

132nd Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Meeting
April 1st, 2026 – 3:00pm
Hybrid Meeting – Virtual / In-person (Metro COG Conference Room)

Members Present

Dan Farnsworth, Chair, Metro COG
Peyton Mastera, City of Dilworth
Robert Gunderson, Fargo Park District
Jeremy Gorden, Fargo Engineering
Maegin Elshaug, Fargo Planning
Forrest Steinhoff, Moorhead Planning
Terry Steen, Citizen Representative
Jason Pike, Citizen Representative
Cole Hansen, Cass County Planning
Jonathan Atkins, Moorhead Engineering
Matt Jacobson, Clay County Planning
Paul Bervik, West Fargo Engineering
Derek Boman, Moorhead Parks
Nathaniel Mchaffie, City of Horace
Rosemary Bruce-White, MnDOT District 4
Patrick Hollister, PartnerSHIP 4 Health
Cheryl Stetz, Fargo Cass Public Health
Christine Holland, River Keepers

Others Present:

Aiden Jung, Metro COG
Cody Christianson, Bolton & Menk
Laurens Robinson, FM Trailbuilders
Michael Cobb*, Citizen
*Spelling unknown

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 3:02 pm. Both virtual and in-person attendees introduced themselves.

2. Minutes from January 24th, 2025 meeting

A motion to approve the January 7th minutes was made by C. Hansen and seconded by P. Mastera. The minutes passed unanimously with no edits.

3. Public input opportunity

A public input opportunity was given to any members of the public wishing to make comments. No public provided comments during the public input opportunity.

4. Disruptions to FM Trailbuilders trail near future Bluestem bridge

J. Pike brought it to the Committee's attention that initial work on the new Bluestem pedestrian bridge (over the Red River at 40th Ave S in Fargo) has disrupted the FM Trailbuilders' mountain bike trail. He was wondering about the construction schedule, affected construction area, and how coordination could occur with the FM Trailbuilders.

J. Gorden provided an update on the construction of the bridge and the reason for the disruptions. Gorden noted that some trees were recently removed and soil boring samples were taken for design of the bridge abutments. Later in 2026 some dirt might be piled at the bridge abutments and in 2027 construction will begin on the bridge. The bridge should be completed either at the end of 2027 or in 2028. The FM Trailbuilders' trail will probably want to be rerouted further away from the river during construction noting that the new shared use path may remain open during construction. As for construction traffic, Gorden noted crews will access the site off of 40th Ave and the construction traffic is typically modest for bridge construction.

When asked who the best contacts might be for construction updates or question on the bridge, Gorden suggested himself, Christine Goldader (City of Fargo) or Tom Trowbridge (City of Moorhead).

5. NDDOT's Historic Bridge Adoption Program

D. Farnsworth notified the Committee about NDDOT's Historic Bridge Adoption program. This program allows agencies, businesses, etc. to adopt historic bridges when they are slated for removal in North Dakota. The bridge is then transported to the location intended for its future use. NDDOT typically covers the cost of bridge relocation while the applicant covers the cost of site prep, permitting, etc.

Farnsworth wanted to bring this to the Committee's attention since historic bridges can be good candidates for pedestrian infrastructure. Local jurisdictions can keep this in mind as a cost-saving alternative for future pedestrian crossings.

Farnsworth noted that while there currently isn't a webpage or email sign-up list for this program, advertising for bridge adoptions occurs in local newspapers. Metro COG will try and get the word out if any bridges come up for adoption. The NDDOT contact for this program is Jesse Kadrmas.

6. Request for shared use path connecting Oxbow to Fargo

D. Farnsworth let the Committee know that Metro COG was contacted by the city of Oxbow asking what it would take for a shared use path to connect Oxbow to Fargo. Metro COG was also contacted by a Fargo City Commissioner also inquiring about a path from Oxbow to Fargo.

