of updating state bike/ped plan. Discussed Complete Streets at state level. Discussed options of updating needs to address future development concerns, add to Bike/Ped plan and Comp Plan, sharing needs to Dena Ryan. Discussed funding through Federal Infrastructure Bill.

- Wisconsin's complete streets ss84.01(35)
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/84/01/35>
- Inquiries regarding the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL): WisDOT Office of Public Affairs: (608) 266-3581, opa.exec@dot.wi.gov

Item #3: Further Study Areas – Plan Review. Staff member Wittwer asked for input on plan. Discussed speeding concerns and how to address, neighborhood association involvement. Discussed mechanism for furthering work/addressing concerns at Further Study Areas. Discussed how to look at areas with all the pieces (land use, regional trails, bike/ped plan, WisDOT projects, development projects, etc.) and how to include BPAC input for Plan Commission. Discussed difficulties of reviewing each project at BPAC due to timeframes. Staff person Hufford offered to send Plan Commission agendas to BPAC members when completed to allow for review and submittal of commits to Plan Commission. Discussed sharing developments during early stages when possible for discussion. Request to see speed data from Harding and State Street Hills. Discussed adding another strategy for Harding study area.

5. Other Business Agenda Items

Item #1: Pedestrian Surveys. Discussed getting results from pedestrian survey and continuing to push for feedback. Staff will follow up on results.

Item #2: Farwell Street and Jefferson Street Intersection. Third Ward neighborhood looking at petition to have stop sign added. Staff discussed removing parking to improve sight distance. Staff get some counts in the spring to get data for the intersection. Confusion with stop sign placement.

Item #3: National Bike Summit. Summit is March 27th-March 30th. Discussed options for BPAC to watch in North Conference Room, possible virtual option for BPAC members only.

6. Discussion and Direction

A. Safety Concerns. Concerns on what can be done to make sidewalks safer in winter, finding solutions to make sure corners/sidewalks are cleared after plows go through. Possible community led effort. Utilizing process to ticket homeowners, current process

is complaint based. Possible social media campaigns. Discussed impossibility and cost of city shoveling all corners after plows.

B. Future Agenda Items.

- Sidewalk prioritization list
- Survey results
- Speed results from Harding and State
- Complete Streets Policy
- MPO to discuss Clairemont
- National Bike Summit Review
- Quarterly crash report
- WisDOT, traffic engineer to discuss data and traffic safety

C. Announcements. Tuesday City Council vote on virtual meetings, April meeting potentially in-person.

7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. by chair Salmon.

Submitted by:



JJ Henricksen, Secretary