



WORTHINGTON BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the Monday, October 22, 2018 Meeting

Members Present: The members present were Mike Bates, Larry Creed, Ann Horton, Emma Lindholm, John Stephan, and Kelly Whalen.

City Support staff Darren Hurley (Parks & Recreation Director) and Celia Thornton were present. Also in attendance were residents Debbie Cameron and Bill McCarthy (266 East Dublin Granville Road) and City Council Member Rachael Dorothy.

Minutes from the September 24, 2018 meeting were approved by all in attendance (with the exception of Emma Lindholm who abstained), and with a small clarification by Kelly Whalen on one of his remarks.

CIP/Funding Request Status: Mr. Hurley overviewed the current proposed 2019-2023 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and City Council process for the visitor's sake. He also referred to the memo sent by the Bike & Pedestrian Advisory Board to City Council and the funding submittal sheet (included in packet). The city administration went through their internal process and funding in many areas was cut. Mr. Greeson asked for a meeting with Mr. Schmidt (board chair) and Mr. Bates (vice chair) for a discussion on why the requested funding was reduced (see notes on funding sheet). One of the reasons was that board bicycle and pedestrian recommended additions to the Northeast Gateway project are being funded separately in 2019. These improvements significantly increased the cost of the project, so though the board will only receive \$100,000 in 2019, much more than that will be spent on bike and pedestrian initiatives. Ms. Dorothy pushed back on that rationalization by pointing out that most of the cost increase comes from a change from one to two intersections and not from bike and pedestrian improvements. Mr. Hurley agreed to try and get more solid numbers for what amount is actually being spent on bike and pedestrian improvements for this project. He also gave a brief overview of how tax increment financing (TIF) works and explained that once we have a master plan in hand, it builds excitement and becomes easier to get projects funded (as has happened with the Parks Master Plan). Mr. Hurley then reviewed the city budget sheet which has been distributed to City Council and will likely be voted on at the December meeting. The board is certainly welcome to advocate with Council members to increase the amount between now and then. Mr. Bates stated that the notes do agree with what Mr. Greeson said in the meeting, but in his opinion it doesn't represent the intention of the ask and

TIF areas aren't where money is needed for sidewalk gaps, new traffic crossings, etc. Therefore, Mr. Bates intends to keep advocating for more money for advisory board projects. Mrs. Horton asked how likely it is that number three from the meeting with Mr. Greeson is to happen (that funding could be revised, possibly up, in the next few years)? Mr. Hurley says it happens, but also pointed out that many project costs were reduced across all departments, and many were pushed out into further years. The board had some discussion around the budget and the hope that in the future there will be a philosophic change on how bike and pedestrian projects are viewed and coded. The board would like the Bike and Pedestrian funding coding in the budget documents to change from E (Enhancement/Discretionary) to IBS (Improvement to Basic Services). Mr. Creed then brought up the point that in the memo the board said that fifty percent of the budgeted amount should go to sidewalks, which means that \$50,000 should be allotted to gap filling in the next few years. Mr. Hurley said that the board could walk that back if they chose since they didn't receive the amount of money requested. He also promised that if he learned in advance of specific dialog around the board's funding request occurring at Council, he would let the board know so they could attend.

Overview of Outstanding Citizen Suggestions and Concerns: Mr. Hurley said that this agenda item is really just questioning whether there is information staff or the board can/should be gathering to try and pursue outstanding citizen requests while waiting for the master plan to be completed. The citizen's requests include:

1. S.R. 161 road crossing east of downtown at Pingree (to East Granville Road Park)
2. Crossing Linworth Road from the east to Linworth Park
3. Linworth Road corridor
4. Worthington Galena Road

The board had some discussion but ultimately decided to wait and see what the master plan recommends in each of these areas. Mrs. Lindholm brought up that she thinks there are also issues crossing the road around Park Boulevard Park and at the intersection of Park Boulevard, Lake Ridge Drive, Colonial and Foster Avenue.

Updates:

1. Bike & Pedestrian Master Plan – Mr. Hull is still connecting regularly with MORPC on the City's Complete Streets project and is moving ahead on the master plan and seems happy with the responses he received online and the progress his team is making. Mr. Creed requested that when Mr. Hull visits in November that the board talk to him about financing possibilities. Mrs. Horton asked Mr. Hurley if the city had, or was considering, a Parks Foundation or City Foundation to help fund projects. She also mentioned that she was unhappy with the Anthem and Holiday Inn redevelopment projects. There is no sidewalk access from High Street to the new Anthem building, which is an example of redevelopment going backwards and removing, rather than adding, sidewalks. She would like Mr. Brown (Director of Planning & Development) to be invited to the January meeting for some discussion and education around these concerns.
2. 161 Access Road Project – Mr. Hurley said the project is moving along. The painted sharrows have been added on the road, but the thermoplastic road markings still need to be done. Signs are also in progress.

Mr. Bates asked when we would be discussing Lime since the trial would soon end. Mr. Hurley said that it would likely be on the November agenda. He said staff would frame options (based on what other communities had done) whether the City should consider making Lime permanent,

keep it as a trial, let other companies compete, etc. He indicated staff would put together a package of data and materials and that scooters would also need to be discussed.

Mr. Creed asked if it was possible to get a rundown of TIF funding projects currently in progress in Worthington.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.