

119th Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Meeting
June 8th, 2022 – 3:00pm
Virtual Meeting

Members Present

Dan Farnsworth, Chair, Metro COG
Andrew Wrucke, City of West Fargo Engineering
Malachi Petersen, City of West Fargo Planning
Jeremy Gorden, City of Fargo Engineering
Maegin Elshaug, City of Fargo Planning
Tyler Kirchner, Fargo Park District
Forrest Steinhoff, City of Moorhead Planning
Jonathan Atkins, City of Moorhead Engineering
Peyton Mastera, City of Dilworth
Grace Puppe, Cass County
Matthew Jacobson, Clay County Planning
Joe Anderson, City of Fargo Police
Cheryl Stetz, Fargo Cass Public Health
Patrick Hollister, PartnerSHIP 4 Health
Christine Holland, River Keepers
Luke Grittner, MATBUS
Kurt Kopperud, Citizen Representative

Others Present:

Cindy Gray, Metro COG
Terry Steen, Public

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 3:02 pm. Chair D. Farnsworth introduced the participants.

2. Approve minutes from March 30th, 2022 meeting

A motion to approve the March 30th minutes was made by M. Elshaug and seconded by M. Petersen. The minutes were passed unanimously with no edits.

3. Public input opportunity

One member of the public was present – Mr. Steen. Mr. Steen inquired how he could become more involved in the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee. D. Farnsworth mentioned that Metro COG could include him on the main email list and he could become notified of upcoming meetings as well as other involvement opportunities. D. Farnsworth also noted that the Committee will be seeking a new citizen representative to the Committee in late 2023. Mr. Steen provided his email address to become added to notification emails.

4. Additional Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee voting member

D. Farnsworth notified the Committee that a new voting member has been added to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee. Per the request of Metro COG's TTC and approved by Metro COG's Policy Board, a transit representative was deemed necessary. Luke Grittner of MATBUS is now the transit representative on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee, with Taaren Haak (MATBUS) as the proxy. Mr. Grittner introduced himself to the Committee.

5. Score & recommend funding for ND Transportation Alternatives applications

The Committee proceeded by scoring the four Transportation Alternatives (TA) applications which were submitted as a result of extra TA funding for fiscal year (FY) 2023. The final scores came to be the following per application:

- City of Fargo – Bison Village Path Project: 50 pts
- City of Fargo – Red River Shared Use Path south of Harwood Dr. – Phase 1: 35 pts
- City of Horace – Center Ave Multi-Modal Improvements: 35 pts
- City of Horace – County Rd 17 Shared Use Path Phase 3: 35 pts

After the scoring was completed, the Committee discussed the most appropriate ways to allocate the TA funding for the projects. C. Gray mentioned that the most recent discussions with NDDOT suggest that roughly \$800,000 should be available for ND TA projects within Metro COG's urbanized area for FY 2024.

After discussion occurred with the Committee, it was decided that it was most appropriate to allocate the maximum allowable percentage, 80% of total project cost, to the highest scoring projects - Fargo's Bison Village Path. Since the other projects all tied with 35 points, it was decided that the remaining funding would be split evenly among the other projects based on percentage of total project cost.

After the meeting, these amounts were calculated and are as follows:

- *City of Fargo – Bison Village Path Project*
 - *Total construction cost: \$360,000*
 - *Recommended TA funding: \$ 288,000 (80%)*
 - *Local match: \$72,000 (20%)*
- *City of Fargo – Red River Shared Use Path south of Harwood Dr. – Phase 1:*
 - *Total construction cost: \$200,000*
 - *Recommended TA funding: \$144,756 (72%)*
 - *Local match: \$55,244 (28%)*
- *City of Horace – Center Ave Multi-Modal Improvements:*
 - *Total construction cost: \$166,250*
 - *Recommended TA funding: \$120,329 (72%)*
 - *Local match: \$45,921 (28%)*
- *City of Horace – County Rd 17 Shared Use Path Phase 3:*

- *Total construction cost: \$341,145*
- *Recommended TA funding: \$246,915 (72%)*
- *Local match: \$45,921 (28%)*

A motion to recommend Policy Board approval of the Transportation Alternatives scores and funding was made by J. Gorden and seconded by C. Holland. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. Project/study updates

D. Farnsworth provided the Committee with an update on the Red River Greenway Study. He noted that the study is roughly 35% complete and is in the middle of a two month public engagement period. As part of the public engagement, a pop-up booth will be/has been set up at various events around the community to solicit public feedback. D. Farnsworth also showed the Committee the online interaction webpage where the public can provide comments, take surveys, and provide ideas for the corridor. Lawn signs have also been placed along the river corridor to engagement the public and provide exposure to the study.

7. Other business

T. Kirchner asked when the next TA solicitation might occur. Metro COG replied that they are still trying to figure that out, however it will likely be in the near future since NDDOT has just solicited for the next round of applications (FY 2024 and 2025). Metro COG is working internally to determine a date to announce this solicitation as well as a due date, noting that a due date could occur in late summer/early fall of 2022.

Metro COG asked Committee members when a good time for them might be for a TA due date. T. Kirchner mentioned that sooner would be better since Fargo Parks is working on their budget.

Also, as part of 'other business', P. Hollister noted that there will be an APBP webinar at 2 pm on June 15th. He will be giving a presentation at this webinar regarding his organization's bicycle & pedestrian efforts in Pelican Rapids.