



Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board

Minutes

October 10, 2022

The Wichita Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board met in regular session.

*Indicates online

Board Members present: Alan Kailer, Marcia Schroeder, Jane Byrnes, Monte Shaw & Russell Fox

City Staff: Tia Raamot, Sarah Pineda

Guests: Kim Neufeld, Clayton Pearson, Kelly Wenz, Chase Billingham*

1. **Call to order:** by Alan Kailer, Chair, at 5:30
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Alan noted minutes were missing staff reports and discussion of the Sidewalk Memo. Marcia mentioned that the minutes also did not include the discussion of the name change for the board. Russell gave a summary last meeting of his meeting with the City Manager. Jane noted that she had also asked about the WPD traffic advisory group, the status of the KDOT Active Transportation Plan, and that Walk to School Day is today. All of these were brief conversations and should be mentioned in the September meeting minutes.

With these changes, Monte Shaw made a motion to accept the minutes, and Dr. Russell Fox seconded it. Motion passed unanimously

3. **Public Comments**

None. Tia asked if we don't have as many participants because we moved to MS TEAMS. Dr. Fox thought MS TEAMS was more familiar to most.

4. **Discussion Item**

First discussion item is on Transportation Advisory Board. Alan Kailer does not have any news on it. Dr. Russell Fox would like to know if there is any movement on the proposal. He assumes there has not been any. He said they could formally suggest to whoever is working the proposal that the group use a different name. Marcia suggested Bike Ped Transit Advisory Board. Alan noted that the intent is to look at transportation holistically. Marcia expressed concern about

the lack of specificity in the umbrella term transportation. Dr. Fox liked Mobility for a name. Jane suggested Active Transportation. Alan thinks it's broader than that. Alan stated that he did not believe a formal vote was required, but that there seemed to be a consensus about a recommendation regarding the name of the Board. He said he would send an email to the City Manager to inquire about the status of the Board's creation and suggesting that the name of the Board reflect a focus on active transportation or mobility.

Tia gave a short update on the Bike Master Plan. The RFP for the Bike Master Plan is open. She brought 3 copies of the RFP for the group, and it is posted on the City website. There is a selection committee which will evaluate proposals. It is made of staff members, and the City Manger has invited the WBPAB to designate a ninth member on the selection committee from themselves or a person in the bike community. The commitment involves reading proposals for a week, then attending a shortlisting discussion, and participating in interviews on Nov 9 from 1 to 4. Kim Neufeld indicated she is available. None of the members of the Board objected to Kim serving in that role. Tia thanked Kim for volunteering.

5. Board Governance

None

6. Staff Reports and Updates

Scooters – we still have about 4000 rides each month from each scooter company. Bike Share was about 1400 rides this last month.

RIDERSHIP

TOTALS		BIRD	VEO	SPIN	Bikeshare
Rides	2021	43355	55617	0	14142
	2022	3591	46825	20209	9576

		Scooter Rides			Bikeshare
		BIRD	VEO	SPIN	Tandem
New Contracts	2022 Jan	736	0	0	480
	Feb	554	0	0	319
	Mar	1445	5645	0	1024
	Apr	856	9121	194	1220
	May	0	10197	3858	1441
	Jun	0	6903	4443	1227
	Jul		5600	4282	1276
	Aug		5118	3306	1248
	Sept		4241	4126	1341
	Oct				
	Nov				
	Dec				

Kim brought up that the bike share has less than 100 bikes on the street. Tia noted she is aware Bike Share is suffering, even with putting 5 new bikes on the streets every week.

Kim asked about funding from scooters. Tia explained that 15 cents per ride goes to the City, and it is held with transportation to make improvements to the bike network that is shared with scooters.

Alan asked if there were any other staff reports. Tia noted that the District Advisory Boards for Districts 1 and 6 had recommended the City Council endorsement of the Downtown Streets plan, and that the Parking plan presentations had received favorable receptions thus far. The next presentation is with Greater Wichita Partnership on November 17. The Downtown Streets Plan is coming the DAB 5 next month.

