

103rd Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Meeting
October 17th, 2018 – 3:00pm
Metro COG Conference Room

Members Present

Dan Farnsworth, Chair, Metro COG
Christine Holland, River Keepers
Kim Citrowske, City of Moorhead Planning
Joe Anderson, Fargo Police Department
Jonathan Atkins, City of Moorhead Engineering
Peyton Mastera, City of Dilworth
Maegin Elshaug, City of Fargo Planning
Dylan Ramstad Skoyles, Great Rides
Jason Gates, Citizen representative
Jane Butzer, MnDOT
Patrick Hollister, PartnerSHIP 4 Health
Kim Lipetzky, Fargo Cass Public Health
Bob Walton, NDDOT Fargo District

Others Present:

Luke Champa, Metro COG
Bethany Brandt, KLJ
Jason Carbee, HDR (via phone)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 3:05 pm. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approve minutes from July 11th, 2018 meeting

A motion to approve the July 11th minutes was made by K. Lipetzky and seconded by D. Ramstad Skoyles. The minutes were passed unanimously with no edits.

3. Public input opportunity

An opportunity was given for any members of the public to provide any comments or input. No public was represented aside from two individuals representing their consulting firms. No public input was given.

4. 2045 F-M Long Range Transportation Plan

J. Carbee of HDR provided an update and information on Metro COG's 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Metro COG updates their Long Range Transportation Plan every five years as required.

J. Carbee began by notifying the group of the upcoming public input meetings which will be held:

Wed. Oct 24th 11 am - 1 pm
Moorhead Public Library, Moorhead

and

Thursday Oct 25th 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Rustad Recreation Center – Dakota Room, West Fargo

J. Carbee also showed the group other public outreach opportunities and encouraged them to pass this information to others and work with their jurisdictions in getting the word out.

Next, J. Carbee showed some results of the public surveys that have already been received (180 public surveys). The results show that the public is interested in more transportation options and is interested in more walkable/bike-able neighborhoods.

There was then a discussion about the local bicycle/pedestrian projects shown in the 2016 F-M Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan. The group provided verbal descriptions of the higher priority projects to J. Carbee. After discussion, it was decided that Metro COG will send J. Carbee: map of bikeway gap analysis gaps, previous TAP applications, Great Rides Expansion Study. D. Farnsworth asked the jurisdictions to send him any priority bicycle/pedestrian projects that they would like J. Carbee to implement into the LRTP.

5. Dockless bicycles & dockless electric scooters

The committee continued with a discussion about dockless bicycle and dockless electric scooters. D. Farnsworth mentioned that over the past year or so dockless bicycles and dockless electric scooters have been popping up in cities across the nation. Both have exploded in popularity with the dockless electric scooters being deployed at a staggering rate. The first city to receive dockless scooters was San Francisco in September 2017. As of October 2018 dockless scooters have been deployed in over 120 cities in the US alone.

P. Hollister mentioned that Fergus Falls has a committee right now advocating for dockless bikes in their community. D. Ramstad Skoyles talked about how Nice Rides in the Twin Cities has switch to dockless bikes. In their case, they have dockless bikes which provide more flexibility in parking capacity and eliminates the need, cost, and maintenance of docks. However there are designated parking spaces for these bikes and it is likely that the transaction cannot be complete until the bike has been parked in a designated spot.

It was asked if Great Rides is concerned about dockless bikes potentially coming to Fargo/Moorhead from an outside company. D. Ramstad Skoyles said that he believes the popularity of Great Rides will continue even if an outside company comes to town with dockless bikes. With NDSU students able to ride Great Rides bikes for free, this has an advantage over other systems. He did however have some concerns Great Rides bikes

being mistaken for dockless bikes. His concerns would be that people might accidentally park the Great Rides bikes at random locations, thinking they were dockless.

There was then discussion about how the Fargo/Moorhead area should prepare for dockless bikes and scooters in the future. It was discussed that perhaps the best option would be to research ordinances being used in cities currently with dockless bikes and scooters and provide those to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee. B. Brandt noted that NACTO has a regulations guide for this exact thing. Metro COG will research ordinances and provide them to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee.

6. Transportation Alternatives grant opportunity

D. Farnsworth reminded the group about the annual Transportation Alternatives grant opportunity. Applications on the ND side will be due to Metro COG 12/4/18. Applications on the MN side will be due to Wayne Hurley 1/4/19. Letters of intent for MN projects will need to be submitted 10/31/18.

7. Other business

No other business was provided.

Meeting adjourned 4:30pm.