

**WEST DES MOINES BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, June 1, 2017**

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Bicycle Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, June 1, 2017, at 5:31 p.m. by Chair Eddy.

<b>Commission</b>	Tom Suckow	Joel Wolcott <i>Secretary</i>	Brittany Freund	Kip Albertson	Helen Eddy <i>Chair</i>
<b>Present</b>	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Commission</b>	Greg France <i>Vice Chair</i>	Margaret Christiansen	Spencer Cox	Mindy Moore	
<b>Present</b>	X	X	X	X	

<b>Staff</b>	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks &amp; Recreation</i>	Greg Hansen <i>Superintendent of Recreation</i>	Anna Poss <i>Parks &amp; Recreation Secretary</i>	David Sadler <i>Superintendent of Parks</i>
<b>Present</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>Staff</b>	Joe Cory <i>Deputy Director of Public Services</i>	Marco Alvarez <i>Park Planner</i>	Eric Petersen <i>Traffic Engineer</i>	
<b>Present</b>	X		X	

**On Item 1. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Cox to approve the agenda as presented. Freund seconded. Motion carried, 9 yes.

**On Item 2. Citizen Forum**

**A. Raccoon River Trail Access**

Joe Hrdlicka was present to assist the citizens in beginning their discussion on issues related to the trail at the Raccoon River Park entrance.

Eric Tabor of 1619 Thornwood Road, West Des Moines shared his concern about the passage at the Raccoon River Park entrance between the bicycle path and the railroad tracks. Eric also suggested a flashing light cross-walk on Grand Avenue for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Denika Almburg of 1625 Thornwood Road, West Des Moines shared that she thinks the condition of the trail currently causes bicyclists and pedestrians to have to use Grand Avenue. This is due to the trail being closed by the contractor for the development in the area. Danica also mentioned the need for a cross-walk with flashing lights to alert drivers on Grand Avenue.

Sadler stated that when Grand Avenue was widened in June of 2014 there was a plan to have the trail cross the railroad tracks. Before construction started on the crossing the railroad put a halt on the construction. In May of 2016 a new railroad manager took over and provided information on what the City could do to make this crossing a possibility. City staff will be installing the missing trail section across the tracks as soon as all conditions of the railroad have been met. Hrdlicka suggested crossing further north on Grand Avenue would be the best temporary solution to address the trail closure issue. Petersen stated that Scenic Valley Drive will soon connect to Grand Avenue, and the development on the north side of the street is temporarily affecting the trail and sidewalk system. Petersen shared that the crossing will ultimately warrant some type of a protective crossing, such as HAWK beacons or as a part of a fully signalized intersection, but this should occur after Scenic Valley Drive and the missing trail section are completed. Petersen stated that in the interim, Engineering Services and Public Services will look into installing pedestrian warning signs to warn drivers of the trail crossing.

**On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2017 Meeting**

France moved to approve the minutes as presented. Wolcott seconded. Motion carried, 9 yes.

Old Business:

On Item 4A. Mayor's Bike Ride Review

Hansen stated that there were twenty-seven bikers registered for the Mayor's Bike Ride that was held on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Hansen shared his opinion on re-shaping the Mayor's Bike Ride to focus more on the City's trails and facilities. France mentioned that better signage for businesses would help advertise the Mayor's Bike Ride. Freund stated that the Market to Market event was the same weekend as the Mayor's Bike Ride, so that could have affected the low attendance numbers. Eddy stated that engaging the public earlier and involving parent/teacher committees could be useful for reaching more people. Ortgies shared that if the proceeds of the Mayor's Bike Ride went to an organization involved with trails or biking the event may see higher sign up numbers.

On Item 5. New Business

On item 5A.

France mentioned that the bollard posts have been removed from the levee trail. Cory stated that Public Services will check into it.

Committee Reports:

On Item 6A. Education and Encouragement Committee

No Report.

On Item 6B. Enforcement and Evaluation Committee

No Report.

On Item 6C. Engineering Committee

No Report.

Staff Reports:

On Item 7A. Engineering

No Report

On Item 7B. Public Services

Cory shared that many of the sharrows are painted and Public Services is still actively painting them.

On Item 7C. Police

No representative present.

On Item 7D. Parks and Recreation

Ortgies stated that the Parks and Recreation department has been busy working with neighboring communities. Ortgies shared that Windsor Heights has been working on a project to add a sidewalk on 73<sup>rd</sup> Street underneath Interstate 235 so residents can more easily access Valley Junction. Suckow asked what the time line was for the addition of the sidewalk. Ortgies responded that Windsor Heights has not given a specific time line but the project is a top priority. Ortgies gave a brief update on the Five Waters Project.

On Item 8. Other Matters:

Hansen shared that June 3<sup>rd</sup> is National Trails Day, and asked that Commissioners sign up to help at the Art on the Trail event Saturday morning.

Receive, File and/or Refer:

9A. Des Moines Area MPO, Central Iowa Bicycle-Pedestrian Roundtable Packet – April/May

It was moved by Eddy to adjourn at 6:39p.m. Suckow seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Anna Poss  
Secretary

ATTEST:

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Joel Wolcott  
Commission Secretary