

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2019

5:30 p.m. at City Hall

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm, by Tessa Jilot.

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tessa Jilot, Chair-Walking Community
Tom Morgan, Vice Chair-Bicycling Community
Mac Cavasar-Running Community
Amy Evans-City Council Liaison John Bruning-NICTF
Jaime Morgan-General Public
Michael Hoffman-Retired Community
Mike Fuller-General Public
John Bruning-NICTF

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Amy Hofer-School District
Ronan Malaghan-Student Rep
Russ Hersrud-General public
Kim Golden-General Public
Denise Jeska-Physically Challenged
Corey English-General Public

STAFF PRESENT:

Monte McCully, Staff Liaison
Melissa Brandt, Transcriptionist

Eight members present resulting in a quorum.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

John Bruning made a motion to approve the May 8, 2019 minutes, Amy Evans seconded the motion there being no further discussion and all being in favor, motion passed. (*Note: there will be a correction to those present and absent.*)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Nadeau: Very concerned about the speeding that takes place on Mullan down to 20th Street, no one is paying attention to the 25 mph signs. The police department is not ticketing drivers for speeding. There is a lot of bicycle traffic and lots of little kids on that road and it's an accident waiting to happen. No one is enforcing the speed limit signs. He has been reaching out for seven years to try and get something done on this road. Monte suggested that sidewalks on the south side of Mullan might help, but this committee can't do anything about the speeding. Amy offered to share the message with council members, police, and anyone else with oversight. Discussion of creating a bike boulevard on Mullan that would severely limit automobile traffic.

5. STAFF REPORT

Chris Bosley: Government way project wrapping up from Hanley to Prairie. Road markings with buffered bike lanes will be installed from Hanley to Wilbur. US 95 shared use path will be completed this year from Appleway to Prairie with the trail continuing to the north end of Hayden. The fast lane project will be complete over the next two years with ADA improvements at the ramps and including Northwest Boulevard at I-90 and 4th street. Next week will be starting a new project on Atlas and the industrial loop between Kathleen and the Prairie Trail crossing, a new signal will be installed to allow traffic to get out of industrial loop and it will extend Atlas Trail to Prairie Trail; won't have to cross Atlas to get to Prairie Trail, signals will coordinate traffic between signals. The Seltice sidewalk transportation

alternative project shared use path from Riverstone to Northwest Boulevard went out to bid twice each time bids came in higher than the budget. The project was cancelled and the grant of \$53,000 was paid back to the State. We have good news though, CityLink that has a transit station at Riverstone agreed to have their contractor rough grade in the Centennial Trail to Riverstone, to get it established then we can come back later to add gravel and pave. Sidewalk and ADA ramp replacements work is being done at Front and Lakeside this year, and we are working on a community development block grant to add sidewalks to the east side of 21st street from Sherman to Fernan Elementary which will result in continuous sidewalk down that corridor to Pennsylvania. Bicycle policeman are in training they will be patrolling downtown from 3 pm to 1 am, Wednesday through Saturday. New bike lane additions include adding bike lanes on Hanley, we now have nearly continuous bike lanes from Carrington to Courcelles, except for the intersection of Atlas. Crossing flags have been installed at Madeline and new crosswalk signs to help with visibility. Bike lanes have been striped from St. Michelle from Bluegrass Park on Dalton down to the Prairie Trail at Kathleen. Higher visibility crosswalks have been added along that corridor. Bike lane improvements include 15th Street now has bike lanes going through every intersection. Bike lanes at Government Way northbound through the boulevard section by Harrison, the lane lines were moved so the bike lane is continuous now. Kathleen and Ramsey crosswalks were a problem area for Ramsey School making it difficult for students to cross. Soon there will be high visibility crossing, in the meantime we initiated a Leading Pedestrian Interval on the signal for the school crosswalks, giving pedestrians a 10 second Headstart before cars can enter the intersection. We installed rectangular rapid flashing beacons on 4th Street at Roosevelt and Montana with funding from Ignite CDA. Seltice wayfinding signs will be installed for the trails on both sides at each intersection are to be installed by Monte. Asked for input from the committee on important connections for pedestrians and bicyclists in our community, where do we need to focus on to eliminate some barriers?

