

Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee
Minutes from March 10, 2020
Woods Park Place – 3131 'O' Street, Suite 300

Members Present: Barb Fraser, Clayton Streich, Dalyce Ronnau, Delrae Hirschman, Elaine Hammer, Gary Bentrup, Jordan Messerer, Parks Coble, Susan Larson Rodenburg.

Guests: Jamie Granquist, Bob Boyce.

Staff Present: Bobby Bartja, David Cary, Don Scheinhost, J.J. Yost, Kellee Van Bruggen, Lynn Johnson, Mark Lutjeharms, Michele Jordan, Mike Heyl, Sara Hartzell.

Call to Order: Called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. and noted the meeting follows the Open Meetings Act, posted in the room. Minutes moved by Clayton, seconded by Barb and approved unanimously.

Staff Reports: Sara was happy to report that last Friday we finally received the Construction and Maintenance Agreement from the Railroad for the Rock-Island Jamaica North project. This has been in the works for approximately eight months. The agreement has been signed by Lynn and at the Mayor's office. Jocelyn Golden is walking it through the process as fast as she can to get it back to the railroad. There is a pre-construction meeting next week. More than likely the first thing that will happen is the necessary trees will be removed which should be complete by the end of March. The shop drawings will also need to get to the engineer before the bridge can be built.

Sara continued by sharing that around South 14th Street and a bit past Rockaby Road you will see an entrance and drive being built to get the equipment in for the Wilderness South Bridge project. The construction crew is entering off 14th Street going to Jamaica to the site. The plan is to have the bridge set in April. The project is just the bridge, no trail work needed. The Yankee Hill Horse Bridge/Wilderness Park is a timber bridge with cable string railing has the same company working on it which should be completed prior to the Wilderness South Bridge.

Sara shared we should be seeing work on the 52nd Street Bridge on the Helen Boosalis Trail. The trees are cleared out and some culverts are in place which should help a lot at the crossing so debris does not pile up. The work is scheduled with the Sanitary Sewer project which means we don't have an exact date of completion.

Sara updated the Prairie Corridor/Spring Creek trail is almost complete. The trail was already in place but Spring Creek received a gift to bring the trail up to ADA standards. Right now it is being graded out, widened and making sure the slopes are navigable by wheelchair along with creating access to children to get into the water. This should be complete by June or July. A contractor that has not been used before is doing the work. So far they are doing a great job.

J.J. mentioned regarding Wilderness Park we have collected proposals from consultants to assist in the Master Planning process. They are being reviewed right now. The process should begin in the next few weeks so in May we can get rolling. J.J. also mentioned there should be some public engagement. Sara said they may be looking for someone from this committee to serve as a Stakeholder. Sara knows that Rick has been really interested in this project.

Bobby brought up the Billy Wolff Trail regarding being closed since last Friday due to repairs. Cement was poured last Friday and the trail should be open this Friday. The Tierra-Williamsburg trail repairs are moving forward. Schemmer is doing well with this project and is on schedule to be complete the end of August.

Mark shared that with the construction season getting ready to ramp up the LTU website is a comprehensive site to view where construction is occurring. A flashing beacon has been installed on 70th Street. This area is up to be resurfaced this summer. The Scooter Operator Agreements should be finalized by the end of this week. We are still about a month away from the scooters hitting the streets. More information coming next month.

Jamie reported that BikeLNK is going great. The electric bikes have been getting approximately five trips per bike per day with a total number of five bikes which is 100 trips on the bikes per day. The BikeShare program is also going great with two trips per bike per day. Jaime feels they're going strong in both directions. Jamie also shared she has heard great feedback regarding the 8th and "P" area from people who were concerned initially. This is their top performing station even though it's only been up and running for a month.

Officer Scheinhost was asked if there was any update regarding sidewalk biking. Officer Scheinhost shared they did a media blitz about a month ago. He doesn't have the results nor statics from February yet. To his knowledge there have been no official citations as of yet. There have been a lot of warnings along with many verbal warnings regarding complying with where bicycles can and cannot be ridden. Officer Scheinhost feels like they are seeing improvement. He said he will continue to keep the committee informed as time passes.

Sara added that a month or two ago a letter was written to the mayor asking for her support regarding federal legislation to increase funding for non-vehicular transportation. The mayor did send a letter to Congressman Fortenberry along with Senator Sasse and Fischer to ask support on three pieces of legislation. One is a new grant program, one is an increase to the transportation enhancement funding and the third to the RTP (Recreation Trails Program) funding which has not increased in many years. Sara stated that if all three pieces of legislation go through there would be a doubling of funding going to trails.

Susan asked about the letter sent to the mayor requesting the ordinance "Right to Right" (?) rule. There has been no response as of yet. Sara will be following up on the status.

Old Business: N/A

New Business: Plan Forward with David Cary, the Director of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department presenting the 2050 Comprehensive Plan.

David said they are in the phase of rolling the plan out along with actively working on scenario building future planning. Kellee is working on this also.

David shared a lot of information regarding reflecting back on what the world and Lincoln looked like 30 years ago and how much has changed since 1990. David's presentation showed the 30 year prior to current look at what has happened in Lincoln.

David also shared that the plan is updated every five years to make sure the information is still accurate. This was the 2040 plan changed to the 2050 plan. This plan helps how to see how we're growing and how we want to grow. David keyed on the sewer system and water line expansion being important for growth, along with schools.

David said Lincoln will grow approximately 120,000 in the county by 2050 which means about 100,000 in the city of Lincoln. To put this in context David stated we grew about that much in the past 30 years. Many topics were brought up regarding focusing on trails and bicycle systems along with an overall comprehensive presentation with bullet points being: Resiliency and Sustainability, Innovative, Livable, and Thriving. David will be back to share updates several more time in the near future. David shared their website, [PlanForward2050](#) along with a survey which will be closing soon.

Sara shared with the group why this is important and gave several examples of how the world may look like and why it's important to have a plan.

Sara feels that the developers have changed a lot in the past few years regarding wanting trails near their development before building opposed to not wanting any trails near their development.

Elaine stated that trails should be treated the same as roadways opposed to a separate entity needing to raise private funds, etc.

Other: **Dalyce (name?)** asked Susan if the committee could get an update on sidewalk repair by Taylor who has joined and shared how sidewalk repair works. Sara will be reaching out to Taylor to see if an update can be presented.

Susan shared that there is an important meeting that she recommended members attend. The meeting is a Pre-Construction Public Information meeting regarding the Lincoln South Beltway, held by the Nebraska Department of Transportation at the Sesostris Shrine Center located at 1050 Saltillo Rd. (Northwest of Saltillo and Highway 77). The meeting is between 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, March 11th.

Sara was asked what the status is regarding the biking trail on the south beltway. Sara stated the construction plan approved include bike underpasses of all the trail connectors. It will be up to the City to build the trail in-between. Funding source is the main problem. The connectors being built is a huge expense that PBAC will not be responsible for.

Adjourn: 7:46 a.m.