

**Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee**  
Minutes from January 12, 2016  
Lincoln Parks and Recreation – 2740 “A” Street

**Members Present:** Gary Bentrup, Parks Coble, Rick Dockhorn, Barb Fraser, Marynelle Greene, Elaine Hammer, Damon Hershey, Delrae Hirschman, Jordan Messerer, Dalyce Ronnau, Michael Wylie

**Staff Present:** Kellee Van Bruggen, JJ Yost, Sara Hartzell, Mike Heyl, David Cary, Shane Dostal

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 a.m., followed by announcement recognizing regulations of the Open Meetings Act as posted by the door.

**Minutes:**

*Approval of December 8, 2015 minutes: Moved by Ronnau, seconded by Coble.*

**Staff Reports:**

Hartzell gave updates on the Billy Wolff renovation project, Jamaica North Trail Re-Construction, Pioneers Park Phase III, and Murdock Trail.

Billy Wolff – Open and in service. Contractor will return in spring for some final concrete work, painting the retaining wall, and final seeding.

Jamaica North RFP – interviews with engineering firms are scheduled. Applicant all included a starting date of June 2016 so still plan to have construction completed this season.

Pioneers Park Phase III – Preparing to put out for construction bids. This will be a low bid item. Construction will be completed before the end of August.

Murdock Trail – this project was ranked number 5 by the RTP evaluation committee. Funding only covers the first 4 projects. In the past there have been situations where an approved project does not move forward and funds become available, so its possible we still may be able to fund at least a portion of this reconstruction.

Van Bruggen gave an update on the Bike Share project. Funding has been secured for construction and the first year or more of operations. Working through other issues with NDOR, but still hopeful for a fall opening. She also reported on the N Street cycle track. There are still some issues with signal timing and we may need to do some adjusting. Planning is getting comments, mostly supportive. It is probably a good thing this opened up in winter so there weren't too many users. At this time the counters are not working (Counters are on 9<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and Antelope Valley). The detectors for the signals are working.

**Old Business:**

Pedestrian and Bicycle Access during construction. Shane Dostal of Public Works and Utilities was available for this discussion. There is often a lack of allowances for cyclists in particular during construction projects, which are usually considered to be vehicles, even when trails are involved. During

the Sheridan Bridges project cyclists had to go all the way to 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and up to South for the detour. The detour on 31<sup>st</sup> Street with the barricades meant to slow traffic in the residential area actually ended up pushing cars, pedestrians and cyclists into the same narrow area. This was mainly because there are no sidewalks in this neighborhood. There is usually not a lot of signing back further on the trail where someone might want to make a decisions to follow another route. Typically a temporary sidewalk or pedestrian way has to be 5 feet wide, although it can go down to 3 feet if there is a place for passing every 200 feet. To do a reroute right you would probably have to do some construction. It might be helpful in some instances to have signage warning drivers that there may be bikes and peds in the roadway. Maybe there should be a checklist of criteria that warrant special allowances. There have been some issues with the contractors not managing the pedestrian access well during construction. They should be required to have a pedestrian access plan and could have liquidated damages applied when they don't meet that plan. The PBAC decided to form a subcommittee that will meet to discuss the issue more fully and perhaps come up with some suggestions for PW&U – Dalyce Ronnau, Delrae Hirschman, Gary Bentrup and Barb Fraser.

### **New Business:**

David Cary, Planning Director, gave a presentation to the PBAC on the update of the 2040 Lincoln and Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan and Long Range Transportation Plan. Planning has been working with a consultant to update the traffic model and the Planning Commission has had a few briefings on various topics. A major update of the plan is done every 10 years and a minor update every 5 years. The LRTP is updated fully every 5 years according to Federal requirements. Cary explained what the Comp Plan is and how growth projections are used to determine future land use. Planning would like to hear from the PBAC. They have had a few PBAC members in focus group meetings. They will also be holding public meetings during the process to gather comments from a larger audience. They intend to have draft plans in summer.

So far the process has been heavy on the LRTP side with Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures having been drafted. There will be a January 20<sup>th</sup> briefing of the Planning Commission to bring them up to date on the LRTP work done so far. Performance measures are a new federal requirement with this round. Some of the interesting discussions they have had thus far are that on-street bike facilities seem to be the new growth area. A recent addition in this area is the funding for complete streets projects – not a very large amount but have allowed some signage and connectors that were needed. Sidewalk funding has also been greatly increased since the last LRTP update. This was a real need and PW&U are beginning to catch up on some of the areas of greatest need. The LRTP will also involve an update of the Financially Constrained plan – looking at both the funding expected to be available and the projected costs of projects.

Cary asked that the PBAC spend some time reviewing the current Comp Plan and LRTP and get comments to Planning in March. He also asked that PBAC members attend any open houses or other public meetings and encourage others to attend as well to give feedback. Bentrup and Messerer plan to get together to identify some possible discussion points for the full PBAC.

Cary also filled in the PBAC on LB716 and let them know what the legislative process is going forward.

**Adjourned 8:19**