

MPO Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday, January 28, 2019

City Commission Room Lawrence City Hall

Attendance:

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT				STAFF PRESENT		
X	David Hamby (Chair)	City of Lawrence	X	Jessica Mortinger, AICP	L-DC MPO	
X	Marianne Melling	City of Lawrence	X	Ashley Myers, AICP	L-DC MPO	
X	Steve Hitchcock	City of Baldwin City	X	Ryan Umberger	L-DC MPO	
X	Bill Anderson	City of Lecompton / At Large	OTHERS PRESENT			
X	Cameron Jacques	Douglas County	X	Jon Keffer	Self	
X	Jacki Becker (Vice Chair)	Douglas County	X	Michael Almon	Sustainability Action Network	
	Vacant	City of Eudora	X	Tom Peters	Self	
NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT			X	Carlos Pringle	Self	
X	Kathryn Schartz	Lawrence Transportation Commission	x	Chris Burger	Self	

1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

David Hamby called the meeting to order at 5:32pm. There was guorum.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Action Item: Approval of minutes from the July 12, 2018 meeting and receive the meeting summary from the July 28th Work Session and the minutes from the November 28th joint Transportation Commission Study Session

David Hamby asked if anyone had any changes to the minutes, Ashley Myers mentioned the date needed to be adjusted on the minutes from July 12. After the correction, Bill Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Jacki Becker; the motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

4. Action Item: Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2019

David Hamby asked for Chair and Vice Chair nominations. After discussion, Bill Anderson made a motion to nominate David Hamby as Chair. The motion was seconded by Steve Hitchcock and passed unanimously, 6-0. Steve Hitchcock nominated Jacki Becker as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Bill Anderson and passed unanimously, 6-0.

5. Discussion Item: Survey 2 Results (Phase 1 and Phase 2 engagement are combined in one pdf) https://assets.lawrenceks.org/assets/mpo/bicycle/Lawrence-Phase2.pdf

Ashley Myers began by summarizing the work documented in the Countywide Bikeway Plan. Ms. Myers reviewed the most recent updates to the plan focused on Lawrence public input and asked members to read through all of it since there was a lot of comments. The second phase of public engagement, which concluded December 3rd, consisted of an open house, mobile meetings, and a survey. The committee discussed the high level results of the most recent survey to understand how residents thought bicycle friendliness could be improved in Lawrence. The results of the survey will be incorporated into the community toolbox and were prioritized in the BAC Prioritizing E's Survey which was discussed in item 8.

6. Action Item: Draft Bike Plan Goals

Jessica Mortinger presented a data-driven approach to integrate Smart Goals into current planning strategies. Five goals were adapted from measurements used by the Bike Friendly 'Smart Goals' to be used as benchmarks for the bike plan. Goal 1: Improve Safety - continue zero bicycle riders fatalities & serious injuries through 2025. Ms. Mortinger discussed prioritization of current efforts such as Safe Routes to

Schools as a programmatic approach to improve safety. Bill Anderson discussed working with local PTA and PTO groups as an opportunity. Goal 2: Increase Ridership - City of Lawrence increase bicycle mode choice to 3% by 2025. Marianne Melling asked if other cities could be a useful comparison to see if a 3% increase is viable. The committee agreed that more exploration would be beneficial, especially considering differences in current infrastructure. Cameron Jacques recommended considering an incremental approach to reach the 3% target, breaking down the goal into attainable segments prior to 2025. David Hamby and Mr. Anderson noted gas prices and location of employment centers are factors influencing ridership. Goal 3: Increase access - increase percentage of population within ¼ mile of the bikeway network (major, minor, shared) to 75% by 2025. Ms. Mortinger shared a map of the existing and planned bike network. Ms. Melling emphasized working towards equitable access and closing loose ends as a means to improve connectivity. She also asked about the possibility of using a connectivity measurement to fill gaps. Ms. Mortinger said that staff had considered a connectivity measure, but determined that the priority/secondary networks and level of comfort pared with access provided a better picture of progress, rather than connectivity of the entire network. Goal 4: Create a Network of Low-Stress Bikeways - increase the mileage of low-stress bikeways to XX by 2025. Mileage is dependent on an analysis of traffic counts which will be conducted over the next month. Goal 5: Achieve League of American Bicyclists Silver level Bicycle Friendly Community or higher by 2025. Overall, members supported the direction the goals were taking. MPO staff will continue to develop goals to incorporate into a draft plan for member review and approval.

