



MINUTES

MANHATTAN BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Manhattan Traffic Operations Facility Conference Room
515 11th Street, Manhattan, KS 66502
July 18th, 2014

Members Present: Joe Edmunds, Michael Wesch, Brian Hardeman, Dave Colburn, David Schafer & Jeff Koenig

Members Absent: Seth Scobee & Katy Oestman

Staff Present: Peter Clark, Traffic Engineer; Joey Lightner, Bicycle Coordinator; Lance Evans, Long Range Planner; Jared Tremblay, GIS Analyst; Wyatt Thompson, Park Planner

Public Attendance: 4

M. Wesch called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Approval of Minutes:

J. Edmunds moved to approve the June 2014 minutes. D. Colburn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

P. Clark reported on the Flint Hills MPO's activities to count bikes and pedestrians. Currently, locations are being assessed to determine peak hours. P. Clark also reported that additional signs will be placed on the contra-flow lane to inform citizens of the lane. The Transportation Alternative Grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation funded a multi-use path along Knox Lane. This has been a needed connection to the community for over 20 years. Planning will begin this fall with construction planned to begin in the summer of 2014.

Bicycling in Cemeteries

W. Thompson raised concerns about biking through city cemeteries and having designated bike paths through cemeteries. He presented the current city ordinance that states bikes should not be ridden in cemeteries unless going to a formal event. M. Wesch reported that the connection through the cemetery is adequate for families taking their children to school. J. Lightner suggested improvements to the Wildcat Linear Park trail that runs behind the cemetery. P. Clark suggested exploring options to improve the trail to facilitate

traffic flow to the west side of City Cemetery. B. Hardeman suggested that this bring up the larger topic of how we as a community want to and should use cemeteries in the city.

Bike Safety

City staff presented concerns that they have heard about education for bicyclists in regard to safety. P. Clark stated that there is no organization or person responsible in the city to facilitate bike safety programs. Such programs require resources that are not present in any department. He reminded the room at that the Bicycle Advisory Board is an advisory board to the city commissioners and are not responsible for developing and running programs. The need for education within Manhattan is apparent and funds should be made available for a full-time person to accomplish such goals. M. Wesch suggested that bike maps and rules of the road programs do educate the public. P. Clark reported that accidents and fatalities involving bicyclists are low in Manhattan, lower than any comparable cities in Kansas. D. Schafer suggested educating motorists in an attempt to educate all people, as bicyclists often drive as well. City staff will meet to discuss this topic more.

Wildcat Creek Bridge

P. Clark reported that KDOT is currently designing the bridge on Fort Riley Blvd that will cross Wildcat Creek. He suggested that funding for bike and pedestrian amenities is limited and that representatives from KDOT would like to put a 10 foot sidewalk instead of a 14 foot multiuse path on the bridge. The committee discussed and recommended to city staff that a 10 foot sidewalk would be sufficient for that bridge.

KDOT Secretary King's Visit

P. Clark reported that Kansas Department of Transportation Secretary King will visit Manhattan on August 6th at 6pm to discuss biking in the area. Specifically, bike safety on state highways will be discussed. All are invited to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 am.

Next Meeting: August 15th, 2014.