Monte: The Hanley connector trail is in the 'approval for construction' phase at Hern Ironworks. The last triangle piece of the Hanley Trail will soon be complete with connectivity all the way on the south side from Atlas to Prairie trail. The same developer will also construct a trail along Atlas from Hanley to the gun range. The only gap on Atlas will be at the gun range and cell tower. Hanley Avenue will be getting punched through The Trails Development once development occurs south of Hanley Avenue. That will trigger pushing the road from Hanley to Huetter, connector trails and the beginnings of a new park. These changes should be coming in the next year or two. Putting signs up everywhere since redoing the Prairie Trail at Hanley there has been no signage to keep people from driving on the Trail, with additional signs at Courcelles and Hanley, and possibly a bollard at Huetter to keep people from driving on the trail. Also No Unauthorized Vehicle signs will be placed at the pump track under I-90, they will also chain off areas where people think they can drive a vehicle. This summer will be removing all wooden bollards in the city. They are hazardous. We are working with the Tubbs Hill Foundation to identify every trail on the Hill; legal and illegal. Some high school students came out and helped GPS the whole Hill to identify safe trails putting those on our maps, those that cause erosion we will work with volunteer groups to close them down. Wayfinding signs on Tubbs has been added to help those coming off the bridge to end up at East Tubbs Hill Park. Will be adding many new signs on Tubbs to help folks not get lost and know what trail they are on, and hope to refurbish the swinging bridge.

6. BIKE BOULEVARD – Action Item

Action Item: Chris asked for committee input and a vote on where to create a bike boulevard; down 8th street or 5th Street. Discussion ensued and a motion was made by Jaime Morgan to extend no parking at intersections to increase the vision triangle on 5th

Street therein creating a bike boulevard for cyclists on 5th Street, seconded by Mac Casasar, there being no further discussion motion was unanimously approved.

Tessa Jilot asked for Chris' help in creating PSAs that would explain flashing beacons, shark teeth, high visibility crosswalks. Monte will get a list of all PSAs to Mac as well, and he asked for volunteers who could help write a script for a PSA, he would also get with CDATV to record the PSAs.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- New Bike Racks
 - Denise, Kim and Tessa, walked downtown talking to business owners. The owners of Beacon, Crown and Thistle, and Abbey's saying they would be interested in bike racks in front of their stores. What is the process to help them get that done? Monte said they just need to reach out to him and he will send them the specs, spacing dimensions, where they can order the racks, and he'll inspect and make sure there is room and ADA access, and install the racks for them. The same process applies for artwork racks. Discussion about sending a letter to businesses to educate them on what they can do to get a rack on their property, and whether or not a bike rack will get installed at the new parking garage.

8. PROJECT UPDATES

- Atlas Mill Site – signs are going up to discourage camping that is taking place. This fall/winter some work will be taking place to clean and green the area when the water level is low. Pull back steep slopes, remove unwanted vegetation, add access points down to the water with stepping stones, and define acceptable access points. Trails would go in next spring.
- Discussion about permanently changing this committee's meeting time to 4 p.m. going forward. Tessa will send out an email asking members to vote on a time change. Plan is to meet at 4 pm for next meeting.

9. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Walk Friendly Community**

Mike, Tessa, Monte, Denise

Monte stated that the committee needs to work on pinpointing what needs to be done to increase the city's current bronze level walking community designation to silver.

- **Design Review/Infrastructure**

Mac, Russ, John, Tim, Chris

KCAT report: Highway 95 and 53 construction is going out for bid should start in mid-July. There are also plans to do construction on state highway 41 out to Stateline. There is an RFP ready to go out for a traffic management center. There is a non-motorized transportation round table in July. Members of this committee should attend, the meeting will take place at City Hall in Conference Room 6. These meetings will take place twice a year with another one in late fall. The meeting will help coordinate all things transportation across all the various communities.

- **Education**

Kim, Amy H, Tessa, Mike, Tom, Jamie

Kim, Denise and Tessa handed out the ADA flyers/newsletters to downtown businesses. Many had seen the information through emails shared by the Downtown Association. The committee has been trying to meet every Friday and may change their meeting time from noon as most restaurants and businesses are busy at noon. The business owners they talked to were very receptive, and asked if their sidewalk signs were okay and met code.

- **Bikeways Master Plan**

Monte, Chris

No report.

10. ROUND TABLE

Mike: Changed route to work more people are using Centennial Trail to Government Way and on Prairie, much more pleasant ride getting a lot of usage.

John: The economic impact study is completed and there was an article in today's paper. The report will be uploaded to the NICTF website. There were 417,000 trail users in 2018, and had a \$2.99 million economic impact. John will get the entire report sent out to the committee.

Michael: Parking for downtown is difficult. Does anyone know about the Can Course? Monte stated that Jason Evans purchased the Erickson 100 acre property and has been putting in a lot of trail for public use and that will connect to our trails and the Forest Service Trails. A trailhead will be put in at Shadduck, signage has been put in.

Jamie: Concerned about the Moonlight bike rides lots of families with little kids on 4th street, an accident waiting to happen. Permitting process doesn't tell them where to ride. Possibly we should check into it.

Motion made by Mac Cavasar and seconded by Tom Morgan to adjourn the meeting. There being no discussion and all being in favor, meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

- **Wednesday, July 10, 2019, 4 pm at City Hall**