

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 16, 2022

1. Call to order - The meeting was brought to order at 7:08pm at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Mike Davis Jr., Renee Echols, Dylan Goings, Jenny Rose Ryan and Bob Krzewinski (quorum met).
2. Introductions - Audience participation - Public input - None
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval - Offered By: Committee member Echols; Seconded by; Committee Member Goings. Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0.
 - b. Approval of May meeting minutes - Offered By: Committee member Davis; Seconded by; Committee Member Goings. Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0.
 - c. Proposed change to Committee bylaws – Discussed.
 - d. New Committee member recruitment – Discussed.
 - e. Other - None
4. Old & continuing business
 - a. 2022 Committee priorities
 1. City Non-Motorized Plan
 - Vision Zero ordinance (City taking action to have zero-related traffic fatalities by a set date): Recommend Subcommittee be established to explore steps of action including assessment and implementation plan. – The July meeting will be considered a working session on implementing a Vision Zero plan for Ypsilanti. It was also decided to hold the meeting on Tuesday, July 19th at the downtown Library.
 - Improved pedestrian signals & crosswalk ordinance - Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS) at Lowell and Jarvis intersection. In response to a request from the Committee to the City Public Services Department asking for an APS at Lowell/Jarvas, Public Services Director Ron Akers stated *“We are currently still getting cost estimates for the equipment and developing a strategy for the installation of these crossing. We are trying to determine if this is something we will install internally or contract out. The ultimate goal is that if this is cost feasible we may be able to plan for the transition in several areas in the city, but there is still much work to do in order to accomplish this. I will provide more information when we have it”*.
 - Traffic calming and slowing motor vehicle traffic – No new news.
 - Shifting modes of transportation more towards walking/bicycling – No new news.
 2. Pedestrian Improvements – Signage, road markings, permanent radar speed signs at select locations, Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon’s, traffic calming, ordinance review. Concentrate on where most pedestrian activity occurs. – No new news.
 3. Bicyclist Improvements – Additional bike lanes, safety signage, road markings, protected bike lanes, sharrows – On the newly repainted West Cross Street (Huron to Water Tower), bike barriers could not be included do to AAATA (“The Ride”) busses having to use the bike lane spaces for entering and leaving a designated stop.
 4. Communication & Education
 - Invite Mayor, City Council, Planning/Sustainability Commission members, City Manager, Police Chief, Public Services Director to Committee meetings.
 - Publish quarterly Non-Motorized Committee newsletter: Update should be ready for July.
 - Review City Council, Planning Commission, Sustainability Commission agendas for possible Committee input at their meetings.
 - Spring bicycle safety education program for both motorists and bicyclists: Committee will promote over the summer “Give Them Room – It’s The Law” (requiring a motorist passing a bicyclist by at least three feet).

- Sidewalk/Curb Cut vegetation (summer) snow removal (winter) promotion by Committee – Committee will send out reminder to City neighborhood groups on Facebook/Nextdoor to trim back vegetation to keep sidewalks open as required by City ordinances.
- Amplify public notice of Commission/City Council projects that impact non-motorized activities

5. Non-Motorized City budget – Determine yearly, non-motorized project funding amount available. Committee involvement in CIP review and non-motorized project funding disbursement decisions.

6. Neighborhood Connectors - Low-speed streets "optimized" for bicycle & walking traffic: Update given by Committee member Davis. .

7. Border To Border (B2B) Trail gap completion and enhancement: Grove Road bridge curb safety improvements: In response to a request from the Committee to the City Public Services Department asking for improvements to make an unmarked 8-inch drop on the B2B crossing of I-94 at Grove Road, Public Services Director Ron Akers replied that his Department is actively working on this with the current plan is to paint the curb and install six (6) additional delineators evenly spaced across the bridge on the curb. They are anticipating this work to be completed sometime in the next 30-45 days weather permitting.

8. Bike & Walk Friendly Communities

- Walk Friendly Community application results – In early June the City of Ypsilanti learned that it had been awarded a Silver-level Walk Friendly Community status. A press release was reviewed for a June 21st publication and also discussed was placing Walk Friendly Community Award signs at entranceway routes into the City, possible working with the Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition.
- Bike Friendly Community (BFC) – Review, and act on, suggested improvements. Work towards next layer of award (i.e. go from Bronze to Silver): Review suggested improvements from [BFC "report card"](#)
- Bike Friendly Business program drive – No new updates.

9. Events & Community Outreach - organized walks, cold weather cycling talks, EMU Bike Rodeo, Parkridge Festival, Fall "Be Seen" campaign (cyclists and pedestrians wearing reflective clothing), Halloween safe trick-or-treating:

- Reports - Bike Ypsi Ride of Silence 5/18 cancelled due to rain. Bike To Work Day commuter station set up at Library Plaza Park by Committee from 7am to 9am.
- Upcoming - Jazz In The Parking Lot (July 22, 6pm-9pm) bike/walk information table and encourage people to walk/bike to event. EMU Bike Rodeo (August 6, 9am-12pm), EMU Convocation Center). Parkridge Festival (August 27, 12pm-2:30pm), Committee will have information table.

10. Safe Routes To School – No new updates.

5. New Business

- a. NMAC project research requests of City staff – At the May meeting the process of the Non-Motorized Advisory Committee requesting safety issues being looked into. The process agreed to was the Committee would send a request for research to the City Public Services Director, the Chair of the Planning Commission, the Public Works Project Manager and the City Planner.
- b. City Planning Department and Public Services Department updates – No new updates at meeting.
- c. League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly America Community Workshop – The City was going to request a workshop be held in Ypsilanti but problems arose and no application was filed.

6. Other Items – None.

7. Next meeting –The next meeting would be held on Tuesday, July 19th, 7pm, at the downtown Library and focus on a City Vision Zero campaign.
8. Adjournment - Offered By: Committee member Goings; Seconded by: Committee Member Ryan:
Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm