

**PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**City Hall**  
**4:00 PM October 4th, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm, by Denise Jeska

**1. ROLL CALL**

Denise Jeska	Chair, Disabled Community	present
Michael Fuller	Vice Chair, General Public	present
John Brunning	North Idaho Trail Foundation	present
Amy Evans	City Council Liaison	absent
Henry DePew	Alternative Student Representative	absent
Greyson Storey	Student Representative	present
David Passaro	Bicycling Community	present
Michael Light	Landscape Architect	absent
Michael Wood	North Idaho College	present
Brant Souvenir	General Public	present
Bill Irving	Environmental Community	present

City Staff Attending

Monte McCully	Trails Coordinator, Liaison
Michael Kempton	Lead Maintenance Worker, Records

Public Attending

none

**2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES – Action Item**

John Brunning made a motion to approve the May 2023, minutes, Mike Fuller seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, motion passed.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**5. STAFF REPORT**

Monte McCully reported that the Prairie Trail extension to Meyer Avenue has been completed. He added that striping of the crosswalk at Huetter Av. Is scheduled for next week and that the RFB (rapid flashing beacon will be installed at that location in the near future. He updated the committee on recently completed trail maintenance. Monte also explained that the contract to replace the mooring docks at McEuen Park had been approved by city council and should be completed by May of 2024. Finally, Monte explained that Michael Light was unable to attend todays meeting and that he would give a summary of the report Michael wrote during the sub-committee reports.

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- I-90 Project Letter

There was no new information on this item and discussion on it was tabled until the next committee meeting.

- Sidewalks Downtown (along Sherman Avenue)

A summary of the discussion about the lack of an accessible pathway along the downtown sidewalks at the last meeting was made. It was explained that due to sidewalk encroachments, additional amenities and enlarged tree wells that in some places there is inadequate width for the public with mobility limitations. It was suggested that committee members tour the areas in question and work on a list of specific recommendations to mitigate identified problem areas. Possible solutions were discussed including reducing the width of approved encroachments via changing the ordinance that allow these uses, modifying and relocating site amenities such as smaller and more numerous bike corrals so as to reduce the chaining of bicycles to trees and sign posts, reducing on street parking at pinch points and strictly enforcing the sign ordinance as it relates to portable signage. John Brunning asked if the department had plans to replace street trees that have failed this year. He was referred to contact the departments Urban Forester.

- Critical Corridors for Sidewalks/Sidewalk Mapping.

There was a brief discussion of planned improvements related to the rebuilding of 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

## 7. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS – Information Items

- Awareness/Advocacy/Education:

Michael Wood reported that the sub-committee is planning a meeting this month.

- Infrastructure:

Mike Fuller reported that they are working on the updated Master Plan and asked if there was a plan to install pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure along 15<sup>th</sup> Street. It was related that a previous plan included bike lanes a sidewalk on the west side of the road and a multi-use trail on the east side of the road, but that there is not a time frame for the project and that part of it is dependent on the Idaho Transportation Department's plans to expand I-90 and rebuild the 15<sup>th</sup> Street interchange. Mike Fuller also suggested that because they are so related that it may be beneficial for the Infrastructure sub-committee to merge with the Bikeways Master Plan sub-committee. David Passaro inquired about the recently added sidewalk along Marie Street. It was generally agreed that this sidewalk was added as a condition for a major remodel of the abutting property. A discussion on how to fill in gaps in the sidewalks especially on Mullan Street followed. It was agreed that having the city adopt the critical corridors modification to the sidewalk exemptions was key to starting the process of filling in the gaps in the sidewalk system.

- Bikeways Master Plan

Monte read the bullet points of the recommendations made at the sub-committee meeting. The document is attached to the minutes.

- Bike and Walk Week:

David Passaro said the sub committee planned to begin meeting again starting in January.

## **8. ROUND TABLE – Information Items:**

Denise Jeska spoke about the problems of speeding and running stop signs in residential neighborhoods, specifically at the intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Indiana Avenue. She expressed disappointment that her efforts to bring attention to this specific problem had not seemed to have any effect. Monte suggested that the committee recommend the installation of a flashing stop sign and crosswalk markings on Indiana Avenue. Bill Irving shared that he recently had a close call with a careless automobile driver while bicycling. Mike Fuller suggested that Denise reach out to her neighbors for support on increasing enforcement of traffic laws at the location in question.

Bill Irving spoke about the importance of planning in making cities more livable and combatting climate change. He explained the concept of a fifteen minute city where everyone lives within a fifteen minute walk of all the things they need for shopping, working and entertainment. John Brunning added some of the recent efforts by the Planning Department to promote this concept by encouraging neighborhood shopping nodes in residential areas.

