

REPORT OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 15, 2017 - 9:00 AM

Conference Room, County-City Building
1515 Strongs Avenue - Stevens Point WI 54481

PRESENT: Tori Jennings, Bill Fehrenbach, Trevor Roark, Michael O'Meara, & Scott Cole

STAFF PRESENT: Associate Planner Kyle Kearns

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1. Call to Order.
2. Minutes and Actions from the December 13, 2016 regular meeting.
3. Persons who wish to address committee for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.*
Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:
4. Staff Update (RFQ for TAP grant; CN Railroad rails to trails update; tax bill bike/pedestrian safety information update).
5. Discussion and possible action on Prentice Street reconstruct.
6. Finalize plans for the March 2 BPAC Open House event to be held at Mid-State Technical College from 5:00 to 7:00PM.
7. Schedule next meeting.
8. Adjourn.

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1. Call to Order.

Chair Tori Jennings called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

2. Persons who wish to address committee for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.*

Chair Tori Jennings pointed out a correction in the minutes: "RFQ" stands for request for qualifications and not a "request for quotation".

3. Michael O'Meara mentioned that some sidewalks are icy and impassible. Michael asked if there was a simple reporting mechanism for residents (such as email or text) to point out these stretches of sidewalk. Associate Planner Kyle Kearns mentioned that it has been discussed internally and has already been brought up to the new code enforcement officer; regarding an easier mechanism for reporting sidewalks, weeds, etc. Tori Jennings mentioned many seniors struggle with technology and we need a simple mechanism for all demographics. She mentioned that this demographic struggles with mobility the most and they sometimes feel marginalized because of the way the system works.

Trevor Roark pointed out that bike parking didn't exist at Edgewater Manor right now even though it was said at the recent Plan Commission meeting that there was some. He asked about the resurfacing of the parking lot and Kyle Kearns described the standards and that bike parking standards should be met as well. Trevor asked if year-round bike parking requirement was a standard and Kyle responded that this isn't stated in the ordinance, but he's under the impression its permanent year-round. Tori Jennings mentioned that compliance should include APBP standards and that we've discussed this as a committee in the past. Trevor mentioned PBAC could make APBP standards part of the ordinance.

Tori Jennings asked Kyle Kearns if there was an update regarding new bike parking at Mead Park since this was a condition of building the new parking lot at Mead Park. Kyle said he will follow up with Tom Schrader, Director of Parks.

Bill Fehrenbach mentioned that UWSP is now plowing/clearing bike racks on campus.

4. Staff Update (RFQ for TAP grant; CN Railroad rails to trails update; tax bill bike/ped safety information update).

Kyle Kearns identified that he put together the RFP over the last 2 weeks. The WisDOT timeline says the RFP should be ready now and reviewed, but the MC (management company, called Cedarcorp) that oversees this project said the WisDOT timeline isn't completely accurate. July is the soonest that grant monies can be received by the MC, meaning that the City shouldn't start the RFP process before July, 2017. He said BPAC and the MC will review the RFP over the summer as well. Deadline for recommendation by parties will be in August or early Sept. Selection of consultant will happen in Oct./Nov. Execution of 3rd party contract with the City, WisDOT, MC, & consultant will then occur next. Lastly, Kyle noted the bulk of design for the project would occur in early 2018. Michael O'Meara advises we make a selection in Sept., negotiate during Sept., and be under contract in Oct. Kyle suggested this probably won't affect the contracting. He also recapped the timeline of the RFP again.

Kyle Kearns stated he has no new updates regarding the Canadian National (CN) rails to trails project, but that CN has not moved on pricing.

Kyle Kearns talked to Treasurer Corey Ladick this morning about inserting BPAC items in tax bills, and it was determined that adding something like this would lead to a slippery slope. Other departments might want to fulfill their requests too and this would add to costs in printing, postage, etc. Since BPAC has no budget, doing an insert wouldn't be possible either. Tori Jennings asked if printing could happen on the other side of the tax bill, but Kyle responded this could be problematic if someone only sees the BPAC message and not the tax bill. Tori then asked if bike licensing could just be a line item like the dog/cat licensing and Kyle suggested Corey might be open to this. Kyle reiterated that he was only relaying the information from Corey and his dept. Scott Cole mentioned that a similar situation has come from the Green Circle Trail memorial benches; once people started seeing this many more wanted to participate. Michael O'Meara mentioned the Adopt-A-Hwy program's popularity.

5. Discussion and possible action on Prentice Street reconstruct.

Kyle Kearns brought out copies of cross sections for Prentice St. BPAC reviewed these. Tori Jennings mentioned that it appears that sharrows will be painted and the positioning (distance from curb) looks correct. Trevor Roark asks if this design allows for street parking in both directions. Committee members discussed the parking that exists now. Tori asked if this design works within the existing footprint and Kyle responded that this was correct. Michael O'Meara suggested that this ROW (right of way) is very limited at 50'. Tori mentioned that it's evident that a dedicated bike lane isn't possible with this ROW width, but the sharrows are at least some accommodation for bicyclists. The placement looks correct unlike the placements made on 6th Ave. Tori mentioned the potential for creating a bike boulevard. Trevor described a bike boulevard according to NACTO (National

Association of City Transportation Officials) guides. He then mentioned that with the construction timeline it's too late to consider redesigning this to become a bicycle boulevard. Michael suggested that creating a bike boulevard on Prentice wouldn't be as successful since it's not as aesthetically pleasing than other routes in the City. Tori brought up that the intersection of Maria & Prentice isn't a 4-way stop and this should be considered. She asked Kyle if we can request a 4-way stop at this intersection for traffic calming purposes. Scott Cole mentioned that this would be great with Pacelli right there. Kyle then recommended that we ask Public Works to consider performing an analysis or traffic study of this intersection in this case. Committee members further discussed this concept and various details. Trevor asked about width of ROW and parking, but Kyle wasn't sure if parking would change. Trevor referred to the PCCBPP (Portage County Countywide Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan) recommendations for Prentice St. reconstruction. Committee members discussed the buffered bike lane recommendation listed. Tori asked Kyle why the PCCBPP wasn't consulted for this project. Kyle described the timeline of a project like this but couldn't speak on behalf of Public Works. Kyle reiterated that many plans sit on shelves and the PCCBPP should be pushed further with Public Works. He also mentioned that this Prentice St. example might help kickstart how street design should be vetted in that the goals and objects of the PCCBPP are followed and carried out. Kyle advised we invite the Public Works Dir. to attend future BPAC meetings to provide info on future street improvement projects on an annual basis or regularly. Kyle then advised that BPAC makes a recommendation that the PCCBPP recommendations be considered for Prentice.

Trevor motioned that Public Works consider the PCCBPP in the reconstruction of Prentice St.; Second by Bill Fehrenbach. No further discussion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Kyle confirmed that he will discuss this recommendation with Joel Lemke, interim director of Public Works.

Michael motioned that a 4-way stop configuration be considered for the intersection of Maria & Prentice. Second by Trevor. No discussion. Motion carries 5-0-0.

Michael motioned that the PCCBPP be considered in all street construction/improvement projects. No discussion. Second by Trevor. Motion carries 5-0-0.

6. Finalize plans for the March 2 BPAC Open House event to be held at Mid-State Technical College from 5:00 to 7:00PM.

Tori Jennings briefly described how things are falling into place for the event. Committee members discussed various details on the bike show, bike giveaway, logistics, cleanup, due care, presentations, workshops, volunteers data collection, etc.

7. Schedule next meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2017 at 9am.

8. Adjourn.

Tori Jennings called adjournment at 10:35am.