



West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Improving West Lafayette for Bicyclists and Pedestrians

AGENDA for 6:00 PM Thursday November 9, 2017 Meeting
West Lafayette Public Library – Board Room

1. Call to order and introductions.

2. Call for corrections to the minutes of the previous regular meeting (July 13, 2017) which were posted to the website (<http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes.html>) on September 9, 2017 and also provided at this meeting.

3. News of developments since the last meeting

- a. The “Safety Plan” developed via the Bicycle Community Safety Program (Bike-Walk Greater Lafayette) was discussed at the last APC CPC meeting held October 3, 2017. The “Plan” does not deal with infrastructure, and found it impractical to try to change the driving culture, so primary is a Bicycling advocacy document on the grounds that more cyclists improves awareness and readiness by drivers. This document is available on the west Lafayette web site at this url:
http://www.westlafayette.in.gov/egov/documents/1505408021_94262.pdf
- b. In the absence of substantial new developments, I have focused on developing the plan for reengaging the City with our advising role to try to get some things started. The partially completed plan for this follows the agenda (on the next page) and it also includes some (also partially completed) design for additions to our website in efforts that are consistent with the plan to engage the city (“the pitch”).

4. Open forum for problems, issues, and ideas for new actions

5. Ongoing Projects of the Committee (any project can be discussed)

- c. Bike To Work Day – Held in May each year
- d. Bicycle friendly city and walk friendly city applications
- e. Developing guidance for APC about bicycle parking in high density Planned Developments
- f. Initial West Lafayette bike-ped plan (the last APC plan is [here](#))
- g. Web site development: www.westlafayettebikeped.org
- h. Improving Snow removal from sidewalks
- i. Lobbying for increased penalties for drivers that cause death or injury of vulnerable road users.
- j. Bicycle parking at businesses
- k. Bicycle Friendly businesses
- l. Inter-city Trail development in Tippecanoe County: Farm Heritage Trail and Wabash Heritage Trail
- m. Improved methods for gathering community input on needs/wants of cyclists and pedestrians
- n. List of problem intersections

6. Upcoming meetings:

- The Citizens Participation Committee of the Area Plan Commission normally is scheduled to meet the fourth Tuesday every other month beginning with January. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 7PM in the Grand Prairie room of the County Office Building.
- The APC technical traffic committee meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month at 2PM and the WL traffic commission meets third Tuesday of each month at 5PM. The Technical Traffic Committee

meets in Board of Works room in Lafayette city hall and the WL traffic commission meets in the WL Public Library.

7. Other business and announcements

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled to be Thursday January 11, 2018.

8. Adjournment

The Pitch to the City for Reengaging the Committee:

“What”:

- Streets and infrastructure that is safer and better – more comfortable, enjoyable, and functional – for pedestrians and cyclists of all levels of experience.

“Why”:

 Several reasons for both the residents and the City’s development

- Bicycle and pedestrian-friendly cities are in high demand by high tech companies and many people, generally by those who are seeking a healthier place to live and work.
- Walking and cycling reduce vehicle traffic, which reduces road congestion and air pollution.
- The exercise provided by walking and cycling improves health, which provides many direct and indirect (e.g., economic) benefits to the individuals and the community.
- Resident’s enjoyment and connection with the city are increased by cycling and walking because one sees and senses more when traveling on a bicycle or walking than when driving a vehicle.

“How”:

 There are numerous ways the City and the Bike-Ped Committee can work together to reach goals

- Involve the WLBPC in discussions about development and city infrastructure planning and projects
- The City should hire a person (or designate a current employee) with the duties of Bike-Ped Coordinator – but the details are important (either direct-report to the Mayor or within Departments of Engineering or Development) – the Committee has many ideas on this it can offer for guidance
- Apply to the League of American Bicyclists (<http://www.bikeleague.org/>) for Bicycle Friendly City – The city must take the lead role on this for it to be effective – a perfect task for the Bike-Ped Coordinator
- Apply to Walk Friendly Communities (www.walkfriendly.org) for recognition – Ditto about City taking the lead and role of Bike-Ped coordinator
- The City must develop and the Council endorse its own bicycle plan and separately its own pedestrian plan (including trails)
- The City should adopt its own Complete Streets Policy, preferably via and ordinance by Council
- The City should promote the recognition by LAB of Bicycle Friendly Businesses (as part of the Plan and done by the Bike-Ped coordinator) – while simultaneously increasing awareness of this City initiative and the minor changes that may be needed to win such recognition.

The WLBPC Website additions (major pages):

- Why this is important: To improve/enhance/maintain Bike and Ped infrastructure and policies. Policies are not so visible, but have a visible impact on numbers of cyclists and their comfort. Infrastructure makes the biggest impact on numbers and comfort levels of both cyclists and pedestrians.
- Projects and Needs and Goals (see list for “How” with the city, above)
- Improving (changing) the culture to achieve better cooperation and consideration with all road users, particularly between vehicle drivers and cyclists. How any cyclist can both ride better (for the image) and drive better (for the other cyclists) – and how the word about both of these can be spread to friends and neighbors.