

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

AGENDA

5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, August 1, 2019
City Hall – City Council Chambers
4200 Mills Civic Parkway**

- 1. Call to Order / Approval of Agenda**
- 2. Citizen Forum**
- 3. Approval of Minutes of April 4, 2019 Meeting**
- 4. Old Business**
- 5. New Business**
 - A. Motion – Approval of Recommendation to City Council – Sidepath/Trail Crossings at Street Intersections
- 6. Committee Reports**
 - A. Education and Encouragement Committee
 - B. Enforcement and Evaluation Committee
 - C. Engineering Committee
- 7. Staff Reports**
 - A. Engineering
 - B. Public Services
 - C. Police
 - D. Parks and Recreation
- 8. Other Matters**
- 9. Receive, File and/or Refer**

The City of West Des Moines is pleased to provide accommodations to disabled individuals or groups and encourages their participation in city government. Should special accommodations be required please contact the Parks & Recreation office at least 48 hours in advance, at 222-3444 to have accommodations provided.

WEST DES MOINES BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 4, 2019

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Bicycle Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, April 4, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Eddy.

Commission	Tom Suckow <i>Secretary</i>	Nick Welter	Brittany Freund	Helen Eddy <i>Chair</i>
	X	X	X	X
Present				
Commission	Greg France <i>Vice Chair</i>	Cole Prevost	Mindy Moore	
Present	X	X	X	

Staff	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i>	David Sadler <i>Superintendent of Parks</i>	Ryan Penning <i>Superintendent of Recreation</i>	Miranda Kurtt <i>Parks & Recreation Secretary</i>
Present	X			X
Staff	Joe Cory <i>Deputy Director of Public Services</i>	Marco Alvarez <i>Park Planner</i>	Eric Petersen <i>Traffic Engineer</i>	Jason Bryan <i>Police Sergeant</i>
Present		X		X

Council	John Mickelson <i>City Council Liaison</i>
Present	

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

France moved to approve the agenda as presented. Suckow seconded. Motion carried, 7 yes.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No report.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes from March 7, 2019 Meeting

Suckow moved to approve the minutes as presented. Welter seconded. Motion carried, 7 yes.

Old Business

No report.

New Business

On Item 5A. Discussion – Comprehensive Plan Update Focus Group

No report.

On Item 6A. Report – Education and Encouragement Committee

Ortgies stated that the Committee is meeting on April 5. One of the agenda items is the Mayor's Bike Ride.

On Item 6B. Report – Enforcement and Evaluation Committee

Ortgies stated the Committee met and discussed the MPO Model Bicycle Ordinance and Electric Scooters. There is still discussion on what will be allowed on the trails and whether the City will be in favor of rental electric scooters.

On Item 6C. Report – Engineering Committee

Ortgies stated the Committee met on April 3. The Valley Junction Trail Connection was discussed. The crossing of two set of tracks and limited space for a trail along Railroad Avenue make this project difficult. This project will be done in two phases with the first phase connecting the Levee Trail to 9th Street occurring this summer. The Windsor Heights Trail Connection will also be reviewed by the Engineering Committee.

Staff Reports:

On Item 7A. Engineering

No report.

On Item 7B. Public Services

No report.

On Item 7C. Police

No report.

On Item 7D. Parks and Recreation

Ortgies stated election of officers will be planned for the May meeting. Alvarez provided an update on the trail renovation projects that are done every year. The asphalt portion of the project will occur on the Levee Trail. Suckow questioned if it is an overlay or replacement. Alvarez stated it will be replaced because the height of the trail cannot be raised due to its location on the flood control levee. The concrete repairs will be done along S. 50th Street. Both of these projects will be constructed in the fall.

On Item 8. Other Matters

No report.

On Item 9A. Receive, File and/or Refer:

- A. Des Moines Area MPO, Central Iowa Bicycle – Pedestrian Roundtable Packet – October

On Item 9B. City Council Communications

January 21, 2019: First reading of proposed Ordinance to amend Title 2, Chapter 12, Section 2 of the Municipal code to decrease the City’s Bicycle Advisory Commission from nine (9) to seven (7) member.

Freund moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. France seconded. Motion carried, 7 yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Kurtt
Secretary

ATTEST:

Tom Suckow
Commission Secretary

**CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING COMMUNICATION**

DATE: August 1, 2019

ITEM: Motion – Approval of Recommendation to City Council - Sidepath/Trail Crossings at Street Intersections

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None at this time.

SYNOPSIS: Over the last few years, staff has received multiple requests to install mini-sized stop signs or yield signs on sidepath trail approaches at various street crossings. In these cases, Staff typically would then meet on site with the residents at the select crossing, and discuss each location on a case by case basis. Staff requests that the full Commission discuss this item and approve a formal recommendation to the City Council.

Staff is recommending that no signs be installed on trails at controlled street intersections for the following reasons:

1. The signs are not enforceable as pedestrians (including bicyclists on trails) would still have the right-of-way as per state law.
2. The presence of stop signs for both drivers and trail users could lead to confusion. Drivers may mistakenly believe they have the right-of-way at the trail crossing and that bicyclists will be stopping.
3. In other cities where signs are installed on trails, such as along Hickman Road in Waukee, a number of bicyclists do not obey these signs.
4. The signs would produce additional sign clutter and long-term maintenance implications due to the hundreds of trail crossings and thousands of sidewalk crossings in the City.

Staff is recommending that mini-stop signs or yield signs continue to be installed on trails at mid-block crossings as these are uncontrolled intersections with no stop sign for vehicles on the street.

BACKGROUND: This topic and a few of the individual cases came before the Engineering Committee on 2/12/18. The Engineering Committee was in agreement with staff's recommendation and reported back to the full Commission on 3/1/18. No action was taken by the Commission at that time.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve staff's recommendation to not install stop or yield signs on trails at controlled street intersections.

Prepared by: David Sadler, Superintendent of Parks

Approved for Content by: Sally Ortgies, Director of Parks and Recreation

Accepted for Commission Agenda: Sally Ortgies, Director of Parks and Recreation