David Passaro related a recent visit he made to the University of Utah in Salt Lake City and how impressed he was with the quality of the pavement markings for pedestrian and bike trail and how they appeared to reduce user conflicts and improved traffic flow. He specifically liked the two way traffic division and the separation of pedestrians and cyclists. He asked if the city would consider adding this type of traffic markings on the Centennial Trail through McEuen Park. Monte related that he had recently resigned the trail through City Park. He also suggested that the Infrastructure sub-committee present a proposal for a pilot project to Planning and Zoning. David concluded by relating the positive experience he had attending a regularly scheduled public dinner party at a private residence on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and how it has improved the sense of community in the area.

John Brunning reported that the Ales for the Trail event fell short of expectations due to falling on the same day as a major smoke event. He also informed the committee that the number of participants for the Tour d’Fondo was down this year.

Mike Wood inquired about bike markings on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Monte replied that he was disappointed that this project had not already been completed as it was planned as part of making this roadway into a bicycle boulevard. Mike also reported that the end of the bike lane on Coeur d’Alene Lake Drive is misleading as it directs riders to continue north bound instead of indicating the bike route turns left on Mullan Street.

Mike Fuller asked if any actions had been taken to address his concerns about the intersection of Academic Way and the Centennial Trail. A discussion followed on possible short and long term solutions. It was suggested that stop signs should be installed on Academic Way as soon as possible and that a plan to remove the berm that obstructs visibility should be made. It was also suggested that stop signs be installed on Suzanne Drive at the Centennial Trail intersection as was originally planned.

## 9. **NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> 4:00 PM, City Hall Conference Room 6.

Michael Wood made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bill Irving seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

## 10. **BIKEWAYS MASTER PLANSUB-COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Hi All, thanks for a great subcommittee meeting last week.

Please see below the assigned 'key steps' we discussed to achieve gold bike friendly status. Attached is the full detailed bike friendly report card for reference.

The bullet points below are my first thoughts on action items to achieve each key step. Please let me know of any edits or suggestions.

The League's website has a lot of great info. Definitely encourage everyone to roam the site as there are great resources specific to all our below key steps. <https://bikeleague.org/>

The League's website indicates that each successful application is a 4 year cycle. We received Silver in 2021, therefore we should target 2025 for our gold application.

### **Key Steps to Gold Status - Bicycle Friendly Community Report Card**

#### 1. Expand and improve low-stress on-road bike network **(MIKE L)**

- select and implement design guidelines (recommend we use [NACTO](#)) and follow a bicycle facility selection criteria (use our 2017 Bikeways Master Plan). Coordinate with the Education Subcommittee.
- build a protected bike lane pilot project (work with Chris Bosley on potential for Mullan Ave)
- identify gaps in existing bike networks and build selected new bike facilities to fill these gaps (coordinate w/ Infrastructure Subcommittee)
- add physical barriers to existing on-street non protected bike lanes (coordinate w/ Infrastructure Subcommittee)

#### 2. Take advantage of low-speed streets **(BILL)**

- identify streets for new bike boulevards and neighborhood greenways (use the 2017 Bikeways Master Plan maps as a guide, link here: [2017 Master Plan](#))
- install bike boulevard signage and road markings. (advise the City to secure funding for operations & maintenance)
- install diverters, wayfinding, chicanes and other treatments to reduce vehicle speeds on bike boulevards and increase bike safety. (advise the City to secure funding for operations & maintenance)

#### 3. Increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking **(MIKE L)**

- install bike racks at transit stops. (contact with the Transit Department)
- fill gaps by building new bike facilities connecting transit stops to existing bike facilities. (use the 2017 Bikeways map as a guide)

4. Expand and improve existing K-12 bike safety education **(MIKE W)**

- determine and implement methods for educating students
- appoint or hire a Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Coordinator

5. Increase the number of local League Cycling Instructors **(DENISE)**

- host an LCI seminar, info here: [LCI Seminar](#)
- Sponsor a City staffer or local bike advocate to attend a seminar elsewhere.
- deliver Bicycle Friendly Driver education to motorists (coordinate w/ Education Subcommittee)

6. Encourage local businesses to seek recognition through the Bicycle Friendly Business (BFB) program. **(MIKE W)**

- Info here: <https://bikeleague.org/bfa/business/>
- get businesses to sign up as a BFB
- install bike racks and/or bike repair stands outside businesses

7. Establish a dedicated annual budget for implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan **(MIKE L)**

- Work with Monte and Chris to advise the City on budget amount

8. Adopt a comprehensive road safety plan or a Vision Zero policy to identify specific strategies to reduce crashes. **(MIKE L)**

- Follow up with Chris on KMPO's grant application.
- Suggest having a member of the ped/bike committee to be a stakeholder if KMPO gets the grant.