



WORTHINGTON BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the Monday, August 24, 2020 Meeting

Note – This meeting was conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Members Present: The members present were Michael Bates, Katie Burkley, Rebecca Green, Ann Horton, Emma Lindholm, Jeannie Martin, Brian Meilton, Jordan Schweller, and Kelly Whalen.

City Support staff Darren Hurley (Parks & Recreation Director) was present with support from IT Staff Josh Wells.

Minutes from the July 27, 2020 meeting were approved by all in attendance.

Trail Tattooing Options: Mr. Whalen introduced the discussion and said that he was asking the board for consensus on the suggested tattoo locations and a motion for a recommendation for installation on the Olentangy Trail. He then asked Mr. Hurley to share what staff had discovered about cost, application process and suggested locations. Mr. Hurley reminded the board of the information Ms. Thornton had shared previously (Columbus locations and tattoo verbiage). The cost to the City would be minimal. The templates cost \$250 and city staff can install the verbiage initially with road paint. Then, if the board likes the impact, the messages can be redone in thermoplastic at some point in the future. Mr. Hurley shared the three proposed locations on a map (included in materials). Staff is recommending two locations with the option for a third, based on discussion from the previous meeting. Mr. Hurley reiterated that he would like board consensus on locations and a recommendation for staff to move ahead and paint the tattoos on the trail. After some discussion the board felt that more exposure was needed and recommended putting the verbiage in four locations rather than just the three suggested. The board would like the additional verbiage added on the hill ramp next to Galipault Field. The board also asked staff to research alternative paint options (a NACTO approved green was suggested) for better visibility. A motion was made and passed to paint the trail tattoos, using the Columbus verbiage, in the four locations along the Olentangy Trail discussed during the meeting.

Pilot Project Discussion: Mr. Whalen introduced the topic and opened it for general discussion. Mr. Hurley prefaced the discussion by saying that the city process for approval would depend on what type of project was chosen. Ms. Lindholm asked about the temporary chicanes in Colonial

Hills (she has not seen them installed yet) and wondered if there was a way to add to the chicanes and do a trial project at the Colonial Hills five-point intersection (stop signs, cross walks, etc.). She is also a proponent of the Sunday Greenways event as had been suggested by former board member, John Rist, but was concerned about the need for police support and the city's ability to pay for that. Ms. Martin expanded on her thoughts from a previous group email regarding a community biking and walking experience that could include some educational pieces along the route. She thinks this could be a good way to bring awareness to the board's masterplan and encourage the current trend of walking and biking on community streets. There were concerns about the city's ability to support walking and biking on the streets (road crossings, traffic direction, street closures). The board discussed potential event locations and how to prevent people from gathering, but rather keep them moving from one destination to another. They also looked at how comfortable families or children would be riding or crossing at various locations, and what destinations might be of interest. With the given timeline, the board decided to try and start with a small event this year with the intent of building on it in future years. A sub-committee made up of Ms. Martin, Mr. Bates and Mr. Whalen was formed. They will continue refining the plan and will bring it back to the September meeting for board approval.

Bike Boulevard Education Session Planning: Mr. Hurley reminded the board that they had previously discussed having speakers or presenters come to educate the board, as well as City Council and members of the public, on various pedestrian and biking topics. Due to currently limited funding, Ms. Thornton has been researching what free resources might be available. The board agreed to add bike boulevard education to the September agenda. Mr. Hurley pointed out that since the meeting will be virtual, it will be easier to invite City Council members and residents to attend or to watch the recording of the meeting later at their own convenience. Ms. Horton suggested that we introduce the session by referring to the master plan and its prevalence of bike boulevard projects as the reason for the education session.

Updates:

1. **COVID-19 Signage** – Mr. Hurley shared pictures and gave an update on the placement of eight signs along the Olentangy Trail that encourage the public to keep proper distance, carry a mask and stay vigilant (regarding technology distractions such as ear bud and cell phone usage).
2. **Trail Count Follow-Up** – Ms. Thornton had asked Mr. Hurley to remind the board that MORPC is looking for volunteers to assist with their fall trail counts. Board members who volunteer could bring information about how the program works back to the board. There was previous interest in pursuing additional bike and pedestrian counts at key locations in the City to gather baseline data for future projects.
3. **School Construction Update** – Mr. Hurley had spoken with Mr. Gehring (Director of Facility Management for Worthington Schools). The construction is moving ahead at all middle school locations this year. The board had previously advocated for bike and pedestrian access to be a factor in school design. Mr. Hurley asked board members to keep watching updates and to continue to personally advocate for this with school board members as information is given out to the public.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.