

City of Lawrence

Lawrence – Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee

February 19, 2013 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Burger, Chad Foster, Lisa Hallberg, David Hamby, Rhonda Houser

MEMBERS ABSENT: Josh Ediger, Jay Bialek, Chris Rogge, Justin Eddings,

STAFF PRESENT: Jessica Mortinger, Todd Girdler, Tim Lurnet

PUBLIC PRESENT: Clifton Pye, Tim Dayhuff, Germaine Halegoua, John Paden, Michael Almon, Shannon Criss, Collin Edwards

1. Call Meeting to Order and Assurance of Quorum: The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. Action Item: Approval of the January 15, 2013 Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the January 15th meeting was moved by Ms. Hallberg seconded by Mr. Hamby and passed unanimously.

3. Discussion Item: Transportation 2040 Bicycle and Pedestrian Chapter Review

MPO staff presented the draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Chapter to the BAC, noting the specific changes since the last time the BAC has commented on the chapter including: the combination bike/ped chapter, the safety data, and the funding estimates. Staff also reviewed the Financial Projections and Proposed projects for Bicycle and Pedestrian infrastructure included in Chapter 9. Staff noted that the draft chapter was out for the 30 day public comment period and all the chapters for T2040 can be found online for review. Staff asked BAC members for review and comments.

Mr. Hamby asked staff to amend the definition of shared use path on page 50 to exclude the statement "State Law prohibits bicyclists from using the roadway where Shared Use Paths have been built." Since the law doesn't specifically state this and is up to legal interpretation. He also asked if there could be an addition to an action step to review state law. Mr. Pye asked if there could be a written statement detailing the preference of bike lanes over Shared Use Paths. Ms. Mortinger indicated that the city's design standard for new arterials includes a bike lane. Members had a brief discussion of the bicycle map minor update. BAC members noted the following updates: Bike lanes on Wakarusa near Bob Billings where work is planned to be shown as red instead of green, Bike lanes on 9th Street need to be shown as solid red (existing), and asked for the roads that will be removed as part of the SLT project to be shown as such. Members had a discussion of the impacts of the available safety data, the data displayed and the types of data analysis. Mr. Girdler acknowledged the plan recommends more analysis of the data available. Ms. Mortinger noted that this information has only become available to staff within the last month. Mr. Foster asked if there was a plan to map data in the county and smaller cities. MPO staff indicated at this time they aren't aware of any other jurisdictions mapping this type of information, but future discussions could include the possible collection and mapping of this data if it becomes available for areas outside of Lawrence. Members agreed a more detailed analysis of the data should help prioritize projects in the region. Mr. Girdler noted that there was a need for additional safety analysis of all the safety data for all accidents, not just bicycle accidents. BAC members asked staff to consider changing the name of the action steps to ensure that it is understood that they aren't sequential steps.

4. Other Business/ Updates:

Ms. Hallberg announced the Tour of Lawrence would return to Lawrence in 2013.

Ms. Hallberg announced the Earth Day parade and fair would be April 20th and that the BAC would again staff a table and talk to attendees about bicycling in Lawrence. Ms. Mortinger indicated she would fill out the application for the event for the BAC to reserve a table.

5. Public Comments:

Mr. Michael Almon introduced himself as a member of Sustainability Action Network and a member of the Lawrence Complete Streets Committee. He recently attended the Smart Growth Conference in Kansas City. The conference focused on urban density, walkability, safety, decreasing congestion and reducing auto trips. He shared his comments about T2040, noting that the plan should prioritize infrastructure improvements for high density areas first before building new facilities on the fringe. He also noted that funding should be spent where density calls for it, with a reverse in the funding priorities from auto to bike/ped. The overall funding for bicycle and pedestrian improvements should be a dedicated 5 percent and bicycle/pedestrian projects should be planned with roadway add-ons.

6. Adjournment of Meeting: The meeting ended at 6:50 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for March 19th, 2013.