

**95rd Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Meeting
December 7st, 2016 – 3:00pm
Metro COG Conference Room**

Members Present

Dan Farnsworth, Chair, Metro COG
Patrick Hollister, PartnerSHIP 4 Health
Brit Stevens, NDSU
Jonathan Atkins, City of Moorhead
Hali Durand, Cass County
Christine Holland, River Keepers
Maegin Elshaug, City of Fargo Planning
Stan Thurlow, City of Dilworth
Bob Walton, NDDOT
Erik Hove, Clay County
Jason Baker, City of Fargo
Kim Lipetzky, Fargo Cass Public Health
Sara Watson Curry, Great Rides
Tim Solberg, City of West Fargo

Others Present:

Bill Christian, Metro COG
Spencer McCombs, City of Moorhead – GIS

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 3:05 pm. D. Farnsworth welcomed everyone and attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approve minutes from December 9, 2015 meeting

The meeting minutes from the December 9th, 2015 were brought to the meeting for a vote because a quorum was not present to vote on the minutes at the January 27th, 2016 meeting. Therefore, the minutes were held until the next meeting. The next meeting was August 31st, 2016 however it was forgotten to include these minutes in the agenda packet. So the minutes were brought to this meeting to finally be approved.

A motion to approve the December 9th 2015 was made by J. Atkins and seconded by H. Durand. The minutes were passed unanimously with no edits.

3. Approve minutes from August 31st, 2016 meeting

A motion to approve the August 31st, 2016 minutes was made by J. Atkins and seconded by M. Elshaug. The minutes were passed unanimously with no edits.

4. Review Goals, Objectives and Recommendations of the 2016 FM Metro Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan

The group began by reviewing the Goals and Objectives chapter of the Plan. The Goals and Objectives were discussed at the October 31st Plan study review committee meeting where many suggestions were made to refine the Goals and Objectives.

D. Farnsworth provided an overview of the Goals and Objectives and discussed the changes made since the October 31st meeting. One goal that the group discussed was Goal 9-Objective A which stated “Provide support for existing and proposed laws as they pertain to bicycle and pedestrian safety.” It was suggested that “proposed” be omitted from the language.

Next the group went over the Recommendations chapter of the Plan. D. Farnsworth noted that a priority was assigned to the five recommendation categories and the number of public comments per category was also specified. The number of public comments didn’t align exactly with the priority specified for each category. It was the group’s recommendation that the priorities remain as they are however the number of public comments should not be shown with the priorities as that may add to confusion and make the recommendations seem less credible. However, it was recommended that it be discussed in the chapter that public comments were considered in the prioritization of the recommendations.

Many other minor comments/corrections were provided by the group regarding the Recommendations chapter of the Plan.

5. Review final draft 2016 FM Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan & discuss public involvement of draft Plan

D. Farnsworth then went through the entire draft plan with the group. They reviewed all seven chapters of the Plan, focusing on the chapters that had not been yet reviewed by the group.

One comment on Chapter 1 – Introduction was to discuss previous and ongoing corridor studies that have a bicycle/pedestrian element in them. Another comment was to remove notes about meeting attendance in Table 3.1 of Chapter 3 – Plan Participation. P. Hollister suggested that we include the Bronze Bicycle Friendly Community logo on the front cover.

The group then discussed the next steps for finalizing the Plan. It was determined that a public comment period should be provided on the draft plan as soon as possible. Once the changes from today’s meeting are made, public noticed will be sent out per Metro COG’s Public Participation Plan so that the public can comment on the Plan. A minimum of 15 days for comments will be provided. Ideally the comment period will fall before the Holidays begin.

It was then discussed that the various jurisdictions should approve a resolution of support adopting the Plan. It was stated that obtaining resolutions of support may take some time so it may not be possible for Metro COG's Policy Board to approve the Plan in January as previously planned. B. Christian stated that it would be fine to get Policy Board approval of the Plan in February if necessary.

6. Prioritize Transportation Alternatives (TA) Applications

The group went over the Transportation Alternatives applications that were submitted within Metro COG's planning boundary. The applications submitted within ND included:

- City of Fargo – 5th St Extension Shared-Use Path
- City of Fargo – N University Drive Shared-Use Path
- City of Horace – County Road 17 Shared-Use Path
- City of West Fargo – Drain 45 Shared-Use Path

All the ND projects are considered Urban project since they fall within Metro COG's urbanized boundary.

The application submitted within MN included:

- City of Barnesville – Barnesville Multi-Use Path Phase II
- City of Dilworth – 7th Street NE Multi-Use Path Extension
- City of Hawley – Hawley Heartland Trail Connection and Safe Routes to School Paths

The projects were evaluated and scored by the group using the TA evaluation spreadsheet. After scoring the scores came out to be:

- City of Fargo – 5th St Extension Shared-Use Path – 481*
- City of Fargo – N University Drive Shared-Use Path - 496
- City of Horace – County Road 17 Shared-Use Path - 306
- City of West Fargo – Drain 45 Shared-Use Path - 369
- City of Barnesville – Barnesville Multi-Use Path Phase II - 463
- City of Dilworth – 7th Street NE Multi-Use Path Extension - 496
- City of Hawley – Hawley Heartland Trail Connection and Safe Routes to School Paths - 561

*It was unknown at the time of the scoring whether the City of Fargo 5th St project had been identified in a previous plan. This would affect the total score for the project. Metro COG will determine this with the City of Fargo in the near future.

7. Bronze Bicycle Friendly University Designation - Concordia College

P. Hollister that Concordia College was just recently awarded Bronze Bicycle Friendly University status by the League of American Bicyclists. Concordia is one of just a few colleges/universities in Minnesota to receive this designation.

8. Other business and citizen comments

S. Watson Curry announced that a Transportation Symposium will be held Wednesday December 14th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Fargo City Commission room. There will be several local transportation presenters at the event.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.