

**EAU CLAIRE  
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Members Present:** Salmon, Berg, Dobson, Francis, Brouillard

**Members Absent:** Sorenson, Larson, Kmetz, Henricksen

**Staff Present:** Wittwer, Hufford

**Visitors Present:** Hailee Bushman WCWRPC, Dena Ryan WISDOT (call-in), Beeji

**1. Call to Order & Introduction of Visitors.** Chair Salmon called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

**2. Reading and approval of minutes of the past meeting July 19, 2022.** Committee member Francis moved to approve the minutes. Committee member Dobson seconded. Three members were not previously present and abstained. *Motion tabled for next month.*

**3. Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on this Agenda noted as Public Hearings or Items for Public Discussion.**

Discussion about integration of bikes, pedestrians, and autos. Concerns about risks of bicycles on sidewalks and risks of bicycles on streets with autos. Acknowledged Eau Claire's encouragement of cycling.

**4. Public Discussions**

**Item #1: 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter crash data**

Five crashes involving pedestrians.

- Parking lot – driver of vehicle/delivery driver did not put vehicle in park and ran over own foot.
- Bracket Ave Kwik Trip – person fled from officer and struck pedestrian
- 2600 block N Clairemont – individual backing out of parking space struck person
- Walmart parking lot – van backing out of parking space struck Walmart employee
- London Rd/E Hamilton Ave – Pedestrian walking westbound into crosswalk, Jeep struck pedestrian. Jeep continued and unable to identify. Case inactive due to no further driver/vehicle information.

No bicycle incidents

Comments/Questions:

- London/Hamilton a dangerous area, a lot of concerns.

Next steps:

- *Would like a year-end review to see any patterns.*

### **Item #2: Wisconsin DOT Update – Dena Ryan**

Ms. Ryan shared info on the following locations:

- Clairemont and Menomonie – TIA has not been completed and DOT will make recommendations after receiving the TIA. Expecting short-term and long-term changes based on TIA.
- Clairemont and Otter Creek Rd – Documented, doing a number of curb ramp updates on Clairemont. State will update curb ramp here and look at additional enhancements. Unsure if there will be any type of resurface.
- Clairemont in Altoona – fatality. Pedestrian was walking in the street with traffic, possible mental health issues. Driver hit pedestrian, hit and run. Driver turned self in the next day. Believe it was an OWI. No sidewalk in area. No action planned by the State.

I-94 and Hwy 53 seeing significant development. Bike/Ped plan has overpass and discussion has changed to underpass.

Comments/Questions:

- Clairemont and Menomonie –
  - What is determining potential changes to intersection at Clairemont and Menomonie? Land use and trip indicators. Proposing a round about at Menomonie and 10<sup>th</sup> and those revisions have been updated on the TIA.
  - Is an underpass contingent on TIA? Could play a role, also waiting on grant determination.
  - Concerns about connection from Shawtown across Clairemont, University access. Also access to Elementary School.
  - Possible concerns with creek for underpass and 6 lanes of traffic. Discussed possible alternative locations for a tunnel. Discussed alternative solutions for increasing access.
  - Can short-term improvements be quantified? Within 6-8 years and dependent on TIA.
  - Possible changes to off ramp to reduce speeds.
  - Best way to offer recommendations? Would want BPAC input into the planning process through Trevor, Dena, and traffic engineer.
  - Shawtown Neighborhood Plan starting and will be adopted into Comprehensive Plan.
- Clairemont Corridor curb ramp improvements in 2026, where is the process at? Locations are already programmed.

- I-94 and Hwy 53 seeing significant development. Bike/Ped plan has overpass and discussion has changed to underpass. Ms. Ryan unaware of recent conversations. No preference, but wanting to move forward with a plan. Preference is overpass at Bourbon St vs underpass off Camping World. Discussed benefits of both locations.

Next steps:

- *Mr. Wittwer will review TIA with Ms. Ness to review with BPAC next month.*
- *BPAC offered to work with Shawtown to offer advice on bike/ped concerns. Concerns in letter requesting plan included Menomonie and Clairemont and speeds along other streets.*

### **Item #3: SRTS Update and Discussion – Hailee Bushman WCWRPC**

Ms. Bushman requested input on education piece for back-to-school packs. Ms. Bushman shared some examples from other schools with offer to help with development. Last year created posters to hang up at schools with map of safe-routes and reminders of why important and benefits.

