

## **City Of Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee 2012 Annual Report**

### **Introduction**

The City of Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee was created out of a recommendation in the City Non-Motorized Plan and serves under the City Of Ypsilanti Planning Commission. The Committee was created in September 2010.

The Statement of Purpose of the Committee is as follows... “The City of Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee, working through the Planning Commission, will work to enact recommendations of the City of Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Plan so as to offer residents increased non-motorized transportation and recreation options as well as having the Plan creating economic and quality of life incentives to the City”.

### **Operations**

The Committee met every month of 2012 on the first Thursday of the month with the exception being no July meeting due to conflicts with the Independence Day holiday.

Current members of the Committee are as follows...

- Adam Gainsley (Washtenaw Bicycling & Walking Coalition) – Term expires January 2014
- Kevin Hill (Downtown Development Association) – Term expires January 2014 – Note: Alternative DDA NMAC liaison is DDA Director Tim Colbeck
- Rod Johnson (Chairman – City of Ypsilanti Planning Commission) – Term expires January 2014
- Laura Shiltz – Term expires January 2014
- Bob Krzewinski (City of Ypsilanti Recreation Commission) – Term expires January 2015
- Richard Murphy (City of Ypsilanti Planning Commission) – Term expires January 2015
- Cheryl Weber (Full Circle Community Center) – Term expires January 2015

### **Non-Motorized Advisory Committee 2012 Actions**

During 2012 the Committee actively worked to complete many of the goals of the Non-Motorized Plan, as listed below.

- Public Input – The Committee’s meetings always start with a public input session on the City’s Non-Motorized Plan and the work of the Committee.
- Publicity – Committee meetings are publicized through an official City notice through the City Clerks office as well as announcements over the Committee’s Facebook page as well as through other email/Facebook pages (i.e. Bike Ypsi, Ypsilanti Health Coalition, etc.)
- City Web Page – In 2012 the Committee started transferring data to it’s new City webpage including all previous meeting minutes and agendas.
- Bicycle Parking – The Committee worked with the City Planning Department over 2012 to list additional locations where additional bicycle parking loops could be placed in the City. These additional locations were then forwarded to the Downtown Development Agency for possible funding.
- Complete Streets – 2011 saw the first major result of the City’s Complete Streets ordinance with the rebuilding of West Cross Street which now has bicycle lanes and pedestrians improvement. The Committee also gave Complete Streets input to the City on the major street project of 2013, the repaving of Grove Road south of the I-94 overpass.
- Bicycling/Walking Safety & Outreach – In 2012 the Committee had a bicycling/walking information table at the Bike Ypsi Spring Ride (May) Eastern Michigan University Student Center (September), the annual downtown Halloween festival and gave winter bicycling talks at Ypsilanti Cycle (January 2012) and the downtown library (November).

- Border To Border Trail Completion - The Committee supported the City's Michigan Natural Resources Land Trust Grant application for a permanent Border To Border Trail segment from Michigan Avenue south to Grove Road.
- Crossing of the Huron River from the Water Street development area to Riverside Park - Committee members are also involved in a continuing set of meetings (which began in December 2011) between the City Planning Department and the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission staff to implement the plan for the Water Street to Riverside Park Border To Border Trail bridge.
- Ypsilanti Bike-Bus-Walk Week (May 13-19) - The Committee coordinated Bike-Bus-Walk week to encourage people to try alternative transportation once during the week in hope that it would become a year-round habit. Activities during BBW week included a bicycling safety talk at the downtown library by Bike Ypsi, Bike-To-Work Day in Ypsilanti on May 18th (part of a nationwide event that day), a "Ghost Bikes" display of all white bikes commemorating cyclists hurt or killed and urging all parties to share the road safely, AATA bus pass give-aways at the downtown library, a joint Ypsi-Ann Arbor "Ride Of Silence" to commemorate cyclists hurt or killed (with an overall message urging all parties to share the road) and a Saturday morning Bike Ypsi bicycle ride.
- Bike Friendly Community - The Committee is continuing work on a League of American Bicyclists "Bike Friendly Community" application.
- Underground Railroad Bicycle Tour Route - The Committee sent out press releases promoting the non-profit Adventure Cycling Association Underground Railroad bicycle route, which starts in Alabama, goes through Ypsilanti and ends at Owen Sound, Ontario.
- Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition - The Committee continues to work with this county-wide advocacy group and had WBWC Board member Larry Deck give the Committee an update at it's April meeting.
- Huron/Hamilton Road Diets - The Committee has been working with the City Planning Department on potential road "diets" for Huron and Hamilton Streets. The Michigan State Police/Michigan Department of Transportation recently raised speed limits on these two roads, and a road diet would seek to slow traffic speeds with a combination of lane reductions, on street parking, pedestrian bump-outs and bicycle lanes.
- Forest Avenue Bike Lanes - An informal study was done over the summer on creating bike lanes on Forest Avenue between Prospect Road and River Streets mainly consisting of counting cars parked in along that segment over a two-week period.