

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
City Hall
4:00 PM November 6th, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by Denise Jeska

1. ROLL CALL

Denise Jeska	Chair, Disabled Community	Present
Michael Fuller	Vice Chair, General Public	Absent
Vacant	Bicycling Community	Vacant
Michael Wood	University of Idaho	Present
Michael Light	Landscape Architect	Present
Vacant	School District 271/SR2S Rep	Vacant
Vacant	Environmental/Retired Community	Vacant
John Brunning	North Idaho Trail Foundation	Present
Amy Evans	City Council Liaison	Absent
Brant Souvenir	General Public/Water Access	Present
David Passaro	Walking Community	Present
Allistare McIntyre	Student Representative	Present
Vacant	Alternate Student Representative	Vacant
9 Members	Quorum Obtained	7 Present

City Staff Attending

Monte McCully Trails Coordinator, Liaison

Public Attending

None

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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

John Bruning made a motion to approve the October 2024 minutes, Mike Light seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

5. STAFF REPORT

Monte McCully, Trails Coordinator, reported that Bill Irving resigned from the committee due to work obligations. The committee now has 9 members and will need 5 for a quorum each month.

He reported that the grant to finish the commuter trail has been submitted, as well as a grant to put interpretive signs at the Tubbs Hill museum entrance. After discussion about signage on Tubbs he told the committee that the Tubbs Hill Foundation is talking about changing their stance on signage on the hill. There are so many people on the hill now that it is being “loved to death”. More signage may be the way to keep people on the trails and off closed trails. Mike Light asked if a committee member should be going to Tubbs Hill meetings. Monte stated that Mike Fuller is a member and helps with volunteer projects. Mike L mentioned the trail at Corbin Point needs rehabbing and getting a sign plan in place. Mike said he would be willing to attend the next meeting to see if Ped/Bike and Tubbs Hill should be supporting each other more.

Dave Passaro asked about the memorial bench project. Monte told him it’s on hold right now until the Parks Foundation gets more help.

Monte told the committee about the upcoming projects he is trying to finish before the snow flies. He has 5 new signs to put up at the 5 entrances to Tubbs Hill, 2 kiosks that will have signs about storm water at the 12th street beach and at East Tubbs, and 3 new benches to install, including the memorial bench to honor the memory of Mark Jones, the volunteer who built the trail system on Fernan.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- **Sidewalk or Trail on Dalton – Monte**
 - Monte stated that he has received many calls over the years about the need for a sidewalk or trail on Dalton Avenue between Ramsey Road and HWY 95. There are currently no pedestrian facilities and many people and kids are walking in the grassy area to avoid getting hit by cars. He mentioned that it wasn't in the Master Plan, except as a bike lane, or in Priority Corridors (he looked it up after the meeting and found out that it IS in the Bikeways Master Plan as a paved trail and it is identified in the Priority Corridors list). Dave mentioned using the sidewalk funds to build it.

John Bruning made a motion to recommending City staff look into putting Dalton Avenue on a high priority list for sidewalks or a trail. Mike Light seconded. Motion passed.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Speed Limit Awareness Progress - Monte**
 - The committee talked about ways to increase public awareness of the speed issue on the trails. Mike Light and Monte will meet to start writing scripts to create short videos for social media. They also talked about more trail stencils and signs. Where the trail splits in City Park there should be stencils that point bikes around the park and peds along the seawall with the different speed limits. Monte mentioned a solar powered electronic reader board sign on either end of the waterfront corridor. Monte has fixing the signage and stencils on the seawall in his list of things to do.
- **Social Media Videos – Monte**
 - The committee discussed this during the speed limit awareness item.
- **Bike and Walk Friendly Apps – Mike Light**
 - Mike Light said he will be applying for an update to our Bike Friendly Community status in 2025. We are going for gold. He will need help from staff on some of the data. Monte said he and Chris Bosley would help him. He said Walk Friendly is temporarily on hold due to loss of funding.
- **Bike to Work Week – Dave and Woody**
 - Dave is back and he and Woody are planning Bike to Work Week festivities for May 2025. Woody is looking for sponsors so he can raise 4k to fund t-shirts, posters, and food/entertainment for the kickoff and closing events. He is applying for a grant through the Panhandle Kiwanis. Dave asked about using a non-profit for grant purposes and for sponsors. Monte will look into using the Parks Foundation as a 501c3 for monies coming in and out. Woody would like to get the Cityfit committee to get involved in Bike to Work Week. Monte said they did in the past when we did the Corporate Challenge. He will talk to Sue Morgan about getting involved. Woody asked if they had a budget to participate and Monte stated they didn't.

