

## **Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee**

Minutes from the July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Meeting – 7:00 a.m.  
Woods Park Place – 3131 'O' Street, LPR Conference Room

**Members Present:** Barb Fraser, Gary Bentrup, Jordan Messerer, Mauricio Lang, Nate Lowry, Sarah Knight, Susan Larson Rodenburg, Dale Arp, Conan Schafer, Candace Howell. B Paul Tunakan arrived at 7:05am

**Members via Zoom:** Connor Herbert, Mark Coleman

**Guests:**

**Guests via Zoom:** Parks Coble

**Staff Present:** Allison Speicher, Maggie Stuckey-Ross, J.J. Yost, Jamie Granquist, Collin Christopher

**Staff via Zoom:** Jocelyn Golden, Stephanie Rouse, Dan Carpenter, Roberto Partida

**Call to Order:** Lowry called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. and noted the meeting follows the Open Meetings Act, posted in the room. Roll was called and quorum was made.

**Approval of May 14 Minutes:** **Motion to Approve Minutes:** Fraser moved and Larson Rodenburg seconded approval of the May 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 meeting minutes. Unanimously approved.

**Staff Reports:** Allison Speicher kicked off the reports by sharing Fletcher Landmark Trail construction progress, all constructed except for 800 ft on the West end to 14<sup>th</sup> and then it is complete, adding 1.2 miles of new trail. 14<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> street once connected. Bulk of trail is in despite rain.

Beal Slough Trail Project is coordinated with the Railroad Transportation Safety District is providing some funding for the project due to a current active line for the RR and crossing. Consultant amended for construction requirements with design elements, planned to construct in 2025. Tree removal windows with protected species can be tricky, working back from that date is key for 2025 or 2026 construction.

Waterford Trail is early in design process, route analysis alignment working with Southeast Community College and complimenting the recent construction improvements in the campus. Waterford Lake dam adjacent trail construction has some technical pieces that are being worked on in the design phase.

Rock Island widening project timeline through the State have some flexibility in the shovel ready project awards, staff are working on agreements and project coordination.

LTU will be doing some work on 1<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge over Salt Creek, in January-May 2025. Will phase work during the winter, just a handful of weeks full closure but in less traveled months, as there is no good alternate access. Roadway and bridge approach improvements focus of the project.

Stephanie Rouse from the Lincoln Lancaster County Planning Department updated the Community Bike rack program, has 15 racks placed initially for big social push. Have purchased 40 racks total with hopes to have the program active for a couple of years while those racks get distributed and installed. Is an open request program and will continue as it is until racks are all spoken for. Rouse will be leaving the department to join the Urban Planning Department in the City to work on

affordable housing. The Complete Streets Committee will pause for some time as Vision Zero kicks off and gets implemented, with the next Planner at LLCPCD unpausing the Complete Streets Committee efforts in the near future. The group wished her well in the new adventure.

Dan Carpenter provided a Vision Zero update, that the Consultant should be under contract shortly, with expected early-stage community engagement and equity analysis work to begin at that time. Developing Action Plan for reducing vulnerable road user fatalities by 60% by 2040. Early stage tasks to begin in August.

Roberto Partida spoke about the Q & P St on street buffered bike lanes project out for bid at the moment. After bids back, work with Urban Development to select contractor so the bike lanes would be completed in fall 2024.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Collin Christopher, Lincoln Lancaster County Planning Department, updated the committee on 2 upcoming projects & community feedback from the recent Open House. Downtown Corridors project has been a 3-4 project, with hopeful construction in spring 2024. Largely pedestrian focused improvement streetscape project with hopefully increased business traffic & reinvestment from local businesses. Ideas sourced from the 2019 Downtown Master Plan public based outreach and feedback from a variety of stakeholders during that process. First phase is focused from 9<sup>th</sup>-Centennial Mall, along O St, in spring 2025. And from 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, from S-K, and 3 block stretch of 11<sup>th</sup> & a 1-2 block stretch of 14<sup>th</sup>. Color coded priorities can help staff identify phasing depending on funding, and three color coded mapping was reviewed. Design components shown with flow, calming, and street scape furniture & landscaping to calm the traffic in the area, prioritize pedestrian experience, and comfort. Funding for the project was discussed from TIF District, DLA, grants, ARPA, and local matches. Conversions from one way to two way, traffic lane reallocation to landscaping & pedestrian corridors, and buffered ROW easements for sidewalk & street trees. Protected outdoor dining spaces and readjusting parking orientations to create accessibility to businesses along the frontages and highlight some existing historical buildings and gardens in the area with flowing designs that encourage walkability. Meter timing for stall allotments to prioritize turnover and efficiency for shared rides, unloading, and food delivery or quick trips. Supplemental shade solutions will complement the young trees as they mature, mitigating heat islands of the current environment. Some bike lane updates include readjustment of on street bike lanes(14<sup>th</sup>, P, 11<sup>th</sup>) and also various separated bike lane buffering on the elevated widened sidewalks within pedestrian landscapes. Saktefriendly features to be integrated in the side paths as well.

Music District Project summarized by beginning with 14<sup>th</sup> street update to include a 2 way redesigned travel shared lane space and some closed curb cuts for more storefront feel along the lower level of the University Place Parking garage to encourage grassroots music creativity and artistry for the music space concept. Moveable street furniture, enhanced lighting & festoon designs with murals and interactive art features to create fun spaces and community activities. Looking at ways to conveniently close off the street, making it more simple and inclusive to the businesses in the area. Template for events and expectations from the get-go is a priority, along with recording studio that enables youth & creatives to learn and create on site. Consultants being on-boarded. Construction slated for 2025. Arp asked about greenery maintenance for the landscaping and funding, Christopher reported that the funding is already being managed by a TIF District process he setup in anticipation of this Master Plan project. Questions asked about phasing and what costs will

be for improvements. Christopher reported that the color phasing can help them identify priorities initially and then reinvestment by local businesses can help more phasing occur in various stages. Herbert asked questions about native plantings, low maintenance grasses, and semi porous concrete & sustainable materials for the area. Christopher reported many innovative solutions are being looked at, costs can be a barrier with some, but all options are being researched for opportunities. Sidewalk café spaces explained a bit more in detail as separated from the buildings to encourage use by more shared ad-hoc community spaces, should the food establishment nearby not be open, moved, off season, etc. Tie ins to Multimodal Center inquired about, will be sure to integrate the areas as the projects develop over time.

Christopher circled back with the group on the long-standing West O Street Streetscape Enhancement Project, which encompasses NW 48<sup>th</sup> to NW 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Project closer to construction timelines, started as a Master Plan Project in 2018. Gateways for pedestrians, trees and landscaping, visual enhancements, and 10 ft trail along the N side. 3 new bus shelters, monumentation to brand the West O Corridor, and create a more esthetically pleasing streetscape. State approval needed and is under review at this time. Maintenance Agreement must be approved by Lincoln City Council. Then the project would go out for bid & construction in 2025.

The remaining two agenda items, RI Bridge Over Salf Creek, Construction Progress Update, and the Sign Projects, MoPac Mile Marker & Your Parks Adventure, were tabled for time constraints and will be discussed with the committee at the next PBAC meeting in September.

**Adjourn:** Knight moved and Schafer seconded concluding the meeting. Motion carried.

Lowry adjourned the meeting at 8:00 am.

**Next Meeting:** September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024