



WORTHINGTON BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the Monday, October 24, 2022, Meeting

Members Present: The members present were Mike Bates, Ann Horton, Brian Meilton, Jordan Schweller, and Kelly Whalen.

City staff members Darren Hurley (Parks & Recreation Director) and Celia Thornton (Parks & Recreation Project Supervisor) were present. Also present was resident Jill Dardig (Perry Highlands).

Minutes from the September 26, 2022, meeting were approved by all present.

Preparation for the November Project Prioritization Meeting: Mr. Hurley began by giving a funding status update (spreadsheet included in packets) so that board members were aware of where their Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding had been spent and what was left to put towards future projects. Due to some slow down during Covid, the board will have an estimated \$352,784 to utilize for 2023 projects. Mr. Bates asked if Toole Design would include cost estimates on the projects they are scoping for the board. Mr. Hurley said yes, though they would be general approximations. There was board discussion around reserving funds for bike boulevards and future project funding versus annual lump sums. Mr. Whalen asked what data the board would have to help with prioritization. Mr. Hurley answered that there would be Toole's scoping/cost estimates and possibly Mr. Moorehead's stealth stat information for bike boulevard routes. Mr. Bates then asked about including a column showing resident comments and see how that might line up with possible projects. Mr. Whalen wants to advance his ideas for trail courtesy along the Olentangy Trail and advocate for as a 2023 project. He promised to email out information about placement and types of signage. Ms. Horton requested that the board consider focusing on the trail along S.R. 161 in front of the High School, especially since renovation at the property will begin soon. Mr. Whalen reminded the group that Ms. DavisRoe had also wanted the board to look at filling in bike racks where needed on city property. Mr. Hurley said that if anyone else had new ideas or wanted to advocate to focus on different projects from the Master Plan, to email them to Ms. Thornton in the next few weeks.

Bike Boulevards: Mr. Hurley began by stating that along with Mr. Moorehead gathering data (speed and traffic volume) on Master Plan proposed Bike Boulevard routes, that Ms. Thornton had

done some research and asked her to speak. Ms. Thornton had reached out to both Westerville and Dublin and both cities are using the same sharrow markings (design included in packets) and that the markings come from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) This may match what Columbus is using, though there was some thought that Columbus' markings might be too large for Worthington streets. Westerville's Engineer (Jennifer Alford) has just left and taken another job, but Westerville shared that she felt very strongly that sharrows belong in the middle of the road, conveying that the biker has the right to take the entire road. Worthington's neighbors all seem to be using the same markings, which doesn't mean that Worthington can't decide to do something different, but that might create confusion for users. Ms. Thornton also found an interesting article from Yay Bikes on sharrows that she wanted to share with the board. It's an older article (2016) but shares different philosophies and the pros and cons of sharrows along with some safety data.

Sidewalk Gap Pilot Project: Mr. Hurley reminded the board how the sidewalk gap project began and recognized Ms. Dardig, who had been one of the residents to send a written request asking the board to consider these gaps. Mr. Hurley pulled up a Google map on a large screen to better identify each project location for board members. He reviewed the discussion that he and the City Engineer (Mr. Moorehead) had with residents and neighbors of each site (including questions about moving utility poles, hydrants, trees and driveway aprons). Two gaps are being filled- one on the west side of Hartford going north (at the corner of Stafford) and one on Morning Street across from Hartford Park. The contracts are being sent to the residents to sign. The work will most likely be completed in spring 2023. There were two more neighbors further north on Hartford who also may be interested in adding sidewalk. They are in ongoing discussions with the City and Mr. Moorehead has produced graphics and tried to alleviate their concerns.

Updates:

1. **Market Day Bike Corral** – Mr. Meilton introduced the update and referred to Mr. Iarocci's email overview. The corral was a partnership between Rebel Transportation, the Worthington Chamber and the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Board. He indicated the Chamber was extremely happy with the setup and service provided and is certain we will be asked to return for future events. While only 11 people utilized the corral, many people passing by were interested and asked about Bike & Pedestrian Board initiatives throughout the City. Mr. Whalen came to volunteer for the last hour and his experience was that it was easy to use and adds a lot of value even though underutilized at this event. Ms. Thornton agreed saying that this happened so last minute that there wasn't enough time to properly market the corral to potential users. Mr. Hurley said the challenge moving forward is how to make it part of the Chamber's event planning and noted that it would be a challenge for board members to fully volunteer and staff all of them. Hopefully it will eventually become part of the event planning and considerations just like vehicle parking options.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.