- **5-Year Sidewalk Plan – Dave**

- Dave discussed how he had originally discovered the funding for the City's 5-year sidewalk plan was not being utilized. Monte explained that it was lost when one director retired, and another started. Plus, the City was having trouble getting a sidewalk crew at the time. They should be back on track. Dave said they weren't back on track, because he saw that none of the goals were met when the plan ended this year. He questioned if the City has a feedback system for the City Council to find out which funded projects were actually built and which weren't. He thought the Ped/Bike committee should be the watchdogs for things like this. Monte said they could check in with the Street Department on a yearly basis to find out what the sidewalk projects will be for the year and if money can be aimed at priority corridor areas. The committee then discussed funding for priority corridors. Grants and sidewalk funds were mentioned as well as new development and remodels. Dave talked about how \$30,000 is too low a trigger point for residents to be required to build a new sidewalk. If a new sidewalk costs several thousand dollars, a basement flood could trigger a new sidewalk and cost 25% of the remodel. Monte said the City is looking into raising that point. He mentioned it being frustrating though, when multi-million-dollar projects use the exemption loophole to avoid building sidewalks. Growth should pay for growth, and he would like to see developers, major remodels, grants, CBDG and sidewalk funds pay for the priority corridor projects, not people struggling to get by.

8. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS – Information Items

- Awareness/Advocacy/Education:
 - Did not meet.
- Infrastructure:
 - Did not meet.
- Bikeways Master Plan:
 - Did not meet.
- Bike and Walk Week:
 - They did meet and we already discussed it earlier in the meeting.

9. ROUND TABLE – Information Items:

Denise Jeska: Spoke about the committee chairs meeting. She couldn't make it so John went.

Alistair: Nothing

Amy Evans: Absent.

David Passaro: He spoke about people walking dogs on Sanders Beach and how maybe the City should look into making a change to the No Dogs on Beaches ordinance to allow them on beaches during the winter when the water levels are low and people aren't laying out in the sun. Monte thought that could be confusing and create more offenders, but Mike Light mentioned other cities have successfully implemented similar ordinances, such as speed limit changes around playgrounds during daylight hours and nighttime hours. Monte said they would need to engage the public to see if other people want to see this kind of change and then bring it to staff and City Council. He also asked if the mayor would ride with us on Bike to Work Week.

John Bruning: John spoke about the Committee Chairs meeting. They discussed sidewalk issues and the upcoming changes to CDA Lake Drive. He said bids were out for the

Government Way signal project to improve timing. He discussed the new crossing light at Trader Joe's. They also discussed speed issues on the Centennial Trail. He said the foundation is getting the Coeur d' Fondo back in 2025. They have a good candidate who is interested in managing it. It's a bike race around the lake.

Mayor Woody: He spoke about how interesting it was to see these issues from the ground level. As a council member, he always saw things from the 30,000 foot view. He said he appreciated all we do here and said we should bring some of these stories to the council: things like e-bike stats and sidewalk needs. Come and tell it like a story. One of his goals is to create a more fascinating narrative to get more people excited about all the City works on. What we do, how we do it, why we do it. Let people know we are out there. Make it a story that people can get sucked into. People getting hurt on e-bikes, people wanting to walk dogs on beaches, conflicts between walkers and cyclers on the seawall...that sort of thing. Show them our passion for these things. Denise said she got on the committee so she could help improve accessibility for people in wheelchairs. They then discussed future plans for ADA audits downtown.

Brandt Souvenir: Nothing.

Monte McCully: Nothing.

Michael Light: Nothing.

Michael Wood: Nothing.

Michael Fuller: Absent.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Light seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, the meeting adjourned at 5:22 pm.

10. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, December 4th 4:00 PM, City Hall Conference Room 6.