



Wichita Pedestrian Master Plan

Steering Committee

Meeting Summary

May, 2014, 4:30 p.m. –6:30 p.m.

City Hall, 10th Floor
455 N. Main St.

Attendance

SC Members Present:	Jane Byrnes, Zach Edwardson, Melanie Barnes, Jack Brown, Jeremiah Connelly
SC Members Absent:	Becky Pepper, Mike Rodee, Steve Anthimides, Mike Garvey, Ryan Hollingshead, Brian Coon, Yvonne Cather, Ann Mosher
TAC Members Present:	Scott Knebel, Larry Hoetmer
Planning Team Present:	Ciara Schlichting (phone), Scott Wadle
Others:	None

1. Welcome and Introductions

Scott Wadle welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

2. Project Update

Scott Wadle provided a brief overview of the project schedule and the status of the major plan elements. No suggestions for changes were made.

3. Open House Results

Scott Wadle opened up the floor for discussion, with the initial question of whether any of the feedback received during the open house event had 1) reinforced the need for recommendations currently in the plan, or 2) were game changers that required the Steering Committee to consider changes to the plan. Scott Wadle reviewed a PowerPoint with the meeting participants and open house summary handouts were available. Below are some quick highlights from the conversation.

- Jane Byrnes passed out handouts of comments that she received from individuals that signed the Bike Walk Wichita Pedestrian Master Plan Petition of Support. Scott Wadle

indicated that he would distribute an electronic copy to the Steering Committee and TAC members for them to consider as another source of input (similar to the online survey, open house reports, and other feedback).

- Meeting participants indicated that the comments received during the open house event generally were listings of specific issues and were all over the City.
- Committee members asked how the Plan would help address those specific issues. Staff indicated that the specific fixes could be included as part of the annual work plan to be developed each year by staff and approved by the Wichita Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board. The consensus of the meeting participants was to not to make the Plan about accomplishing a specific listing of all the issues reported so far, because the Plan needs to be about more than specific issues raised by people who have attended the meetings – it needs to be more strategic. Committee members also indicated that the number of responses from the open house was too small to draw city-wide trends from.
- The consensus of meeting participants was that the Plan needs to clearly identify how improvements can be requested, including as part of the annual work plan.

4. Performance Measures

Scott Wadle provided a brief review, using a PowerPoint side show, of three draft performance measures. A handout of the draft performance measures was also distributed to the group. Below are some highlights from the discussion.

- After a review of Census reported walking for commuting rates from other communities and the feedback received during the open house event, the consensus was to make the benchmarking for the amount of walking –to increase the amount of walking by 50 percent. Some of the reasons for this decision included the scope and scale of changes needed over the 10-year timeframe for the plan in order to achieve increases in the percentage of people walking. For instance, the types of changes needed to triple the amount of walking and to increase the amount of walking to be nearly 4 percent of commuters (nearly as high as Denver) would be very dramatic.
- The consensus of the participants was for the planning team to come back with more information on the rate of crashes: 1) what has been achievable in other communities; 2) how do other communities measure progress; what are crash rates like in other communities?
- The consensus of the group was for the planning team to find out what the walking satisfaction levels were other communities participating in the National Citizen Survey, in order to help determine an appropriate level of satisfaction to aim for. The Planning Team

members committed to presenting information to the Steering Committee and TAC at the next meeting.

5. Prioritization

Ciara Schlichting introduced the topic of prioritization and used a PowerPoint slide to show a potential way for prioritizing future projects that could provide benefits for pedestrians. Below are highlights from the following discussion.

- The following changes should be made to the prioritization calculations.
 - Change the safety corridor by...
 - Decreasing the amount of points for being on a safety corridor;
 - Adding points for being along a high crash mile segment.
 - Add a criteria category for design of the corridor with the following factors:
 - Traffic volume
 - Traffic speed; and
 - Distance between signals (maybe crosswalks too?)
 - Add criteria for connectivity with points for:
 - Ability to provide connectivity
 - Completion of a missing link
 - Connection to transit
 - Connection to services (including government) and
 - Connection to commercial services.
 - Add a category for response to a public request.
 - Change the scores so that tie scores are less likely to occur.

- The Project Team staff committed to making more adjustments to the scoring matrix and to bring an updated version back to the Steering Committee and TAC for review.

6. Plan Outline

Ciara Schlichting provided an overview of the draft Plan outline. Scott Wadle indicated that changes could occur later on to the organization, this was just something to start the conversation. No requests for changes were made.

7. Next Steps

Scott Wadle provided a brief overview of the anticipated next steps listed below.

- TAC/SC Joint Meeting – June 10th 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- TAC/SC Joint Meeting – July 1st 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- August
 - a. DABs
 - b. Park Board
 - c. Transit Advisory Board

d. TAC/SC Joint meeting to review feedback

- September
 - a. Bicycle and Ped Advisory Board

8. Meeting Adjourned