Gary – Project Tracking Sheet.

He noted the demolition has begun on the Amidon Street Bridge. The bike plan on the river is routed down to Charles to 15th. McLean Boulevard Central to 13th was addressed by the communications team with Councilmember Ballard on Facebook Live. It was their opportunity to explain the safety reasons for going to a 3-lane roadway and bring traffic calming to the roadway. If they had the funding, they would have built raised medians.

Dr. Russell Fox noted he would address the McLean discussion as part of his update for Rethinking Wichita later in the meeting. He said well-done all around.

Pathway/connection to Prairie Sunset trail. The section west from Seneca to Exposition was planned to be completed by the end of the year. Everything south of that is in design. The remainder was scheduled to be completed by end of 2023.

Dr. Fox asked if the proposed route was still on Exposition South to Friends University. Gary confirmed it was the same desired routing. Gary also noted that it was planned to extend a bike boulevard east from Meridian on McCormick to connect to the river. Gary noted it's nice to see these projects getting more connections.

Someone asked about the status of the plan for the path to cross I-235. Gary noted they do not have an easement yet. Alan thanked Gary for his persistence.

Gary has one more comment – Redbud to Rock. Still exploring bipartisan infrastructure bill to look for opportunities to fund.

Gary noted there are projects in the tracker that should be cleaned up. The Douglas project is an old reference.

7. Old Business

Alan asked whether and how the Board would like to address the Toole Sidewalk Report. Jane noted that some comments are excellent even years later. She noted the importance of shade trees. Jane noted urban heat is severely exacerbated. Monte Shaw drew focus to item 4 on page 2 of the recommendations, recommending that developers be required to install sidewalks on both sides of the street for all new subdivisions. Gary noted that the sidewalk ordinance puts a sidewalk on both sides of arterial streets, and one side of collectors. Russell asked where the sidewalk repair program lives within City Government. Gary said in his office. State law says all adjacent property owners bear the cost of sidewalk repair. That is why the program is not popular. The program is driven by citizen complaints, entirely. Monte pointed out the repair

prices are very fair. Gary noted there is an economy of scale since they contract the repairs. Gary later pointed out that in the case of a wider path (multi-use path) the City only charges adjacent owners for the proportionate share of the repairs based on the width of the path.

Monte noted 5.c. on page 3 as an exception to the Sidewalk memo makes sense. When a park has a walking trail in it, it does not necessarily meet the needs of the person walking for transportation purposes. He thought a sidewalk should be on the street. The exception could be eliminated.

Gary Janzen noted the sidewalk ordinance is antiquated. He would agree with this point.

Jane – likes the whole section 5 in the Toole memo as a recommendation for change.

Alan asked the question if the group wants to do something with the Toole Memo. Do they want to make a recommendation to City Council to adopt everything or do one step at a time? He noted some changes are very much a political lift, like requiring sidewalks for all developments. Does the WBPAB want to advocate for a big item, or a few? Dr. Fox suggested acknowledging the entire memo, drafting a letter specifying our support, and also including some suggested prioritization that identifies low-hanging fruit. Monte liked the suggestion. Jane brought forward the suggestion about changing to the NACTO guidelines described on page 4. She also liked the idea that we prioritize the suggestions in the memo.

Gary offered to review the memo and highlight the items that could be addressed quickly. Alan asked if City Council was the proper recipient of the letter. The group agreed.

Russell volunteered to draft the letter, with Gary's assistance.

8. New Business

None

9. Board Comments

Dr. Russell Fox gave his 4th presentation of the Friend's University Conference. It was Dr. Chase Billingham's presentation. The handout is attached.

10. Adjournment

With no objections, Alan Kailer adjourned the meeting at 7:42 PM.

The next meeting of the board will be held on **November 14, 2022 @5:30pm.**