Metro COG wanted to bring this to the Committee's attention and noted that Metro COG will likely look into including this path in the upcoming Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan. Metro COG may also consider a study specific to this request in the future when funding becomes available.

P. Bervik asked what the length of this path might be. Farnsworth mentioned it would be roughly 2.5 miles from Oxbow to the Diversion levee or 6 miles from Oxbow to the University/CR 81 path in south Fargo.

C. Hanson mentioned that Cass County would need to be the sponsor of a path like this since it would likely be within the right-of-way of their roadway (CR 81). However, he noted that Cass County doesn't have funding for such a path and there aren't many paths within the County's roadway corridors. In fact, Cass County is interested in handing over the existing path along CR 81/University Dr in Fargo to the city of Fargo if possible. Furthermore, Cass County is unsure at this time how well a path could fit within their right-of-way.

7. Printed Fargo-Moorhead area bike maps

A. Jung provided an update on the paper bike maps that Metro COG is in the process of developing. A sample of the two-sided maps was shown on the screen with the maps planned to be 3" x 4.5" folded and 12" x 18" unfolded. Jung noted that these maps will be smaller than the last maps Metro COG printed in 2018 but should be able to fit in users' pockets easier.

Metro COG received quotes to print 5,500 maps with the lowest quote coming in at \$1,144. Metro COG asked for any final comments by the Committee since Metro COG hopes to send the final maps to the printing company within a week or so. The following comments were provided by members of the Committee:

- Is it possible to show the mountain bike trails on this map or have a link to it. Could the mountain bike trails be shown on the online map?
- Since the new mountain bike trail in Armor Park in W. Fargo should be opened in May, a mt. bike trailhead icon could be shown there.
- Moorhead Parks plans to install a bike repair station at Bluestem this summer (mentioned after meeting)

A. Jung then reviewed the list of locations where Metro COG intends to distribute the maps once printed. Jung asked if there are any locations Metro COG is missing. The following additional locations were suggested:

- Paramount Sports
- Flatlands Cycling (100 maps)
- FM Bike Doc
- Dakota Spokes
- Fargo Cass Public Health (100 maps)

8. Agency updates

D. Farnsworth asked if there are any bicycle/pedestrian-related updates from jurisdictions in the meeting. The updates were the following:

- Fargo Parks – A new natural trail is going to connect Lions Conservancy with Iwen Park in south Fargo
- City of Moorhead – Moorhead is currently studying 1st Ave N from 12th St to 21st St/Hwy 10 prior to an upcoming reconstruction project. It's likely that an 8ft wide shared use path may be installed on the south side of the roadway. Moorhead is also redoing Center Ave from 8th St to 10th St which will have a 10 ft path on the north side of the roadway which will tie into the path/sidewalk along 11th St. Lastly Moorhead is looking to stripe an on-street bike lane on 11th St from downtown to 15th Ave N.
- City of West Fargo – West Fargo will be installing a pedestrian crossing across 32nd Ave adjacent to The Lights. West Fargo will also be installing shared use paths along 9th St NE and 7th Ave NE as part of reconstruction projects along those corridors.
- Riverkeepers – Moorhead is working to make the lights under the 1st Ave N river bridge brighter.
- City of Dilworth – Dilworth awarded bids on their community center which should have an outdoor plaza for the community and others to enjoy and walk to/from.
- Terry Steen (Flatlands Cycling) – There's a group out of MN called GravelSota who has organized gravel bike rides throughout the state of MN. There will be a gravel bike ride near Hawley as part of these rides.
- FM Trailbuilders – J. Pike informed the Committee that FM Trailbuilders is expanding their trail at Lions Park (Fargo) to the north to Lemke Park and expanding their trail at Horn Park (Moorhead) to the south. Pike has been working with others on a kids trail south of Woodlawn Park (Moorhead). L. Robinson mentioned that the MSUM Regional Science Center reached out to FM Trailbuilders for the possibility of a trail on their property.

9. Other business

There was no other additional business. The meeting was adjourned around 3:50 pm.