

## **Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee**

Minutes from the October 12, 2021, Meeting – 7:00 a.m.  
Woods Park Place – 3131 'O' Street, Lower Level Training Center

**Members Present:** Clayton Streich, Delrae Hirschman, Elaine Hammer, Gary Bentrup, Jordan Messerer, Nate Lowry, Bulent (Paul) Tunakan, Mauricio Lang, George Dungan (arrived after Meeting Minutes approval), Susan Larson Rodenburg

**Members Present via Zoom:** Barb Fraser

**Guests:** Jamie Granquist, Parks Coble

**Staff Present:** Bobby Bartja, Don Scheinhost, J.J. Yost, Lynn Johnson, Roy Rivera, Mike Heyl, Sara Hartzell, Roberto Partida, Stephanie Rouse

**Call to Order:** Delrae called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. and noted the meeting follows the Open Meetings Act, posted in the room. Roll call was made, and quorum was met with nine members present. Delrae called for a motion to approve the September 14th, 2021, Minutes. Motion was moved to approve the Meeting Minutes by Bulent (Paul), seconded by Susan Larson Rodenburg. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Staff Reports:** Sara mentioned that we had four members whose three year-term ended in September. Jordan Messerer, Gary Bentrup, Dalyce Ronnau, and Barb Fraser. Jordan, Gary, and Barb indicated that they would like to serve another term. Dalyce has decided to retire from the PBAC. We thank Dalyce for all his years of dedication and service. He certainly will be missed. Sara asked the group to submit recommendations if anyone that knows of an individual that would like to be a member of the PBAC with similar background and interests as Dalyce.

Sara shared that the department is finishing up the last of the retrofits out at Spring Creek. Spring Creek has a limestone trail, and our limestone experience has almost exclusively been on railroad right of way, which means nice, even, flat surfaces. Spring Creek's trail consists of rolling hills. When the trail was first built the limestone trail, we found that there were issues with erosion. Over the last year, we have done a lot of research on mountain bike trails and doing some retrofits out there to put some rolling grade dips and some knicks along the trail to help resolve that issue. This project is almost done. When it comes to Wilderness Park, Nate Lowry helped us record a series of three infomercials about Wilderness Park. One of the infomercials is about the use of the navigational maps and posts at the park, as well as the app. The other is about how to behave on multi-use trails where you have horses, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The third one we are calling "Leave no trace" asking trail users to not pick any vegetation, not harass any animals, stay off muddy trails, pick up your trash, etc. Last of filming was completed. The infomercials should be ready in about a couple of weeks. Please share and spread the word.

Bobby provided the group an update regarding the Jamaica North # 7 bridge, north of Saltillo. Construction started on Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> when the trail closure went into effect. The trail will be closed for another 3 weeks. Work is going really well. Old bridge is completely removed at this point, the new culverts will be laid soon. We recently received a service request for the Mopac Trail, requesting the repair of potholes at the trail segment by 22<sup>nd</sup> and W St. We will be removing about 65 linear feet and replacing it. The contract is setup, and the work should be done later in October

or early November at the latest. The design is going pretty well for the Fletcher Landmark Trail, we are working on getting a meeting set up for early November for the 30% plan walk-thru.

Sara added that there has not been much change on the Beal Slough trail updates provided last month. We are at the point in which they are about to issue the Notice to Proceed to the 90% plans, which are basically the last step in that design before they put together the actual package to go out to bid, and with this we will move into the right-of-way acquisition stage. We only have four landowners that we have to negotiate right-of-way with, and we have met with all four of them in the past and all four are excited about the project moving forward. This step should go fairly well. The railroad has asked a few questions about the under crossing at 70<sup>th</sup> St. we go underneath along the creek in that area, and we have been able to answer those questions satisfactorily. Hopefully will be moving into negotiating the right-of-way contract with them, which is a USE contract, a construction and maintenance agreement.

Sara announced that her role within the Parks and Recreation Department will be changing within the next couple of weeks. Bobby will be taking over as the Staff Liaison for the PBAC and doing a lot more of the trail work. Sara will be doing more of the public outreach and working public groups and volunteers. Bobby will be the PBACs primary contact. The PBAC will miss Sara.

