



MINUTES
MANHATTAN BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
City Commission Room Room
1101 Poyntz Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502
January 16, 2015

Members Present: Joe Edmunds, Seth Scobee, Michael Wesch, Brian Hardeman, Katy Oestman, & Jeff Koenig

Members Absent: Cydney Alexis, David Schafer, & Dave Colburn

Staff Present: Joey Lightner, Bicycle Coordinator; Lance Evans, Long Range Planner; Jared Tremblay, GIS Analyst; Jay Guarneri, GIS Technician; Benjamin Chemile, Long Range Planner; Peter Clark, Civil Design and Traffic Engineer;

Public Attendance: 1

M. Wesch called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

Approval of Minutes:

S. Scobee moved to approve the December 2014 minutes. J. Edmunds seconded. Motion passed unanimously, J. Koenig absent.

Flint Hills MPO Long-Range Transportation Plan

Tom Huber from Toole Design Group presented on the long-range vision of bike transportation from a regional perspective and requested feedback on his work. The committee agreed with most of the finding that T. Huber presented. P. Clark requested that the recommendations in the FHMPO Long-Range Plan be similar to those in the Manhattan Area Transportation Strategy. T. Huber will send staff and updated map by January 19th, 2015 and work with the consultant from the MATS.

Staff Reports

P. Clark reported on several projects related to biking in Manhattan. First, he reminded the committee of the North Manhattan Avenue road closure and that the multi-use path will remain open during construction. He stated that, due to KDOT budget cuts, some transportation grants will be affected. However, it is unlikely that the transportation alternative grants that were received to build a path on Knox Lane and the historic preservation of Juliette Street will be affected. P. Clark requested feedback on the multi-use path

width on the Wildcat Creek Bridge that is currently under design with KDOT. The committee recommended that a 10' path would serve the needs of most bicyclists for the near future.

MATS Update and Feedback

M. Wesch presented on the MATS update. He stated that the current draft of the document is much better than previous drafts. The new draft outlines projects through 2025 that should be considered. P. Clark highlighted the differences between the MATS and the FHMPPO Long-Range Transportation Plan. P. Clark was also concerned that the pedestrian connectivity index was not as well developed or that goals were not highlighted enough. The final date to provide feedback on the MATS is January 29th, 2015.

Ninth Grade Center Update

P. Clark stated that there have been some issues associated with gaining an easement through the Ninth Grade Center to build a multi-use path. This project has been funded by the Kansas Health Foundation Healthy Community Initiative. P. Clark will attend the School Board Meeting on January 21st, 2015 to answer any questions that the school board representatives might have.

2015 CIP Requests

The committee discussed the implication of future budget cycles. Specifically, they discussed what projects needed to be requested in 2015. M. Wesch stated that it would make the most sense to use the implementation list from the MATS to guide our future decision making. Staff will prepare a list of projects, ranked by priority to the committee by the next meeting.

Safe Routes to School Update

Staff has been working to finalize the draft of the SRTS plan. It will be send to stakeholders by February 1st, 2015 and all public comments will need to be received by March 1st, 2015 in order to apply for Phase 2 funding.

Committee Name Change

One of the first action items in the MATS is to change the committee to reflect the importance of pedestrians, as well as bikes, in the transportation planning in the city. This process must go through City Commission. Staff will draft a resolution and meet with the City Manager's Office to start the process.

Sharrow Placement

Over the past two year, there has been feedback on sharrow placement on bike boulevards. To reduce costs, sharrows have been placed one per block and to the right of the road to prevent damage from snow plows. P. Clark requested that the committee give staff direction on how they would like to proceed in the future. The committee agreed that the MUTCD should be followed in most circumstances. However, modifications can be made when appropriate.

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 am.

Next Meeting: February 20, 2015.