Ms. Bushman shared Bike and Roll program. Few schools participated in Bike and Roll program. Bike and prize giveaways. Every time students walked/biked to school received a raffle ticket for prizes. Plan to do activity again.

Comments/Questions:

- Who is the target audience? Parents? Students? Both, important for students to know what routes are safe and important for parents to make decisions on whether to allow children to walk/bike.
- Two different messages for parents and children, could something be developed geared to both audiences? Walking school bus/trains, could be helpful to bring parents on board to walking/biking and teach children safety.
- Discussed engaging students with speakers, activities, giveaways (lights). Bike rodeos at schools or traffic gardens. Teach kids how to ride bikes properly, how to wear helmet and then let them use new skills.
- How can BPAC help? Discuss solutions for children who ride buses. Volunteers needed. Different options for tracking. Kids are pedestrians before boarding the bus. Bike rodeos for students who ride the bus to earn entries into raffles.
- What is the barrier to entry in program? Safety is the number one concern.
- Discussed the possibility of a centrally located/community wide bike rodeo/bike garden. Shared Wisconsin Bike Fed signs that are available free to the community.
- SRTS Plan will start update soon and plan to finish next summer.
- Ms. Ryan from WISDOT offered to help with outreach. Shared program where PD helped teach children safe riding, helmet wearing, etc. When PD saw children

riding bikes correctly they issued a “ticket” for free ice cream from a local sponsor.

- Suggested to reach out to regional bike advocacy organizations.

Next steps:

- *Survey question asking why parents don't allow children to bike/walk.*
- *Ms. Bushman will return after SRTS surveys to share results.*
- *Staff will share Neighborhood Association contacts with Ms. Bushman*
- *Create toolkit/action plan/outreach calendar for sharing different information throughout the year.*
- *Staff will share Wisconsin Bike Fed sign information. Add to September agenda for vote and location determination.*

## **5. Other Business Agenda Items**

### **Item #1: CIP Project Update.**

Mr. Wittwer shared following updates:

- Eddy Lane scheduled for final surface August 26<sup>th</sup> and opened before school starts.
- Omaha St is being paved this week and opening this week.
- Jeffers Rd started this week. Some supply issues have shifted some plans. Going to Green Park now.
- Folsom St starting this week. Detour should be less than 2 weeks.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and Maple started this week.
- Hamilton milling project currently underway.
- Mercury Ave milling and overlay currently underway.
- Dewey and Marston ongoing with wrap up early to mid-September.

Boyd Park updates underway – Parks CIP

### **Item #2: Street Art Update**

Mr. Wittwer shared we have project for Franklin and Fey, planned to start within couple weeks.

### **Item #2: Open Streets**

South Barstow BID setting up meeting for late August, date hasn't been set yet. Option to present. *Mr. Wittwer will follow up with date.*

## **6. Discussion and Direction**

### **A. Safety Concerns.**

Crosswalk at State and Gilbert.

Need police ticketing autos who do not stop especially with school starting.

Washington and Farwell

Can prioritize pedestrians better with crossing.

Graham and Lake is a fast light and issue observed with person using walker not making it across before light fully changed.

Tunnel lighting during the day. Dark with sunglasses on.

Short St coming from the South with short jogs. Also, area behind the Tennis Center.

Comments/Questions:

- What is min/max time for crosswalk? Based on width of street and based on average stride of average adult with additional time added to accommodate accessibility. Discuss prioritization levels. Extend times near areas where high accessible use.

#### **B. Future Agenda Items.**

- CIP review November
- When is the next application period for Bike Friendly status?
- Complete Streets Policy (scheduled on code review revisions in code review qrt 1 2023) Will review with Mr. Allen, Community Development.
- Boyd Park update (Blind-spot with CIP review in Parks plan? Details on how BPAC and Parks CIP work. Who is watching connection with expanding parks and increased traffic.)
- Shawtown Plan update.
- Attendance/Membership and new applicant review
- Wisconsin Bike Fed signs and membership
- Clairemont and Menomonie TIA update
- Create toolkit/action plan/outreach calendar for sharing different information throughout the year.

#### **C. Announcements.**

None

**7. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m. by Chair Salmon.

Submitted by:



JJ Henricksen, Secretary