

Overview

Established in 2011, the Springfield Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) is a volunteer body of nine voting members and four non-voting liaisons that provides input to the Springfield City Council and staff on bicycle and pedestrian issues, policies, programs, education, enforcement, and facilities. The BPAC meets every other month. Subcommittees meet during the remaining months. Accomplishments are listed below. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the committee met virtually via online meeting rooms during the entire 2022 calendar year.

Key Highlights from 2022

The Springfield BPAC had a productive year in 2022. This report provides a brief summary of the accomplishments the Committee made this year.

- **Safe Street Audits**

Throughout 2022 the Committee performed four Safe Street Audits. Four areas with known user conflicts or apparent needs for infrastructure improvements were studied. The audits targeted the areas near Dos Rios Elementary, Gateway Mall, Volunteer Park, and Main Street near Thurston High School. A summary of these audits is planned for next year.



- **Path etiquette Campaign Development, 2022 Launch and Support**

Springfield's Transportation Options Specialist Kelsey Moore kicked off the first path etiquette campaign. The campaign was aimed to promote courtesy and safety among all path users and included community outreach, education, media, and temporary signage.



The key messages of the path etiquette campaign were:

- Paths are for everyone (non-motorized)
- Travel a safe speed—20 MPH speed limit, 10-12 MPH when others are present
- Stay in your lane—stay right, pass left, don't take more than your half
- Give warning when passing—call "passing on your left" or ring bell
- Dogs on a short leash



Several pop-up events, featuring path etiquette trivia and prizes, free bicycle repairs, maps and resource handouts, were held. The BPAC assisted with the development of the campaign and design of path etiquette signage used during the campaign events. The BPAC also provided input and feedback for enhancements and possible additional features for next year's path etiquette campaign. Path etiquette has become an ever-growing concern in the community with the accelerated usage of alternative mobility devices such as E-bicycles. It is likely that path etiquette will be an ongoing topic of discussion with the BPAC and the community at large.

- **Prioritization of Walking and Bicycle Network Improvements**

The BPAC reviewed potential options on how funding could be allocated from a recent round of federal funding. A letter was drafted and delivered to City Council on the funding topic. The Committee recommended prioritizing the purchase of Temporary Flashing Beacons, improving the crossing of Mohawk at I St, and improving the crossing of 5th St north of Q. City Council reviewed the recommendations and selected several of the projects recommended by the BPAC to utilize the available funding.

- **Bicycle Parking Enhancement Project Outreach**

The City of Springfield received \$86,500 from Regional Bicycle Enhancement grant funding to strengthen bicycle infrastructure. The funding supports the purchase and installation of public bicycle racks in locations lacking quality bicycle parking, but does not include lighting enhancements or covered structures. The BPAC recommended considering equity, popularity, and security when installing the new bicycle racks. The BPAC also recommended prioritizing bicycle rack placement in neighborhoods that have a high percentage of households without access to a personal vehicle, businesses within targeted census block areas, affordable housing providers, and organizations serving community members living on low incomes. Outreach and community engagement will continue to take place in 2023, with the installation of bicycle racks expected in 2024.

- **Bicycle Share Proposal Development and Outreach**

The City of Springfield is exploring the opportunity to expand a bicycle sharing program into Springfield. The PeaceHealth Rides bicycle share system currently operates with 300 bicycles in Eugene and a system expansion would place about 100 additional bicycles in Springfield. The system would be operated at a regional level so that a user could pick up a bicycle anywhere within the regional service area and ride between Springfield and Eugene without any penalties or fees. Given the desire for cost-effective and flexible investments, Springfield is exploring the option to install regular bicycle parking racks at bicycle share hubs instead of bicycle share-specific infrastructure. Outreach and community engagement is currently taking place, with an online feedback option and in-person surveys. The BPAC gave feedback on the project development, the outreach plan, the online feedback platform, and helped conduct in-person surveys. If the City Council approves the final project scope and grant funding is secured, the system is tentatively expected to launch in 2024.

- **Pedestrian Sidewalk Inventory**

The BPAC is continuing to use GIS software to log the condition of City-maintained sidewalks and paths, as well as to indicate any areas that create discontinuities in the system. Progress is now estimated at 40% and the BPAC is hopeful that the new BPAC members may be able to contribute additional information to this effort to bring this project closer to completion.

- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Service Request Tool**

The City of Springfield has developed a powerful and helpful tool for bicyclists and pedestrians to communicate quickly and effectively to City staff. The tool allows a user to photograph, geotag, and submit a service request or request for improvement in a matter of moments. The BPAC has worked with staff to help design and distribute literature to improve awareness of this tool. This tool can be found at:

<https://sporgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/GeoForm/index.html?appid=8a1894e8abab45cbbbd159b68d37fd73>.



Bicycle and Pedestrian Service Request

Bicyclists and Pedestrians,
Have you noticed something that needs repaired?
Reporting it is as easy as 1-2-3!

- 1** Visit bit.ly/SpringfieldRequest or scan the QR Code.
- 2** Save the page as a button on your phone's home screen or bookmark it in your web browser for easy use in the future.
- 3** Submit service requests with geo-located photos to improve walking and biking in Springfield!

Scan the QR code to request service



You can also call Operations staff to make a service request at 541.726.3761

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This tool was developed through the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). To learn more and get involved with BPAC visit bit.ly/SFACycle. You can also call Operations staff to make a service request at 541.726.3761.

Other 2022 BPAC Activities

- Willamalane Comprehensive Plan presentation and feedback
- Capital Projects overview presentation and feedback