There was discussion about the Salt Creek Levee Trail work and the Rock Island Trail Closure. The Salt Creek Levee Trail is still happening but have not received any updates. The contractor will start pulling back their limits of construction off of the trail by the end of the month of October. The contracted date was early November, but they are shooting to have the trail open by the end of October.

Jordan Messerer asked if the department has been contacted about the University of Nebraska Lincoln- project. Sara and Lynn let the group know that they have not been looped in the conversation at this point. Jordan mentioned that Emily Casper would be a good contact. Sara will reach out to Emily.

Jamie Granquist shared that BikeLNK now has a docking station that they can travel with and use at different outreach activities to show individuals how they can dock and un-dock a bike-share bicycle. The dock can also be used at events organized by other organizations. Jamie wanted to make sure that the group knew that this is an option, and the dock can be available at different events to provide outreach and demonstrate how the Bike Share program works, from the walk up to the dock to riding away. The docking station looks just like a bike rack and would allow for BikeLNK to reach out to other business where this type of docking station would be more suitable than the regular docking station.

### **Old Business:**

Comprehensive Plan: Sara asked about the timeline for the Comprehensive Plan. Stephanie Rouse shared that the briefing would happen on September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Public Hearing will take place two weeks from September 15<sup>th</sup>. Sara mentioned this Comprehensive Plan is probably the most ecologically friendly, most multi-modal that we have ever had. It will be a great step forward. The opportunity to testify in favor of the Comp Plan in front of the City Council would be two weeks from September 15<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Commission starts at 1 pm.

### **New Business:**

Appointment of the Nominating Committee for 2022 – Delrae Hirschman requested volunteers to be members of the Nominating Committee. Gary Bentrup and Jordan Messerer have volunteered to be the committee. Typically, nominations are presented during the November meeting and the vote for Chair and Vice-Chair is made during the December meeting.

### **Other:**

The Bike Boulevard has been completed. Roberto Partida shared that the Bike Boulevard is officially implemented, the boulevard stretches from G St. to F St. on 6<sup>th</sup> St. and from 6<sup>th</sup> St. to SW 2<sup>nd</sup> St. on F St. about 8-10 blocks. It runs east to west. Way finding signage has also been implemented, letting users know who to access points of interests from the Bike Boulevard. The Streets Alive event was a positive experience.

Sara shared that there is development that will be located about 21<sup>st</sup> and P St., the project is taking place through the Urban Development Department, and they are getting TIF from that project. They have decided to use the TIF for is to establish the bike lanes on P and Q Streets, which go from Antelope Valley Parkway to 25<sup>th</sup> St. Roberto stated that they are still working out details with the developer and how TIF would be used. There are several items that still need to be evaluated. Neighborhood needs to also be accepting of this new infrastructure and we also need to do a parking analysis to determine use.

October is Pedestrian Safety Month. Traffic Engineering now has a webpage called Traffic Safety. The webpage includes safety tips for when you are walking, driving, or biking. Roberto hopes that this webpage can be a location for individuals to look for all things regarding safety. Roberto is also working with staff to release PSAs and Social Media posts regarding safety.

Delrae shared concerns about school crossings and the traffic/pedestrian/parents/student conflicts that arise during pick up and drop off times. Roberto stated that he would connect with Melissa Ramos-Lampli, Senior Traffic Technician and ask what the plans are for this school crossing zones. He shared her contact information with the group.

Roberto also shared there is a upcoming re-pavement project on North 14<sup>th</sup> from Superior to Adams. Within the bike plan it was calling for a side path on the west side all the way from Superior down to Adams. Unfortunately, after Roberto provided the details, the funding committee denied the request of that portion due to the cost. He delivered a new proposal for creating a side path from Manatt down to Adams. Roberto proposed Manatt because there is a shared lane that comes from Superior that provides a north – south route, which allow for users to connect to the path on Manatt and then connect down on 14<sup>th</sup> St.

Nate Lowry shared that the City of Lincoln won the National Bike Challenge 2021. This would be year six out of nine.

**Adjourn:** Delrae adjourned the meeting at 7:40 a.m.