

**WEST DES MOINES BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, November 3, 2022**

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Bicycle Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, November 3, at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Tom Suckow.

<b>Commission</b>	Tom Suckow <i>Chair</i>	Nick Welter <i>Secretary</i>	Lyndley Kent	Missy Berg <i>Vice Chair</i>
<b>Present</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>Commission</b>	Steve Welsh	Steve Herwig	Diane Witt	
<b>Present</b>	X	X	X	
<b>Staff</b>	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks &amp; Recreation</i>	Ryan Penning <i>Assistant Director of Parks &amp; Recreation</i>	David Sadler <i>Superintendent of Parks</i>	Tina Tate <i>Parks &amp; Recreation Secretary</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>	Jason Bryan <i>Police Sergeant</i>
<b>Present</b>			X	X
<b>Council</b>	Matt McKinney <i>City Council Liaison</i>			
<b>Present</b>				

**On Item 1. Approval of Agenda**

Herwig moved to approve the agenda as presented. Welter seconded. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

**On Item 2. Citizen Forum**

No report.

**On Item 3. Approval of Minutes from April 7, 2022 Meeting**

Berg moved to approve the minutes as presented. Welsh seconded. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

**On Item 4. Old Business**

No report.

**5. New Business**

**On Item 5A. Presentation – Ashworth Road Project**

Petersen provided an overview of the Ashworth Road Project. Ashworth Road is an east/west minor arterial street that runs the entire length of the city. The recommended roadway configuration would change the four narrow lanes to two 12-foot lanes with a center turn lane. A 10-foot shared use path would be installed on the north side of Ashworth Road.

This shared use path would provide more connections to surrounding cities and future north/south trails. Petersen confirmed that trails are maintained by the City. Ortgies added that because trails have been requested by residents, they have been planned for in new developments. It is more difficult to install trails in established areas of the city. Therefore, when the Ashworth Road Project begins, it will provide a great opportunity to include this path for bicyclists and pedestrians. The first section that will

be replaced is from 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> street due to the condition of the road. The completion date for the entire project could be over ten years from now. The shared use path will be installed as Ashworth Road is constructed. The Commission is invited to attend the workshop being held after the Council meeting on Monday, November 7.

Jan Vander Linden, 1025 16<sup>th</sup> Street, stated concerns about the shared use path safety as well as the impact it has on homeowners.

Jarrold Igou, 601 Ashworth, also stated concerns about safety due to the visibility of cyclists as well as what changes will need to be made to his property to accommodate the path.

Cheryl Matravers, 1409 Ashworth Road, voiced concerns about the need for the path in this residential area.

Srijan Karim, 1225 28<sup>th</sup> Street, asked about adding a dedicated bike lane. Petersen replied that because of the narrow lanes and safety concerns, dedicated bike lanes were not the best option.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **On Item 6A. Education and Encouragement Committee**

Ortgies stated that the Committee has not met. The next meeting will include discussions about the Mayor's Bike Ride.

#### **On Item 6B. Report – Enforcement and Evaluation Committee**

Ortgies stated that the Model Bicycle Ordinance has stalled at the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) level and has not been approved yet. Petersen explained that cities could use the Model Bicycle Ordinance as a guide to craft changes to their own ordinance. Once the MPO approves, the Commission will review and send a recommendation to Council. Sadler clarified that the Executive Committee of the MPO has currently tabled this item but has stated that communities can pass the ordinance on their own.

#### **On Item 6C. Report – Engineering Committee**

Ortgies stated the Engineering Committee has not met. During the next meeting, the On-Street Bike Facility Plan will need to be reviewed.

### **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**

Sadler mentioned the current trail projects include Woodland Hills Greenway Trail, Valley Junction Trail Connection to Raccoon River Park, annual trail renovations, and side path trail projects. In coordination with the MPO, there have been temporary trail counters installed to indicate how many

bicyclists and pedestrians use the trails. A permanent trail counter has been placed on Jordan Creek Trail, east of 50<sup>th</sup> street.

Ortgies provided an update on the Athene Pedestrian Bridge which has reached \$2.6 million of the \$3 million goal. Because federal funding was received, the project will need to go through the Department of Transportation's bid letting process in February with construction potentially starting in Spring 2023.

Ortgies announced her retirement on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Sadler also announced his retirement in January.

**On Item 8. Other Matters**

None.

**On Item 9A. City Council Communications**

A. City Council Communications

April 18, 2022, Public Hearing – 2021 Concrete Trail Renovations

1. Resolution-Approval of Plans and Specifications
2. Motion-Receive and File Report of Bids
3. Resolution-Approve Contract

May 2, 2022, Public Hearing – Woodland Hills Greenway, Trail Construction and Drainage Improvements

1. Resolution-Approval of Plans and Specifications
2. Motion-Receive and File Report of Bids
3. Resolution-Approve Contract

June 6, 2022, Resolution – Approval of Public Highway At-Grade Crossing Agreements 9<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street Trail Crossings, Union Pacific Railroad Company and Iowa Interstate Railroad, LLC

July 5, 2022, Resolution – Accept Work – 2020 Asphalt Trail Renovation Project

July 5, 2022, Resolution – Accept Work – Valley View Park North Loop Road Extension Project

August 1, 2022, Motion – Approval of Change Order #2 – Valley Junction Trail Connection

Herwig moved to adjourn the meeting. Lindley seconded. Motion carried, 7 ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

 4/6/23

Tina Tate  
Secretary

ATTEST:

 4/6/23

Nick Welter  
Commission Secretary