

REPORT OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 6, 2017 - 9:00 AM

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Fehrenbach, Mike O'Meara, Trevor Roark

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Beduhn (Director of Public Works), Mark Kordus (Community Development), Kyle Kearns (Associate Planner), Sergeant Al Rottier (SPPD), and Michael Ostrowski (Director of Community Development)

ALSO PRESENT: Sara Brish (SPACVB), Bob Brush (Plan Commission), Tori Jennings (District 1 Alder), and Anne Rogalski

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

Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:

3. Minutes and Actions from the November 8, 2017 meeting.
4. Staff Update (TAP Grant, etc.).
5. SPIN station-less bike share program discussion.
6. Discuss & recommend Northpoint Dr. & Business 51 intersection roundabout design.
7. Isadore St. preliminary reconstruction design discussion.
8. Snow shoveling plan & responsibility.
9. Bike Parking Ordinance draft discussion.
10. Safe Routes to Schools discussion.
11. Schedule next meeting.
12. Adjourn.

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1. Call to Order.

Chair Trevor Roark called the meeting to order at 9:10 a. m.

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

Tori Jennings thanked Bill Fehrenbach for his work organizing the September Bike/Ped Count for the City.

Tori also spoke about the meeting she and Bill Fehrenbach had with the Children's Museum Board regarding installation of a new Dero bike corral in front of the Children's Museum on Main Street. Thanks also went to Director of Public Works Scott Beduhn for allocating City funds for the purchase.

3. Minutes and Actions from the November 8, 2017 meeting.

Motion by Bill Fehrenbach to approve the minutes from the November meeting, seconded by Michael O'Meara. Motion Carried 3-0-0.

4. Staff Update (TAP Grant, etc.)

No staff updates.

5. SPIN station-less bike share program discussion.

UWSP is in the final stages of forming a Memo of Understanding with SPIN to begin a station-less bike share program at UWSP, centered mainly around the University campus, in 2018. Sara Brish and Michael Ostrowski spoke about the possible benefits to the program. Details were provided in the packet. BPAC is supportive of the project. Chair Trevor Roark suggested that the bikes would be here whether the City forms an MOU or not. Some BPAC members and other attendees agreed that it would be good to see how the program runs at UWSP before discussing a separate City MOU with SPIN. Request to bring this to the June meeting agenda to see how the bike share program is going.

6. Discuss & recommend Northpoint Dr. & Business 51 intersection roundabout design.

Action is proceeding on the construction of the roundabout. The City will hold a public session regarding this project on December 13, 2017 at Pacelli High School at 6:00 PM. The committee spent considerable time reviewing the plans with Director Scott Beduhn. Construction is scheduled to begin after SPASH completes its school term in June and is scheduled for completion before school opens in September. Chair Trevor Roark asked questions about the standards of AADT and LOS used to determine design for a 2-lane instead of a 1-lane roundabout. He noted that a 1-lane design would be safer for all users and potentially adequate according to AADT projections he did based on WisDOT data. The Director noted that LOS and turning movements were of great concern at peak times. The committee asked that bicycle and pedestrian safety remains an important consideration. All plans show that bike-ped accommodations are indeed in the design. Overall, the committee noted that redesigning this intersection as a roundabout was a good thing for bicyclists and pedestrians.

7. Isadore St. preliminary reconstruction design discussion.

Director Scott Beduhn presented the preliminary plans for the Isadore Street reconstruction project, which call for parking on the west side, 12 foot travel lanes, a slightly narrowed sidewalk on the east side, and shared-lane arrows (sharrows) for bicyclists in both directions, similar to what was painted on Prentice St.

The committee was concerned that the new construction does not adequately accommodate bicycle traffic in the heavily-bicycled campus area. Chair Trevor Roark noted that the Portage County Countywide Bike Ped Plan heat maps of latent demand for both pedestrians and bicyclists along Isadore were some of the highest in the City. Director Scott Beduhn said that the current design was all we could do with the existing 60 feet of right-of-way and UWSP Facilities Planning did not request additional bicycle/pedestrian accommodations beyond what is currently planned. Chair Trevor Roark questioned why the UWSP wouldn't want to make this a safer and more accommodating corridor for bike/ped. He showed an example of a 2-way cycle track protected by automobile parking that could fit along the east side of this corridor if there was enough right-of-way width. Associate Planner Kyle Kearns suggested that this Isadore St. corridor would be a great opportunity for a more modern design like this 2-way cycle track. Michael O'Meara questioned why the UWSP wouldn't cede a few feet of University property to construct a road with better accommodations - bike lanes, or a 2-way cycle track.

Motion by Michael O'Mears to recommend that the City of Stevens Point request additional right-of-way from UWSP to provide safe accommodation for bicyclists and pedestrians, seconded by Trevor Roark. Motion Carried 3-0-0.

8. Snow shoveling plan and responsibility.

Mark Kordus presented the current city ordinance regarding snow shoveling. The city contracts a snow-removal contractor to shovel walks not cleared within the 24 hour time limit. Typically, the city attempts to enforce the ordinance more strictly early in the season so that owners comply throughout the season. In the case of rental properties, leases often state that residents are responsible for clearing walks. However, the owners are ultimately responsible for this.

9. Bike Parking Ordinance draft discussion.

Chair Trevor Roark presented the draft of a new bike parking ordinance for the City. Trevor referenced many different city ordinances in writing this first draft for Stevens Point. Associate Planner Kyle Kearns will dive into the ordinance draft more deeply in the next month. The committee will revisit the ordinance in January.

10. Safe Routes to Schools discussion.

Chair Trevor Roark met with Chris Budzinski (District Transportation Manager) from Stevens Point Public Schools about the Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) program. Chris, who is new to the district this passed summer, was not familiar with how SRTS was being implemented. Yet, he was very impressed with the documentation of the program. Chris will be in contact with each of the district schools and get a status report of the Safe Routes to Schools program and a contact for each school. Trevor mentioned that BPAC will continue to work with Chris on SRTS.

11. Schedule Next Meeting.

Next meeting will be *Thursday*, January 4, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall. There were conflicts with both Wednesdays in early January, so the committee agreed to this date exception.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a. m.