



## **WORTHINGTON BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Minutes of the Saturday, January 6, 2018 Planning Meeting**

**Members Present:** The members present were Mike Bates, Lawrence Creed, Ann Horton, Emma Lindholm, Jeannie Martin, John Rist, Gary Schmidt, John Stephan and Kelly Whalen.

City Support Staff Darren Hurley (Parks & Recreation Director) and Celia Thornton were also present along with Council Members Rachael Dorothy, Beth Kowalczyk and Bonnie Michael.

**Review of current projects (completed and underway):** Ms. Martin reviewed a document provided by staff showing a comprehensive list of all projects completed by the board to date, along with a list of current projects underway (list included in packet). Five items were completed in 2017 and, with the exception of Safe Routes to School, all four projects in progress were also new in 2017.

**Master Plan – RFP Update:** Ms. Martin, Mr. Schmidt, and Mr. Creed have been meeting and continued work on the RFP for the Bike & Pedestrian Master Plan. Once complete, it will be reviewed by City Staff, emailed to the board and distributed. The Master Plan is expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

**2018 Goals & Projects:** Members were given a 2018 Projects/Goals “brainstorming” sheet, a previously prioritized list of projects with some cost estimates, a list of existing CIP projects with possible bike and pedestrian alignments and an email sent the prior day by Council Member Doug Smith sharing his bike and pedestrian related ideas (create a sidewalk grant program with priority for seniors, plan a pilot project for a mobility path on Crandall using temporary barriers, and recommending an increase in funding from Council from \$100,000 to \$400,000 per year). Mr. Hurley began the discussion by saying that recent feedback from some members had been that they were anxious to actually accomplish some projects. Keeping in mind that the board will be busy working on the Bike & Pedestrian Master Plan this year, he thought that among the documents there might be some “low hanging fruit” type projects that could be easily accomplished in conjunction with the Master Plan. There was much board discussion from various perspectives. Discussion included Council Member Smith’s recommendation to look at a pilot project on Crandall. Some felt that since he asked the board should tackle that project. Others felt that there wasn’t justification to pick a street without the criteria established by the Master Plan. How does the board prioritize a random neighborhood street over sidewalk gaps around elementary schools or senior facilities? There was also discussion around the controversy involved with sidewalk projects and a push to look at something more likely to be successful so that the board could give their full attention to the Master Plan. Both Council Member

Dorothy and Michael weighed in that they thought pilot projects were good ideas, and that the board can make recommendations to City Council on what typed of trial projects they'd like to see, and with consensus can certainly sway Council opinion, but that pursuing these projects would ultimately be a City Council decision. The board eventually came up with a list of six capital improvement projects and 10 non-capital projects/initiatives (included in the packet for these minutes) which they later prioritized via Survey Monkey with each board member asked to select their top 3 projects in each category.

Mrs. Lindholm and Mrs. Horton then shared that, with the blessing of the board, they would like to form a sub-committee to continue pursuing Safe Routes to School (SRTS) at the grassroots level with city elementary and middle schools. The basic idea is to attend PTA meetings and share who the board is, what SRTS is and how the board would like to support local efforts to embrace these initiatives. The hope is that these presentations will spark discussions at the parent level and move up through the administration. The board approved this idea.

**LimeBike Presentation:** Mr. Hurley gave a brief overview of LimeBike. Mr. Schmidt, who had attended a City presentation by LimeBike, shared that what really resonated with him was the newer technology and how well it seemed to work. Ms. Martin shared her concerns that without a docking station there would be both visual and physical clutter with incorrectly parked bikes. Mr. Rist asked if the city would receive a portion of the profit. Ms. Horton asked if helmets were provided and if the City took on any liability in the case of accidents. Mr. Schmidt wondered if there would be enough demand and Mr. Stephan would like to see a copy of the legal contract. Ms. Dorothy stated that she would like to see the City pilot a bike share program. Mr. Hurley said that he would send out an email with the LimeBike contract and website information, and would arrange for LimeBike to present directly to the board at a later date.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

## **Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Board 2018 Priority Projects and Initiatives**

### **Capital Related Projects**

- Sidewalk Connection Program  
Members would designate an amount of 2018 Bike and Ped funds to go towards sidewalk connections and would submit a list of prioritized connections that could be made during the City's annual street improvement program taking advantage of those advantageous unit prices. There could also be consideration of recommending this as an annually funded program.
- Olentangy Trail to Old Worthington Connection  
Consider improvements to access road running parallel along 161 from the Olentangy Trail up towards Old Worthington including the recommended way-finding signage from the recent EEDS group from OSU.
- 161 and Seabury Pedestrian Crossing  
Consider improvements for pedestrians crossing 161 from TWHS campus to Seabury.
- Worthington-Galena Road  
Evaluate and better define options for projects to improve bike and pedestrian access along Worthington-Galena Road from the end of the NE Gateway Project down to High Street. This could be smaller phases.
- Linworth Park Connections/Crossings  
Look at improvements to provide access to Linworth Park for residents on the east side of Linworth Road including neighborhoods off of Beechview Drive and Westbrook Court.
- Implement a Pilot Program  
Select a street or area of town to do a Pilot Program which would set criteria, collect data, ID potential projects and implement pilot project. Could be Crandall or another area.

### **Non-Capital Projects/Initiatives**

- Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan (already funded)  
Work with a consultant to create a Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan for Worthington.
- LimeBike or other Bike Sharing Pilot Program  
Select and implement a pilot program to introduce bike sharing to Worthington and to evaluate its effectiveness and need.
- Sidewalk Policy Update  
Review and make recommendations on updates to the City's sidewalk policies.
- Safe Routes to School  
Compile an educational kit of information, reach out to PTA's, encourage individual school planning and programming utilizing education and encouragement.
- Bike Racks at Public Facilities and Schools  
Develop policy and implementation plan for putting bike racks at public facilities and schools.
- Implement additional Special Event(s)  
In addition to the Bike Rodeo, implement another special event such as the Sunday Parkways idea that came from our sub-committee.
- Identify Funding Sources  
Dedicate time to further identify funding sources for bike and pedestrian projects including the review of City Council's funding allocation for Capital projects.

- **Olentangy Trail Etiquette/Education**  
Create and implement a program to educate Olentangy trail users on the appropriate trail rules and etiquette to share the trail with the multiple users.
- **Proprietor's Road Planning**  
Work with City staff to develop a vision for Proprietor's Road to aide with on-going redevelopment until the Master Plan can be adopted.
- **Trail Design for East Wilson Bridge Road**  
Assist and provide input into the design process for the East Wilson Bridge Road trail development project being funded by the City for 2018.