David Hamby asked the public present if they had any comments. Chris Burger, a member of the public, suggested focusing routes to attractions and working outward, not necessarily focusing on ridership numbers; use 31st Street, Downtown, Checkers, etc. as hubs, and remove 6th St from the network. Another member of the public, Michael Almon, agreed that an origins/destinations-based network was the most practical approach. He continued, the city should consider adding a goal for consistent funding to build "x" amount of miles per year and compel developers to build and maintain sidewalks along streets via subdivision regulations.

7. Action Item: Draft Performance Measures

Jessica Mortinger reviewed existing and newly introduced measures to track progress on bikeway facilities. Jacki Becker asked about the viability of tracking multi-modal trips, specifically bikes on buses. Ms. Mortinger replied that type of tracking might be a possibility, but it would be dependent on the service contract with the transit company.

David Hamby asked the public present if they had any comments. Carlos Pringle, a member of the public, suggested increasing transit service to connect to biking amenities based on destinations. Ms. Mortinger explained that, multimodal trip making has been discussed with transit staff, however, the purview of the BAC is limited to bicycle planning. Coordination planning efforts with transit and have focused on bicycle parking amenities at stops and bikes racks on buses. Ms. Mortinger provided information on the city advisory committee focused on Lawrence Transit where there would be further opportunity for the city to consider his input about transit services. Ms. Mortinger informed committee members about the new requirements in the transit service contract which would provide better boarding and riding data to inform future planning. Members made no changes to the draft measures, and no further action was taken.

8. Action Item: Prioritizing E's within the Toolbox

https://assets.lawrenceks.org/assets/mpo/bicycle/toolbox-draft.pdf

Jessica Mortinger presented the results of a survey where committee members were asked to prioritize existing and new E elements from the community toolbox. The committee compared their responses to current initiatives and discussed where priorities matched. Comprehensive traffic management in neighborhood and targeted education and enforcement campaigns were identified as the most urgent needs. Referencing the comment from Michael Almon, Bill Anderson noted an expectation to contribute to construction of sidewalks and shared use paths in planned developments. The MPO will consider how to implement the results into existing goals. Mr. Anderson and David Hamby suggested partnerships with local organizations such as bike clubs and the public schools. Ms. Mortinger asked if members would change any

of their priorities after hearing the conversation of E's. Members indicated they would not. Mr. Hamby asked if there were any additional comments, to which the committee had none. No further action was taken.

9. Action Item: Priority and Secondary Funding Network Alignments

Due to time constraints this item has been tabled for a meeting to take place at a later time.

10. Discussion Item: Bike Level of Comfort

Jessica Mortinger referenced the earlier conversation surrounding goal four of the draft bike plan. A level of comfort matrix is the current basis used to assess comfort of the existing network and promote future ridership based on feedback from the surveys. Marianne Melling suggested promoting equitable access for neighborhoods to greater network. Cameron Jacques commented that a change in community attitudes towards biking would be necessary to aid comfortability. Ms. Mortinger said she unfortunately couldn't share the draft bike level of comfort map yet because it hasn't been completed as we are waiting on the traffic count data, which will hopefully be received within the next month.

11. Discussion Item: Bike Plan Update Timeline

Ashley Myers presented the bike plan timeline. She noted it hasn't been updated to reflect the two plan process, but so far we are following along for the Lawrence portion of the plan.

12. Discussion Item: City of Lawrence Ethics Policy & Kansas Open Meetings Act

https://assets.lawrenceks.org/documents/Resolutions/Resolutions-7200s/Res7269.pdf

Jessica Mortinger shared the city's updated ethics policy and asks everyone to read it. She presented the Kansas Open Meetings Act PowerPoint and reminded members of appropriate meeting protocol. Ms. Mortinger reminded members that meetings are posted and can be found on the city's website under the appropriate advisory board's tab (https://lawrenceks.org/boards/mpo-bicycle-advisory-committee).

13. Quick Updates

a. Safe Cycling: How Do Risk Perceptions Compare With Observed Risk?

https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/7c70/5aafe3a52f6f4f7127f9fa7f8785d105ba53.pdf

Jessica Mortinger said Marianne Melling had asked in a previous meeting about perceptions of risk vs. observed risk for bicycling. Ms. Mortinger said she found the linked study and shared it with the committee. The study indicates attitudes towards certain facilities do not necessarily align with observed risk on those actual facilities.

14. Other Business

a. Bike Video Premiere Party, January 30, 6 – 7 pm, Lawrence Library Auditorium

Ashley Myers informed committee members of an upcoming showing of the 8 bike videos at the Lawrence Public Library aimed at engaging and educating the public on safe biking and driving practices on facilities in Lawrence.

15. Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm. The next meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible.