



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2021 – 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Via Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendance

Staff: Michael Liebler, Emma Newman, Dawn Williams

BPAC members: Teresa Roark, Dennis Weirich, Steve Abbott (Eugene ATC Liaison), Julia Johnson, David Leedom, Kevin Campbell, Simon Daws (Willamalane Liaison), Bryce Mayall, Jeff Sakacsi, Joseph Pruski, Mitchell Coon, Andrew Landen (Planning Commissioner)

Guest(s): Sandy, Claire Roth (BEST Safe Streets Coordinator)

Absence(s): Kori Rodley (City Councilor), Springfield Safe Routes to Schools Liaison (position vacant - awaiting new hire)

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

Welcome/Introductions

Dennis Weirich facilitated introductions.

Agenda Review

No agenda changes.

Committee Business

Public Comment

No public comment.

Meeting Minutes

Dennis asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes.

Minutes were approved.

Communications Protocol and Opportunities

Emma Newman went over BPAC's role for supporting communication for walking and biking in the City of Springfield. She explained that their role was to advise City Council and staff on things related to walking and biking and it was important that is coming through the appropriate channels with approved City of Springfield branding and messaging. She added that City communications staff is working on a poster to promote the bit.ly/SpringfieldRequest tool that could be posted on community bulletin boards. It would be great to have BPAC's help with distributing the posters when they are available. She shared that it would be helpful if committee members would give staff suggestions for topics for communications via City channels (i.e. promoting the maintenance request tool, crosswalk education, etc.) She concluded by adding that with the recent increase in COVID cases, the latest guidance from City Council is that resuming some level of in-person meetings has been pushed back until at least October. So, at this time the October BPAC meeting will be a virtual meeting.

Subcommittee Updates

Bike Parking Upgrades

David Leedom gave an update regarding the bike parking upgrades. They were in agreement that individual lockups were better than the locker facilities due to cost/benefit. They suggested contacting low-income housing facilities to get their interest on having bike parking facilities.

Teresa Roark clarified that they talked about prioritizing communities that are disinvested and reached out to low-income housing facilities to assess to current bike parking resources. She added that Bryce Mayall worked with LCOG to see about getting some more interactive maps.

Bryce Mayall added that he would share [the link](#).

Dennis Weirich added that Teresa Roark had a spreadsheet that they were using to identify interest for additional bike parking.

David Leedom stated that he thinks they should determine who their target audience is and send out a survey, put a timeline on it and move on.

Teresa Roark asked if there was any feedback on the proposal for placing of bike parking facilities.

David Leedom stated that he believed that there was \$88,000 that the city had dedicated to bike parking facilities which equates to approximately 300 units. He added that it was going to be hard to find places to put new units based on what they already have installed. So, he felt that they should open it up to anyone who qualifies and would like to provide bike parking to their customer base.

Emma Newman shared that the Safe Routes to School program is the regional program that developed the [school parking assessment tool](#), and it is being used nationally. It looks at several different factors of what makes adequate parking. She also shared that there was an update to [city code](#) that was adopted in January of 2020 that provides new standards for better quality bike parking standards.

Pedestrian Network Inventory

Kevin Campbell provided an update on the [Pedestrian Network Inventory](#) and stated that if anyone else was interested in helping with it to let him know.

Bike and Pedestrian Request Tool

Julia Johnson gave an update on the [Bike and Pedestrian Request Tool](#). She explained that they were working with the city to create posters.

Emma Newman shared on screen the online request form, available at bit.ly/SpringfieldRequest.

Julia Johnson asked if this was just for bike paths.

Emma Newman stated that it was not just for bike paths and can be used for requests throughout the city.

David Leedom commended the city on his experience with things being fixed rapidly.

Emma Newman stated she would pass it along.

Capital Improvement Program Update

Emma Newman stated that they were using the Springfield Oregon Speaks Tool that the Planning Commission has been using for a while now. She added that she sent the video out prior to tonight's meeting and that she would highlight some of the existing projects in the 2020-2024 Capital Improvement Program. She explained that committee members could submit their own personal requests or share with others in the community that might want to put in requests. If there are projects that as a committee, they want to make a recommendation, they could provide input that way as well. She shared on screen the presentation for the update. It detailed the types of capital projects and gave updates on the current projects. She also went over the categories for transportation projects.

Julia Johnson asked if the West D Street project is already covered.

Emma Newman stated that it was in there but if they as a committee feel more funding is needed, they can provide that input.

Bryce Mayall asked if the bike facility plan changed would it become a CIP project.

Emma Newman explained that staff looks at the grant funding they have received and try to reflect funded project in the CIP. Some projects may not warrant being listed if they are more educational.

Teresa Roark asked if when they determine what gets funded, does the city or would it make sense for the committee to make a recommendation to look at investing in projects in parts of the city that have higher rates of people without vehicles.

Emma Newman stated that would be an option to recommend as an approach to selecting CIP projects.

