



Minutes of BPAC Meeting, August 10, 2009

Minutes of the meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee held on Wednesday, August 10, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in Room B190 of the La Crosse County Administrative Center, 400 4th St N, La Crosse, WI 54601.

Members Present: Sandy Sechrest, John Boland, Bob Fisher, Mike Henderson, Tim Acklin, Rachel Hazuga, Dave Conklin, Ed West, Bill Ferguson. **Members Excused:** Ginny Loehr, Peter Fletcher, Tim Tiber. **Others Present:** Greg Kozelek, Tim Keneipp, Michael Barreyro, Obbie Hill, Christina Peterson, Paul Wydeven, Jackie Eastwood.

1. Approval of Minutes of the July 13, 2009 Meeting:

John Boland called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Sandy Sechrest motioned to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2009 meeting. Bill Ferguson seconded. All were in favor.

2. Determine date(s), time(s), roadways, and volunteers for bicycle counts:

Jackie Eastwood stated she would like to do bicycle counts at some of the major intersections to help justify the recommendations for bicycle facilities on roads that might be controversial. She suggested 22 major intersections: 1 in La Crescent; 14 in La Crosse; 3 in Onalaska; 2 in Holmen; and 2 in West Salem. Because she'd like to get the commuters as well as the more recreational rider, she suggested counting on a Tuesday or Thursday from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Discussion ensued regarding local events in September, when the UWL students are back in session, and daylight savings time.

Because of the number of people needed, the group agreed to split the intersections between two days: Tuesday, September 15 and Thursday, September 17. The counts would occur between 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Rachel Hazuga and Jeremy Gragert would organize volunteers from the university. Jackie Eastwood will print aerial shots of the intersections on which to record the counts. The details will be finalized at the next meeting.

3. Begin discussion of education, encouragement, and enforcement policies for bike plan:

This agenda item was taken up last to allow Greg Kozelek from the City of La Crosse engineering department the opportunity to speak on the Enterprise Ave/Oak St shared-use bridge projects.

Jackie Eastwood passed out the list of engineering policies stating that they had been e-mailed out a few times for comments as changes were made. If anyone has additional comments, they should send them to her.

She also passed out a list of talking points for policies for encouragement, education, and enforcement. Because time was running out, she asked that everyone think about workable policies for each of the categories and send them to her. She will summarize them into one document and have it available for the next meeting.

4. Updates and information items:

Greg Kozelek updated the committee on the design and construction schedule of the roadway and enhancement projects programmed for the Oak St/Enterprise Ave intersection as well as the Northside Connector Trail project. The roadway construction is expected to begin in August of 2010. Construction for the bike/ped bridge will also begin in late 2010, with completion expected by the spring of 2011. On the west side of the railroad yard, the bridge will connect to the Northside Connector Trail at Cunningham St. Plans for the trail are 90 % complete north of North St, but because of the presence of a still active track, the design for the trail needs to be shifted west south of North St. The current concept is to run the trail along an existing alley from North St to Gillette St. All of the east-west streets from Cunningham St south will have direct access to the trail.

John Boland voiced concern over the elevation and alignment at which the bridge will connect to Enterprise Ave. He wants to see the bridge connect at as nearly the same elevation as the street as possible as well as have it directly

line up with Enterprise Ave. Greg Kozelek stated that the bridge would line up with the sidewalk planned for the south side of Enterprise Ave. John again suggested the bridge line up with the road so that bicyclists on the street would not have to navigate to the sidewalk to access the bridge.

5. Future Agenda Items:

- Education, encouragement, and enforcement policies.
- Design plans for the bike/ped bridge and its connections.
- Bicycle and pedestrian safety in roundabouts.

6. Other business; Adjourn; Next meeting TBA:

Mike Henderson motioned to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Sandy Sechrest seconded. All were in favor.