



Minutes of BPAC Meeting, December 14, 2009

Minutes of the meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee held on Monday, December 14, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in Room B190 of the La Crosse County Administrative Center, 400 4th St N, La Crosse, WI 54601.

Members Present: John Boland, Peter Fletcher, Sandy Sechrest, Dave Conklin, Jeremy Gragert, Ed West. **Members Excused:** Ginny Loehr, Bill Ferguson, Tim Tiber **Members Absent:** Tim Acklin, Rachel Hazuga, Bob Fisher **Others Present:** Larry Kirch, Obbie King, Michael Barreyro, Jackie Eastwood.

John Boland called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of the October 12, 2009 Meeting:

Sandy Sechrest motioned to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2009 meeting. Dave Conklin seconded. All were in favor.

2. Summary of results of bicycle counts:

Jackie Eastwood summarized the bicycle counts performed in September. The purpose of the counts is to provide empirical data of users to justify the on-road recommendations in the plan for bicycle facilities. Volunteers were given an aerial photograph of the intersection and asked to record a bicyclist's position (street or sidewalk) entering and exiting the intersection. This process produced counts for each intersection as well as each approach to the intersection. They were also asked to note any conflicts and whether or not the bicyclist wore a helmet.

The table reports the total number of bicyclists, the number of street riders, and the number of sidewalk riders through the intersection and on each approach; the average number of bicyclists per hour as based on the time frame the counts were taken; and the number of bicycle crashes for the 2003-2008 time period.

An overwhelming number of all counted bicyclists rode on the sidewalks [92%], with most sidewalk riders opting not to wear a helmet. Most street riders wore a helmet.

3. Identify local and regional bicycle routes:

Jackie Eastwood noted that time was running out and that she'd have the draft routes map posted to the LAPC web site for review and comment. She did highlight the important aspects of the route map. The regional routes would be signed and numbered and would provide direct connections to communities. The local routes would feed into the regional routes to provide connections to local destinations. Wayfinding signage is important on the regional routes, especially at their connections to the local routes. Larry Kirch recommended adding the Great River Road as a regional route. Jackie Eastwood agreed, but suggested adding it as a future regional route until bicycle accommodations could be added to the roadways.

4. Updates and information items:

John Boland moved this agenda item up in sequence ahead of #3. He and Larry Kirch updated the committee on:

- STH 16 sidepath between Landfill Rd and Vet's Park: The DOT will grade out the trail right-of-way during the STH 16 widening project; the maintenance issue needs to be resolved; residents within the STH 16 corridor are overwhelmingly in favor of a trail (results of LAPC survey); 3% of project cost can go toward the trail for community sensitive design; the Driftless Region Bicycling Coalition (DRBC) will draft a letter of support for the trail to Dennis Osgood and Steve O'Malley.
- STH 33 public meeting: The DOT will reconstruct STH 33 from a four-lane to a three-lane (two through lanes and a middle turn lane) with 6-ft shoulders and a 5-ft sidewalk. Pedestrian crossings will be considered at Hagen Rd and Boma Rd.

- STH 35 improvements: The city will be improving the shoulder for bicycle/pedestrian access to the Southern Bluffs Elementary School. The DOT required the crossing be north of the school to avoid crossing passing lanes. The crossing will be at Sunnyside Dr. The transportation improvement program includes a state project to widen STH 35 between USH 14/61 and the county line to four lanes.
- Isle La Plume Trail: The trail from Market St to the VIP Trail should be completed next year.
- Northside Connector Trail: The city is trying to get the first phase in; hopes to get the bridge and the rest of the trail done in 2011.
- CTH OT: Recommends the BPAC write a letter in support of Dennis Osgood's recommendation for a three-lane with 6-ft striped shoulders.

The DRBC will write letters to Mn/DOT and WisDOT regarding the projects on STH 33, STH 35, and I-90.

5. Future Agenda Items:

- None put forth.

6. Other business; Adjourn; Next meeting TBA:

The meeting ended at 7:15 p.m. (no quorum for a motion to adjourn).