



WORTHINGTON BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD

Informal Minutes of the Monday, June 25, 2018 Meeting

(A Quorum of Members was not present so these minutes are informal and just a representation of the discussion at the meeting. No formal votes or action was taken.)

Members Present: The members present were Mike Bates, Ann Horton, Gary Schmidt and Kelly Whalen.

City Support Staff Darren Hurley (Parks & Recreation Director) and Celia Thornton were present along with Council Member Rachael Dorothy. Also in attendance was resident John Canty (445 Riley Ave.).

Approval for the minutes from the May 29, 2018 meeting was put on hold due to the lack of a quorum.

Visitor Comments: Mr. Canty reintroduced himself as a resident and cyclist who rides from Worthington to Westerville. He had previously brought to the board's attention the difficulty for cyclists finding their way from Westerville to Worthington (and vice versa), particularly focusing on signing a safe road connection between the Alum Creek and Olentangy Trail. After listening to the discussion at the previous month's meeting, he modified his route (to be consistent with emerging City plans) and passed out maps of his newly proposed route to board members. The new route takes cyclists west on Schrock, over the railroad tracks, turns left onto Proprietors, and then a right onto E. North Street. They should stay on North Street until a left turn onto Hartford Street, right onto W. New England and then follow the newly proposed residential route turning right onto N. Sinsbury Dr., a short right onto Farrington and finally a left onto the 161 access road (which will take them directly to the Olentangy Trail). He believes green bikeway signs would suffice. Mr. Hurley asked what Mr. Canty thought the signs should say. Mr. Canty thought they should indicate to Old Worthington and Olentangy Trail (and for the reverse, to Westerville and Alum Creek Trail). Mr. Bates asked that Ms. Thornton be sure to give this information to the Blue Zone consultant team. Mr. Hurley concluded the discussion by saying that staff would reach out to Westerville and put together information for the board to react to at a future meeting (sign options, verbiage and pricing).

LimeBike One Month Review: Mr. Hurley said that at the end of each calendar month, beginning with June, Lime will share a data report that he will send out to the board. In the meantime, he shared some data from a dashboard program that is still in development. From the launch (end of May) until June 25, some initial data includes:

- Number of Rides = 566
- Number of Riders = 403
- Total Miles Ridden = 810.3 miles
- Average Ride Length = 0.7 miles
- Average Length of Ride = 23 minutes

Mrs. Horton thinks Lime is a great, and fun, way to actively promote biking in the community. Ms. Thornton shared with the board that there is an assistance program for the financially disadvantaged. They do not have to have a smartphone to sign up for rides and do receive a discounted rate. Mr. Hurley also let the board know that LimeBike has officially changed their name to just Lime, since they have incorporated scooters into the program in some communities.

Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan Update: Blue Zone consultant, Tony Hull, was in Columbus from June 13-15 and met with the Master Plan Steering Committee, some key regional stakeholders (ODOT, MORPC, Franklin County Engineers) and did a five hour meeting and walking tour with City staff on Friday, June 15. Mr. Hull has encouraged the City to link the public engagement portion of the Master Plan with the Complete Streets development. The next step is to schedule the August meetings and special events. The consultants are currently planning on being in town Aug. 7-10, 2018. Ms. Thornton shared that an email sign-up for information on this process has been added to the City's website. Mr. Schmidt shared his concern that there isn't adequate time between the draft version of the Master Plan and the final version for public input on the specific plan. He's not sure that the general public engagement, prior to specific recommendations, is enough. Mr. Hurley promised to follow up with Blue Zone on this concern.

Trail Signage for OWP Project: Mr. Hurley shared maps and pictures of the route and proposed signage verbiage. Five signs would definitely be needed, with the possible addition of two more in the neighborhoods at the corners of Farrington and Sinsbury, and Sinsbury and W. New England. The first three signs would be on the Olentangy Trail and would conform to the Central Ohio Greenways sign design standards. The next two, along the 161 access road, would come from the new Worthington sign design guide. There was some discussion, including proper placement of the signs for bikers to be able to read and the OWP's concerns about confusion by signing two separate routes into downtown Worthington. No changes were recommended for the currently recommended approach.

Sidewalk Program Follow Up and Next Steps: Mr. Hurley reminded the board that at past meetings the Law Director had come to discuss sidewalk policy and that Engineering had also given them a map of missing sidewalk connections throughout the city and very rough estimates of the costs to fill the sidewalk gaps (map and costs were provided in board agenda packets). Mr. Hurley said that because we lacked a quorum the board couldn't make a decision tonight, but wanted to frame for the board that these sidewalk pieces can be dealt with separately and that if the board wants to move forward on filling the sidewalk connections they need to give it some thought and make a decision soon if they want to ask for any funding to be included in the 2019 Capital Improvement Project (CIP). Mr. Schmidt thinks that the two issues (policy and funding) have to be meshed together and would like the Blue Zone consultant's opinion. Mr. Bates expressed a different viewpoint. He also thinks the board should push making changes to policy,

but believes asking for funding and prioritizing sidewalk gaps for City Council, is something concrete that the board could start doing now, and the policy piece can be sorted out over a longer time period. There was some discussion around asking Council to set aside an amount each year, separate from the board's money, dedicated to closing sidewalk gaps. The amount that should be requested was also discussed and the criteria for prioritizing sidewalk gaps (SRTS, connectivity, safety). Mr. Schmidt asked Ms. Thornton to give this information to the Blue Zone team and to start gathering empirical data on the economic and other benefits of putting sidewalks into neighborhoods.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.