Kevin Campbell stated that he would like to personally recommend that they consider upgrades similar to Mohawk at all crosswalks as well as lighting improvements to areas where there have been ADA improvements.

Julia Johnson stated that if they were face to face in a room, they could be putting ideas on a white board.

Emma Newman suggested and shared on screen a Jam board, a virtual white board that they could use to brainstorm ideas. The group brainstormed ideas using Jamboard. Emma Newman captured ideas including more bike lanes, ADA ramp and lighting upgrades, additional funding for West D and Mill Streets, prioritizing areas with lower vehicle ownership and higher poverty levels, bike lanes through downtown, and adding dots and other forms of delineators approaching busy intersections.

Dennis Weirich added that he thought they should look at education on bike etiquette.

Emma Newman asked if that was something he wanted to add to the CIP ideas or a broader discussion with the BPAC as a future agenda item.

Dennis Weirich responded that it should be a broader discussion.

Michael Liebler added that as part of a project opening for a new facility that they add some education on how to use it.

Dennis Weirich concurred but also a discussion on how we can better utilize the facilities they already have.

Emma Newman stated that she has added it to the future agenda item list.

David Leedom asked how they move forward on those ideas.

Emma Newman responded and explained that if there is agreement on some of these that they want to move forward with as a committee, they could turn it into a one-page write up and take action on it at the October meeting.

Kevin Campbell stated that they have had already had a lot of communication with staff regarding West D Street and maybe they should focus on some new issues this time.

Emma Newman explained that they have a Transportation System Plan (TSP). Some of the common ways things get into the CIP is by looking at the 20-year planned projects in the TSP.

Dennis Weirich stated he would like to see the one-page summary. He asked if Emma would write these up and send them out to the committee and then have the committee respond with their top three choices.

Emma Newman confirmed she would.

Teresa Roark asked if the goal is to approve their top 3 things from the list only or can they add to the list.

Dennis Weirich responded that if they want to move forward then they need to narrow it down for the next meeting.

Teresa Roark felt that if they were going to make a recommendation to Council, then they have the October and December meeting to act.

Emma Newman stated that they would need to make a formal recommendation at the October meeting since December would be too late.

Bryce Mayall suggested they create a survey instead of emailing back and forth.

Kevin Campbell asked to include the E Street bikeway from the 20-year plan on the CIP list.

Joseph Pruski asked if staff had any recommendations for projects that may have a chance to get through.

Michael Liebler explained that there is a Council member on the BPAC so if they are unable to get a letter together then they could make sure they communicate with Councilor Rodley, so the information would be relayed back to the Council.

Julia Johnson stated that it might help to have the Chair/Co-Chair meet with them.

Emma Newman confirmed she would get the survey out the group so that the information could be collected from the group.

Updates

City of Springfield

Michael Liebler stated that ODOT has statewide funding for pedestrian safety that they need to spend by the end of September. They have identified OR 126 for funding due to safety issues. Some of the things to be funded are improved and additional street lighting on Main Street, signal upgrades, short barrier replacement at Bob Straub, and new and improved signage. Emma shared a link to the [project webpage](#).

Kevin Campbell asked what blocks are included on Main Street.

Michael Liebler stated that ODOT controls curb face to curb face from the bridges to out of town.

Kevin Campbell followed up to ask what blocks would receive upgrades to lighting.

Michael Liebler replied that it is all of them.

Emma Newman stated that the BPAC had recommended an enhanced crosswalk on South A over to the bus station and that is now moving forward due to this funding.

Michael Liebler stated that Oakdale has been resurfaced and now has been restriped with bike lanes.

Emma Newman added that Thurston Road's bike lane gap at the large tree in front of Thurston Middle School is being addressed and will now have two options to navigate that area. She added that the U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary, Pete Buttigieg, visited LTD where there was a press conference regarding the electrification of fleets. The ODOT Director, Kris Strickler, met with local officials on a regional bus tour. She added that she would be sending out a kiosk draft for the Northbank path and requested feedback in the next few days. Lastly, interviews are being conducted for the Safe Routes to School Coordinator position and they should have someone in place for the SRTS Liaison position soon.

Simon Daws provided an update for Willamalane. He stated that the trail construction on the south side of Thurston Hills is about 20% complete. He added that have been working on the ADA Transition Plan and it is now in 100% draft format and will go out for public comment in September. He added that a running trail will be added on the north side of Willamalane Park. Lastly, Pierce Park has received approval from the Planning Commission.

Steve Abbott gave an update from the Eugene ATC. He stated that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, Lee Shoemaker, is retiring effective September 1st. LTD has been working on the MovingAhead Program and the prioritization is River Road, Hwy 99, Coburg Road and MLK. He added that the committee has also been working on path etiquette by conducting interviews, surveys, and signage. He suggested that they collaborate with the BPAC.

Dennis Weirich concurred.

Steve Abbott stated he would communicate back to the Eugene committee.

Info Share

There were no Info Share items.

Dennis Weirich reminded everyone to complete their timesheets.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: October 12th, 2021; 6-7:30