

MINUTES
Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee
City Commission Room
1101 Poyntz Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502
December 16, 2016

Members Present: Paul Benne, Brent Chamberlain, Jonathan Eden, Jessica Fiscus, Brian Hardeman, Adam Inman, Jared Tremblay

Members Absent: Dave Colburn, Joe Edmunds, Karen Hawes, Seth Scobee

Staff Present: John Adam, Senior Long-Range Planner; Brett Bolf, Intern Park Planner; Chad Bunger, Senior Current Planner; Ben Chmiel, Long-Range Planner; Jay Guarneri, Infrastructure Analyst and Staff Liaison; Brian Johnson, City Engineer; Emma Rearick, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator; Wyatt Thompson, Senior Park Planner

Public Attendance: 0

B. Hardeman called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

B. Chamberlain moved to approve the November 2016 minutes, A. Inman seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

J. Guarneri reported on the following:

- A traffic engineer, Mark Lee, has been hired and will begin in January.
- A new committee member, Karen Hawes, has replaced Jeff Koenig.
- J. Fiscus has accepted a new position and will be leaving the committee. The Riley County Health Department will nominate her replacement.
- The City is soliciting citizen requests for the 2018-2023 Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The application is available online: <http://cityofmhc.com/792/Citizen-CIP-Requests>
- Design has started on the McCall Crossing project.
- New parking blocks have arrived for the Aggieville contraflow bike lane and will be installed in the near future. These blocks are taller and should prevent cars from parking in the bike lane.
- Bike Route signs have been ordered and will be installed in 2017.
- The Safe Routes to School projects that were funded with the KDOT Transportation Alternatives grant are scheduled for a July 2017 bid letting.
- City Staff plans to collect more feedback forms from the Bluemont School neighborhood regarding their traffic concerns. Flashing school zone signs have been ordered for Juliette.

Public Comments

No one spoke.

Trailhead Signage

W. Thompson began by sharing that the final trail system evaluation report is now available online at <http://mhkprd.com/trails> . The report indicates that the public would like more information about trail locations, and new trailhead signage would help increase trail visibility.

B. Bolf presented two proposed trailhead design options. J. Tremblay and A. Inman stated that they preferred option A. B. Hardeman asked about an implementation timeline. W. Thompson shared that the plan is to reuse the existing metal sign frames which will make the project more affordable. The materials and modularity are still to be determined. B. Hardeman mentioned P. Benne's concern that the signs say "no motorized vehicles," which might lead people to believe the motorized wheelchairs are not allowed on the trail. He suggested designating the trail as accessible on the new signs or on maps.

B. Bolf added that the plan is to use three (3) levels of signs around town, with varying sizes and types of information. The committee then spent some time discussing general map and trail guide design strategies.

Corridor Constraints

J. Tremblay asked for feedback on a document created by the consultants working on the Multimodal Integration Plan. He specifically asked for feedback on what types of infrastructure committee members would like to eventually see on Stagg Hill Rd, South Manhattan Ave, and Sunset Ave. B. Chamberlain questioned whether projects on the outskirts of town should be prioritized and committee members spent some time discussing overall priorities. B. Hardeman noted that he would like to see uphill bike lanes on Stagg Hill Rd and pedestrian amenities.

Strategic Plan 2018 CIP Projects

J. Guarneri presented revised project lists for 2017 and 2018 based on the 5-year strategic plan and asked for feedback. He noted that the projects listed would be covered by the Bike Boulevard annual budget, and all projects except two (2) had been on the previous list. B. Hardeman said that it might be time to revisit and evaluate the overall Bike Boulevard strategy. E. Rearick explained that the boulevards included on the list were some of the last ones on the 5-year strategic plan. J. Guarneri added that the goal is to start using the annual budget for larger projects.

J. Guarneri then asked the committee to consider four (4) projects that might be appropriate to submit for the CIP as Citizen/Committee Requests:

1. Eliminate the Fort Riley Boulevard sidewalk gap on the North side between 17th Street and Westwood Rd
2. Eliminate the Scenic Drive sidewalk gap on the East side between Miller Parkway and Highland Ridge Dr

3. Continue the multi-use path on the East side of Candlewood from Gary Ave to Kimball Ave
4. Build a pedestrian bridge along the West side of Casement Rd, across the drainage ditch to the North of Brookmont Drive.

C. Bunger noted that people often walk from Allison Ave along Fort Riley Boulevard towards 17th Street. He added that Community Development Block Grant funds are not an option for this project because they will not pay for improvements West of 17th Street. Committee members were overall supportive of addressing the Fort Riley Boulevard sidewalk gap.

J. Tremblay shared that he would prefer the first two projects over adding a trail to Candlewood because they would be adding infrastructure where there are currently no other options. Other committee members agreed that Candlewood is easy enough to bike on in its current state.

B. Hardeman said he originally wanted bike lanes on Casement, but now thinks a multi-use path would better help kids travel to school.

J. Tremblay added a brief update on the proposed school-wide bicycle education program. He has met with officials from USD 383, the Flint Hills Wellness Coalition, and the Pathfinder, and feels optimistic that a program will be in place by August.

B. Hardeman adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Next Meeting: January 20, 2016