

Minutes

Friday, 20 November 2020

4:30 p.m.

Virtual meeting location

1. MEETING OPENING

1.1. Hardeman called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.

1.2. Roll Call

Present: Annie Cook, Joseph Edmunds, Brian Hardeman, Seth Scobee, Chris Spooner, Jared Tremblay (non-voting)

Absent: Nancy Baker, David Colburn, Kevin Fateley, Ed Kalas, Carol Sevin

Staff: Alfonso Leyva, Parks Planner; Jared Wasinger, Assistant to the City Manager; Ben Chmiel, Planner III; John Adam, Senior Planner; Tyler Tripp, Bike/Ped Coordinator

Public: 3

1.3. **Minutes of 10/16/2020 meeting.** Edmunds moved to approve the minutes; Cook seconded. Motion passed 5–0–0.

1.4. **Public Comments:** None.

2. REPORTS & UPDATES

2.1. **Parks & Recreation:** The Hayes Drive trail project is in the surveying stage.

A new potential project that has been gaining traction is the providing new concrete trails in Anneberg Park since several sections of the trails were torn up by the flood in 2018. With the addition of a parking lot, there is an opportunity to also revamp the trails.

There has been a lot of recent feedback on Facebook about a homeless camp on the river trails in Manhattan. There have been requests to clear honeysuckle in the area. Ideas were presented by Hardeman and Tremblay that community cleanup could be an option rather than the City cleaning the area.

2.2. **Community Development:** A Transportation Alternatives (TA) grant request has been submitted to do engineering work for an updates Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plan.

2.3. **Public Works:** None.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- 3.1. **Goals: Prioritization and Accomplishment:** There was nothing specific that needed to be discussed for this agenda item, but later agenda items relate to the earlier established [goals](#).

4. NEW BUSINESS

- 4.1. **North Manhattan Cycle Track:** Wasinger said that the City contracted Olsson Associates to do 30% design for a cycle track (two-way bike lane) on the west side of North Manhattan Avenue. More information and presentations will come to discuss design, costs, and so forth.
- 4.2. **Link Scooter Update:** Link staff presented an update about the deployment and usage of Link scooters. Link scaled up from 150 scooters to 400 scooters deployed in Manhattan within two weeks. They scaled up to 500 scooters by September 15th. In the first month there were over 30,000 rides, and 5,072 sign ups through their app. Areas that are prioritized for deployment are the K-State campus, Aggieville, and Downtown. Geofencing has been updated around the K-State campus and slowed speeds are still maintained in Aggieville and Downtown. There is now a selection in the Report It app to report misplaced e-scooters that will notify Link staff that they need to be moved. The scooters are sanitized when they are picked up for recharging, and staff's temperatures are checked before they go to work to reduce possibility of COVID-19 transmission. Link has partnered with Green Apple Bikes to relocate bikes that are not in Green Apple Bike racks or street corners.

There was some concern from members of BPAC about the potential of intoxicated people riding the scooters later at night. Tremblay said that's not as big a problem as mixing intoxication with cars. Link staff said that the plan is to incrementally allow ridership later into the night while identifying if such problems arise. Cook inquired whether speeds could be reduced at later hours. There is not currently a method to reduce speeds at certain times of day, but it is a possibility for the future. There is also the potential of being able to lock users out in the future if they misuse the scooters.

Tripp inquired about the availability of data about ridership trends of Link scooters. Most data are not actively available to the public, but the City gets data reported from Link and live data may be available to the City in the future. This type of data can be used to determine the need to prioritize certain bike/ped projects.

- 4.3. **Humboldt Street Bike Boulevard:** Tremblay presented [potential updates/upgrades to Humboldt street](#) that would make it substantially safer for cyclists and turn it in to a bicycle boulevard. There are possibilities for potential installations to test the effects of various traffic calming measures before permanent installation. Hardeman suggested changing the programming of the lights on Poyntz Avenue so that people do not feel the need to use Humboldt as an alternative route.

- 4.4. **Bike/Walk Month in the fall:** Adam presented the idea of observing a Bike/Walk Month in the fall in as opposed to or in addition to National Bike Month in May. There was general support of observing Bike/Walk Month to September to better accommodate for the time of year when students are in town.
 - 4.5. **Change of Meeting Time Discussion:** BPAC determined that a change of meeting times was not necessary. There was particular interest in allowing public comments to happen virtually, perhaps even in the post-COVID era so that morning meeting times better allow for public involvement. Spooner presented that he had a regular conflict with the current meeting time but is waiting to see if that conflict is adjusted. Further discussion about meeting times may be necessary depending on feedback from other BPAC members and whether Spooner's will continue to have a time conflict.
- 5. ADJOURNMENT**
- 5.1. Updates and comments from members
 - 5.2. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.