



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

AGENDA for 6:00 PM Thursday May 9, 2019 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 (March 14, 2019) which were posted to the website (<http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes.html>) and also provided at this meeting.

3. News of developments since the last meeting

- a. Report from BWGL mapping subcommittee activity (latest bike map draft) April 16, 2019. The draft map will be shown at the meeting, but a WL focused map is available on the Bicycle and Pedestrian program web page of the City website:
<https://www.westlafayette.in.gov/department/division.php?structureid=255>
- b. Funding has been obtained (\$10M) for reconstructing (widening) the one-lane railroad underpass on Newman Road. Construction is planned to start in the first quarter of 2020 and will take one year to complete.
- c. Plans for 2019 Bike Month (May) and Bike to Work Day (May 17) events – draft poster/calendar sent out as attachments – also see this link (<https://bikewalkgreaterlafayette.org/have-fun/calendar-of-events/>) for list of Bike Month activities.
Note that Marcus Smith will be holding Bike Safety Presentation and Ride at 6pm on May 13 at the former Happy Hollow School. (More details at <https://bikewalkgreaterlafayette.org/events/bike-safety-presentation/>.)
- d. Proposed ordinance changes relating to cyclists (draft wording attached to the end of this agenda). This was planned to be introduced for first reading this month, but at pre-council it was tabled until June to give the police time to review the wording for its impact on enforcement. Marcus would like feedback about these proposed changes at the meeting.
- e. Other updates from Marcus Smith, the WL Bike-Ped coordinator.

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

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

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

6. Upcoming meetings:

- The next quarterly Citizens Participation Committee of the Area Plan Commission normally is scheduled to meet on Wednesday June 12 at 5:45PM 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 Room 115 of the former Happy Hollow School (temporary City Hall).

7. Other business and announcements

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled to be Thursday July 11, 2019.

8. Adjournment

AN ORDINANCE PROTECTING BICYCLE RIDERS

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette has a duty to conserve and promote the health, safety, peace, and good order of the community, which duty includes the need for providing safe roadways for bicyclists and ensuring the city is a bicycle-friendly community; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of bicyclists nationwide are killed each year in crashes with motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that promoting bicycle-friendly communities can improve the general health of the citizenry, increase property values, enhance economic activity, reduce traffic congestion, and decrease air pollution; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance is necessary to provide safe roadways to bicyclists and to better ensure the city is a bicycle-friendly community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE that:

SECTION ONE: Sec. 38-207 (Careless operation of vehicles; vulnerable road user) is amended, effective upon adoption of this ordinance, to read as follows (**additions in bold**):

(a) **As used in this section, vulnerable road user means the following:**

(1) **a pedestrian, including a person engaged in work upon a street, highway, or alley, or in work upon a utility facilities along a street, highway, or alley, or engaged in the provision of emergency services within the right-of-way;**

(2) **a person riding or leading an animal;**

(3) **a person lawfully operating or riding any of the following on a right-of-way, crosswalk, or a shoulder of a street or highway:**

(A) **a bicycle, tricycle, or other pedal-powered vehicle;**

(B) **a skateboard;**

(C) **roller skates;**

(D) **in-line skates;**

(E) **a scooter; or**

(F) **an electric personal assistive mobility device.**

(b) It is unlawful to operate a vehicle upon any street, highway, or alley within the city with careless disregard for or indifferent lack of attention to surrounding conditions and circumstances.

(c) **A person who causes physical injury or death to a vulnerable road user as a result of a violation of this section shall be fined in an amount established by the city.**

SECTION TWO: Sec. 38-361 (Parking prohibited in specific places) is amended, effective upon adoption of this ordinance, to read as follows (**additions in bold**):

(a) No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the law or the directions of a police officer or traffic control device, in any of the following places:

(1) between sidewalk and curb;

(2) on the traveled portion of any roadway, which does not have a curb or gutter, when such stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic;

(3) upon any islands which separate traffic lanes; **and**

(4) **in a bicycle lane or cycle track.**

(b) No person shall move a vehicle not lawfully under the person's control into any such prohibited area or away from a curb such distance as is unlawful.

SECTION THREE: Sec. 38-257 (Dooring) is added to the West Lafayette City Code as a new section, effective upon adoption of this ordinance, to read as follows:

(a) Subject to all other laws pertaining to stopping, standing, and parking a motor vehicle, no person while stopping, standing, or parking a motor vehicle on or next to a highway, street, or alley shall do either of the following:

(1) open the door of the motor vehicle, unless it is reasonably safe to do so and can be done without interfering with the movement of traffic and pedestrians and bicycles traveling on sidewalks, shoulders, or bicycle lanes; or

(2) cause a door to remain open on the side of the motor vehicle for a period of time that is longer than necessary to load or unload passengers or items.

(b) A person who violates this section is subject to a fine in an amount established by the city.

SECTION FOUR: Sec. 38-314 (Where to ride bicycle) is added to the West Lafayette City Code as a new section, effective upon adoption of this ordinance, to read as follows:

(a) A person operating a bicycle upon a street or highway at less than the normal speed of traffic shall ride in the right-hand lane of the street or highway subject to the following:

(1) If the right-hand lane is wide enough to be safely shared with overtaking vehicles, a person operating a bicycle shall ride far enough to the right as judged safe by the bicyclist to facilitate the movement of such overtaking vehicles unless other conditions make it unsafe to do so.

(2) A person operating a bicycle may use a lane other than the right-hand lane when:

(A) overtaking or passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction;

(B) preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;

(C) reasonably necessary to avoid conditions, including, but not limited to: fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards or lanes that are too narrow for a bicycle and a motor vehicle to travel safely side by side within such lanes;

(D) approaching an intersection where right turns are permitted and there is a dedicated right turn lane, in which case a bicyclist may ride on the left-hand side of such dedicated lane, even if the bicyclist does not intend to turn right;

(E) riding on a roadway designated for one-way traffic, when the bicyclist may ride as near to the left-hand curb or edge of such roadway as judged safe by the bicyclist; or

(F) riding on parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles, including, but not limited to, contra-flow bicycle lanes, left-handed cycle tracks or bicycle lanes on one-way streets and two-way cycle tracks or bicycle lanes.

(b) A person operating a bicycle shall not be required to:

(1) ride over or through hazards at the edge of a roadway, including but not limited to: fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or narrow lanes; or

(2) ride without a reasonable safety margin on the right-hand side of the roadway.

(c) A person operating a bicycle in compliance with this section and not violating any other section of law is not impeding traffic.

SECTION ELEVEN: Sec. 2-288 – Fines – is amended in the West Lafayette City Code, effective upon publication of this ordinance, to add the following item to the table of fines:

A violation of any offense stated below shall result in the following fines:

Section	Description	Fine
38-207	Carless operation of vehicle, causing injury or death to vulnerable road user	