

**EAU CLAIRE
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of July 19th, 2022

Members Present: Berg, Dobson, Henricksen, Francis, Kmetz (left at 6:45)

Members Absent: Sorenson, Brouillard, Larson, Salmon

Staff Present: Wittwer, Hufford

Visitors Present: Mike Goodman, Suzanna Olson

1. Call to Order & Introduction of Visitors. Vice-chair Francis called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Reading and approval of minutes of the past meeting May 17, 2022. Committee member Kmetz moved to approve the minutes. Committee member Berg 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: Trip Reduction Incentive Program.

Mr. Wittwer shared that we would focus on a program and not an ordinance. Encourage employers to offer incentives to their employees. Typically required 80% reduction and incentives were not large. Research on municipalities showed programs were for municipal employees. Washington state has a trip reduction law.

Comments/Questions:

Would be great if the City led and set the example.

Some local big employers pay for parking, what can they offer to those who walk/bike to work?

An article reviewed showed there has not been a lot of success, but overall outcome was more study is needed.

Any change is positive.

University of Washington had a contest, Ride in the Rain. Sometimes response can be greater to a contest (teams). Frisco, CO had a Ride to Work day that had high participation.

Is it possible to team with Health Insurance Companies?

Point system: discount to Scheels, free apps, etc.

Review bus routes (route changed from before 8am to after 8am and bus ridership to employer dropped).

Employer examples that provided free bus passes instead of paying for parking.

Next steps:

Outreach program for businesses

Review contest options

Internal City program

Item #2: School Outreach & Education – Bicycle Safety.

Ms. Francis shared BPAC previously did a program. Teacher on BPAC worked with the schools to have info put in back to school packets. Created one-page report from Safe Routes plan for each school. Mr. Wittwer shared that we have been communicating with Hailee Bushman with the MPO and it may be beneficial to invite her to a meeting to share work the MPO is doing. MPO plans on working with City and School District to update Safe Routes to Schools plan.

Comments/Questions:

Many safe routes, but not delineated very well.

Could info be shared on a website? Equity concern to include in back to school packets.

School presentations on safety.

Next step:

Have Hailee come to a meeting.

Staff will look for existing materials.

Staff will share WI Safe Routes to School rankings.

Item #3: Open Streets.

Mr. Wittwer shared South Barstow and Riverfront Terrace as possible street closures. Businesses need to be on board. Would need to present at a BID meeting or DECI meeting. Staff will talk with Aaron White about bringing up to businesses. Idea was to close streets once or twice a month for a few hours to bike/ped traffic only. Experiences in other communities shows they are highly successful. Discuss getting South Barstow on board for a trial period. Possibly an evening trial.

Comments/Questions:

Winnipeg and Seattle. Shut down on Sundays. Long strips along river. A lot of cities experimented during Covid and have kept program.

Next steps:

Will discuss with Aaron to present at DECI. BPAC would like to be involved in the meetings.

Aaron may be on South Barstow BID board to share with the BID.

Item #4: Bike/Ped Survey Results.

Ms. Hufford gave an overview

Is there an app that is being worked on?
A map with trails, safe routes, tunnels, etc. on our website.
Open Cycle Map (crowdsourced map).
We have pavement marking and trails data.

Next steps:

How can data be added to Google
Crowdsourced maps: bike racks, water bottle stations, bike repair stations
Engineering using data to help with infrastructure planning.
Staff will ask Jeremy about app.
Find good examples of maps
Look at incorporating data into GIS to be able to identify where needs are.

5. Other Business Agenda Items

Item #1: CIP Project Update.

Mr. Wittwer shared CIP project updates. Eddy Lane still under construction, final paving week of Aug 2nd and should be open before school starts. Omaha street should be paved next week. Jeffers Rd slated to begin Aug. 1st, County Line to Daisy Lane. Next year will be southern half. Marston and S. Dewey started yesterday. Milling projects: Riverview Dr pavement markings this week. E Hamilton will start in 2 weeks. Seymour Rd should be open this week.

Item #2: Multi-Modal Trail Features.

Mr. Wittwer shared skate feature that was discussed last month has been completed. If this goes well possible additional infrastructure. City funded this one and skate community will fund future projects. Pinehurst pump track added.

Comments/Questions:

Concerns from a member of the skateboard community: How are we measuring how it is working? No signage about what it is and warning. No trash can (one has been added nearby).

Trail and skate park etiquette signs would be a nice addition when we do trail signage.

6. Discussion and Direction

A. Safety Concerns.

2nd Ave trail crossing.

Trail at Menomonie and Clairemont parking lot used because trail ends, also issues with trying to cross Clairemont. Underpass will be added in the area, applying for grants to fund.

Need for crosswalks at Gilbert and State.

Graham and Washington has huge pothole issues.

No trail access to trail from Lake St bridge. Need curb cut.

Farwell and Jefferson intersection issue.

Tunnel under Vine St/Clairemont needs a convex mirror.

Skate fixture added to Newell park by basketball court. (Has already been removed).

B. Future Agenda Items.

- Email BPAC Guidelines.
- Dena from State DOT, 3rd death on Clairemont, Menomonie and Clairemont, and Jeffers.
- 2nd quarter crash data.
- Hailee from MPO, Safe Routes
- League of American Bicyclist, EDI changes to scoring.
- Survey results.
- Workplan – Bike Corral, Complete Streets
- Update on Artistic Sidewalks

C. Announcements.

None

7. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. by vice-Chair Francis.

Submitted by:



JJ Henricksen, Secretary