

Due to illness I am cancelling the next meeting of the West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, scheduled for tomorrow, September 14 at 6pm. The Committee will meet again at its next scheduled date on November 9th at 6pm.

There are a number of updates with details listed below.

- 1) The plan for engaging with Erik Carlson and Ed Garrison is being developed and will be rolled in with our efforts at “changing the culture” that do not seem to be effectively addressed by the BWGL program. This includes major sections on the importance of cycling and walking for West Lafayette; the importance of the committee and its engagement with the city staff; the important challenges and recommended approaches facing WL regarding cycling and walking; and the section devoted to “changing the culture” to improve safety for all road users, but especially for vulnerable users.
- 2) The construction of the State Street Project continues with most local roads at least partially open and a new signal at Chauncey Ave. See the website for current status information. Construction on this phase is scheduled to be completed by November 30.
- 3) I continue to attend the Purdue Faculty Traffic and Parking committee. The Aug 30 meeting included discussion of two goals: (a) Changing to automated license plate recognition and elimination of the paper permits during the current academic year; and (b) a long range objective of moving most parking to the outer edges of the main campus.
- 4) The APC’s Citizens Participation Committee scheduled for July was cancelled. The next CPC meeting, if held, will be on Tuesday September 26 at 7PM in the Grand Prairie room of the County office building.
- 5) The Purdue Exponent on Sept 11 had a short article on a new bike share program being piloted by a student start-up company called VeoRide. This has bicycles parked all over campus in any bicycle parking with solar powered locks that unlock and lock via a phone application. It shows locations of available bikes and allows advance reservations to be made.
- 6) The Governors Highway Safety Association released in August a report entitled A Right to the Road: Understanding & Addressing Bicyclist Safety. The report is discussed (and a link to the report is provided) in an LAB article <http://www.bikeleague.org/content/governors-highway-safety-group-releases-report-importance-bicyclist-safety> . The report is much more proactive and progressive than past reports from the GHSA, in part this may be due to their engagement with LAB during the preparation of this report.
- 7) The BWGL safety program met in August and discussed my criticism of their approach, which has been highly focused on bicycling and walking advocacy and has had almost no activities or approaches directed towards “changing the culture” to improve how motorists affect the safety and perception of safety by cyclists and pedestrians. This led to some changes, but ultimately, there was only minor rewording of the final draft of the report. While Margy Deverall seems accepting of the limited changes, I and some others feel that the BWGL effort is not going to be effective for improving safety of cyclists and pedestrians. Anyone wishing to see the final draft of the report can email Curt who will be happy to send it out by email (it is 6.6MB).

8) Other infrastructure updates for West Lafayette.

- A new signal will soon be installed on North Salisbury and Kent, where a new parking lot entrance will lead into the shopping center that includes Pay Less foods.
- The landscaped islands on North Salisbury were removed and the road was resurfaced and restriped between Robinson and Creighton Rd. The travel lanes were not widened and instead both bike lanes were widened considerably.
- Resurfacing and restriping was also done on North Grant between the new 4-way stop at Meridian and the signal at Salisbury. The travel lanes were narrowed slightly to allow the bicycle lanes to be widened. Unfortunately, where a left turn lane is striped, the bike lanes disappear, but there are no sharrows marked.
- On the Harrison bridge, as west to Northwestern (on Fowler) and from the west at Salisbury on Wiggins, the travel lanes were narrowed and bicycle lanes were added and marked. These lanes end on the east side of the bridge over the river.
- The Kingston trail (along the North side of Kingston) was completed in August from the trail from Happy Hollow Park at the top of Rose St to Salisbury with a 9 foot wide multiuse asphalt path and decorative street lighting and repaving and restriping of Kingston. This also includes several pedestrian crosswalk markings and a flashing signal for a mid-block crossing (on Kingston) between the walk to Sunset Ct and Happy Hollow School.
- Bollard style lights were finally installed on the Happy Hollow Trail that is on the west side of Happy Hollow Road between Chippewa and Hollowood.