



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2016 – 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Springfield City Hall Jesse Maine Room, 225 5th Street, Springfield

Attendance

Staff: Emma Newman, Michael Liebler, Jolynn Barker

BPAC members: Kevin Schaper, Holle Schaper, Allison Camp, Claudia Denton, Darla Robbins, Robin Clevenger, Jerry Hooton, Jeff Sakacsi, Sheri Moore, Joel Krestik, Kristina Koenig

Public: Julie Bowers, Jim Mayo

CALL TO ORDER. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Welcome/Introductions

Committee members and guests introduced themselves and said what fun activities they participated in this summer.

Agenda Review

Nothing was added to the agenda.

Committee Business

Public Comment

Julie Bowers, executive director of the North Skunk River Greenbelt Association, spoke about buying the Weyerhaeuser-Hayden Bridge and the fundraising to restore it.

Jim Mayo from the Willamalane Foundation and Lane Co. Parks Advisory also spoke about the historic bridge and how it could impact biking/pedestrian trails.

Approve Meeting Minutes

Holle Schaper made a correction to the April minutes.

The April and June Meeting minutes were approved.

Subcommittee Updates

Robin Clevenger spoke about the Planning Subcommittee's tour of the D St. Path Transition Project. They noted areas where bikes/pedestrians interacted with traffic and considered possible solutions to the issues discovered.

Robin also talked about their tour of the Gateway two-way cycle track where they saw a lot of drivers who were confused by the street markings.

Jerry Hooton suggested making the street striping lines for the bike lane green.

Claudia Denton agreed with Jerry because people associate green with bike lanes.

Robin proposed using the green paint to keep drivers out of the bike lane.

Allison Camp said because of the size of the road, there isn't a lot of room for a driver to make a correction and the yellow paint is counterintuitive.

Jeff Sakacsi said that some signage in the green area further to the west would be helpful, also for drivers leaving the post office.

Robin asked if putting white paint there would make sense.

Michael Liebler replied that the developer wanted yellow but they consulted some experts who said that it could also be white.

Emma Newman added that a lot of cycle tracks in other towns are on one-way streets where the lines would make more sense. However, the one at Gateway has two-way automobile and bike traffic so they are exploring what would be the best solution.

Joel Krestik said that he always felt that D St. should have a bike lane on the side that climbs the hill.

Michael said that they could put in a wider transitional zone.

Robin asked if they remove the sidewalk from one side of the road.

Claudia suggested more signage.

Michael said that he will put in a work order for more signage.

Kevin Schaper asked about the parking situation.

Michael replied that parking is kind of sacred especially since they only have it on one side of the street.

Robin said that there is some sidewalk that they could use and could get at least one bike lane.

Michael noted that projects like reducing sidewalks will take a lot more work than smaller issues like signage.

Kevin Schaper asked about the possibility of a bike/ped bridge that could span from Island Park to the D St Path.

Emma Newman replied that anything can be engineered, but spoke about the challenges of seasonal fluctuation in water heights and the length of the facility that would be required.

Michael Liebler added that he doesn't believe that they are ready for bike/ped master plan yet. All ideas are viable, they are just lofty.

Sheri Moore asked if they have talked to the neighbors yet. That would be the first step.

Michael replied that they have not approached anyone living in the area yet about a D St. project.

Claudia gave an update on the Programming Subcommittee. They tabled at the South Hills String Band Willamalane event at Douglas Gardens Park where they talked to kids and played safety games. Kevin is working with Point2Point on getting bike lights.

Darla Robbins spoke about participating in Eugene's Sunday Streets event.

Claudia talked about the regional bike trail connectivity initiative and Bicycle Friendly Businesses, which is a tourism-related program. They are going to reach out to Springfield businesses to see if they would be interested in being certified bicycle friendly.

Darla added that it is a 3-step program and the business has to have a certain number of items from a list of qualifications.

Robin thinks that this would be great for people traveling on 126 and could create a tourism corridor.

Emma, adding some background, said that she has been attending meetings with the Mayor about bicycle tourism and bike route connectivity and marketing in East Lane County.

Mayor's Challenge

Emma Newman provided an update on the Mayor's Challenge: Safer People, Safer Streets. There was an assessment done as part of the Challenge and she went through some of the points. They also developed a work plan for moving forward on safety in Springfield.

Robin Clevenger pointed out that the plan goes beyond Vision Zero with better ideas for infrastructure.

Alison Camp asked if there is anything the BPAC members could do to help.

Emma answered that helping to educate citizens is the most helpful way and when it comes to making a Master Plan the BPAC will be involved in that.

Joel Krestik asked if there was a formal adoption process of the work plan.

Emma replied that currently there is not.

Robin asked if they should check back on the plan every so many BPAC meetings.

Emma replied that that could work.

Claudia Denton suggested that they look at different components and how they are progressing.

Recruitment

Emma Newman said that they will be presenting potential new BPAC members for approval from the City Council in December. They are looking for quite a few members. She and Allie will be putting together recruitment materials.

Updates

“Filling the Gaps”

Emma Newman spoke about the STIP Non-Highway Enhance “Filling the Gaps,” project which will identify and fill gaps in sidewalks around schools.

Allison Camp asked if the money for this project can be used every year.

Emma replied that the funding comes in three-year cycles.

Allison asked if it is only for sidewalks around schools.

Emma answered that it is just this year’s application, but the application guidelines are broader than that and focus on active transportation primarily.

Community Development Block Grant Project

Emma Newman talked about some Community Development Block Grant funds being used in low and moderate income neighborhoods to improve living conditions. A project that is currently underway will provide more walking connectivity with pedestrian access ways.

Flashing Yellow Arrows

Emma Newman spoke about Springfield’s flashing yellow left turn arrows and that they will be making informational videos and are looking for volunteers.

Info Share

Jerry Hooton shared that at Eugene’s last ATC meeting they discussed a carpet demo to show people how to signal and where to put their bike to be detected by a traffic signal. He thinks that this would be a good thing for the Programming Subcommittee to do.

Jerry asked if Springfield has a climate change energy plan, similar to Eugene’s climate action plan and ordinance.

Emma Newman replied that they do not.

Kevin Schaper wondered if there would be any metrics to gain from the new lower speed limit.

Joel Krestik said that Eugene has finally settled on a new name, Active Transportation Committee. Also, Eugene received a grant for new signal detectors that can detect the difference between automobiles, motorcycles, and people riding bikes.

Emma shared that the Virginia-Daisy Bikeway final report will go to the council in September and there will be a public hearing in October.

Robin Clevenger said that she watched some of the webinars that were emailed out and found them interesting.

Claudia Denton reminded people that Wheels by the Willamette will be on September 23rd, 4-6.

Allison Camp shared that Willamalane has taken over Pre's Trail and it has been designated a historic landmark.

Next Meeting: Oct. 11, 2016; 6-7:30