

MPO Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Ground Floor Conference 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		Ryan Umberger	L-DC MPO	
X	Bill Anderson	City of Lecompton / At Large	OTHERS PRESENT			
X	Cameron Jacques	Douglas County	X	Chris Tilden	LiveWell/FLAT	
X	Jacki Becker (Vice Chair)	Douglas County	X	Phil Collison	Self/ELNA	
X	Scott Keltner	City of Eudora	x	Michael Almon	Sustainability Action Network	

1. Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

David Hamby called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. There was a guorum.

2. Public Comment

Phil Collison, a member of the public, asked how the MPO fits into the policy structure. Jessica Mortinger replied giving information about the MPO and described how the BAC functions as a sub-committee of the policy board.

3. Action Item: Approval of minutes from the February 20th meeting

Motion to approve the amended minutes (correcting the date at the top of the minutes) from the February 28th meeting was proposed by Bill Anderson and seconded by Jacki Becker; the measure passed 6-0.

4. Action Item: Appoint MPO BAC Representative for 23rd Street Corridor Study https://lawrenceks.org/mpo/23rd-st-corridor-study

Jessica Mortinger informed the committee of the 23rd St Corridor Study. The MPO Policy Board created a project advisory committee and steering committee to guide the work of those groups. She described the process including charrettes and an open house with designs originating from that process. Cameron Jacques volunteered that he would be available during the required dates and motioned to be appointed as the representative. Jacki Becker was nominated as an alternate. The motion was seconded by David Hamby; and the vote passed 8-0.

5. Action Item: Finalize Lawrence Bikes Plan Performance Measures

Ashley Myers shared the updated data gathered for the draft performance measures. She noted the BAC needed to determine a benchmark for low-stress bikeway mileage and determine if the goal to increase the percentage of the population within ¼ mile of the bikeway network to 75% is sufficient. Existing data calculates projects under construction at 73%. Bill Anderson and David Hamby had a conversation regarding the use of mode share as a metric to which Jessica Mortinger replied referencing a study which found a positive ratio of lane miles to density as a contributing factor to seasonal ridership. The committee determined the low stress mileage and access metrics would be sufficient since those factors encourage usage of the facilities. Michael Almon, a member of the public, commented he would like to see the committee set ambitious goals because it give citizen advocates more credibility when pushing for extensive and safe facilities. He continued to explain the perception of safety doesn't necessarily align with how safe facilities are and separation of auto and bike traffic drives choice. Therefore the city should aim to build comfortable, separated bikeways. Jacki Becker motioned for a 4% increase in low stress bikeway mileage and a 10% target for the increase of access to the population within ¼ mile of the low-stress bikeway network by 2025. The motion was seconded by Bill Anderson; the measure passed 8-0.

6. Action Item: Release the Draft Lawrence Bikes Plan for 30 day Public Comment (May 15-June 14)

http://assets.lawrenceks.org/assets/mpo/bicycle/BikePlan-Draft.pdf http://assets.lawrenceks.org/assets/mpo/bicycle/Appendices-Draft.pdf

Jessica Mortinger summarized the progress made on the draft of the Lawrence Bikes Plan and Bikeway Design Guide. Ms. Mortinger informed the committee how the documents will be used as tools to create a cooperative criteria between the bike design options and development practices outlined in Municipal Services and Operations' Street Design Guidelines. Members reviewed the document and were asked to give feedback. A few committee members recommended alterations to figures in the document. These suggestions were aimed at improving the readability of text and maps to be included in the finalized version of the document. Michael Almon, a member of the public, asked about an action step which would modify the development code to support bike friendly end of trip amenities by applying regulations to retrofit existing developments. Ms. Mortinger said the desired alterations to Article 9 are in support of the City staff's planning processes regarding amended parking requirements. Mr. Almon asked about a segment of the proposed bikeway network which, in previous plans, extends the shared use path on 23rd Street that currently spans Iowa St. and Kasold Dr. and connects it to the East 23rd Street Corridor project to create a contiguous pathway. Members explained their rational for removal of the pathway from the network due to the high number of conflict points that exist from business' driveways. Kathryn Schartz motioned to release the Draft Lawrence Bikes Plan for public comment. Marianne Melling seconded the motion and the measure passed 8-0.

7. Quick Updates

Jessica Mortinger informed the BAC the City of Lawrence has been recognized as #6 of 510 cities working on bicycling in their most recent assessment. Ashley Myers said the countywide bike plan is still under development. Kathryn Schartz mentioned the Lawrence Bike Club is looking for volunteers.

8. Other Business

No other business was presented.

9. Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 7:21pm. The next meeting will be scheduled once the 30-day public comment period is complete and staff have analyzed and processed public input to share with the BAC.