



## West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday March 4, 2010 6:00 PM  
Walnut Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), Bill Arthur, Jim Bethel, Stewart Frescas, and Andy Hirsch

### 1. The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

2. **Corrections were requested for the minutes** of the previous meeting (November 17) which were distributed by email on November 18 with this agenda and also at this meeting. No corrections or additions were forthcoming.

### 3. News of developments since the last meeting:

Local Projects/CPC Meeting: Curt presented the list of local road and trail projects (see addendum to the minutes). This info was obtained from the CPC meeting held Feb 23. The burst of projects is partly due to several delays in projects last year (to save funds) as well as the federal Stimulus funding that passed last year and supplemental stimulus funding likely to pass this year. Curt stressed that to influence the design of projects, the technical contact (Opal Kuhl for Tippecanoe County and David Buck for the City of West Lafayette) should be lobbied/lettered/mailed during the PE (preconstruction engineering) phase. Thus, it is very timely now to attempt to influence Opal Kuhl about the Klondike and Lindberg projects.

Legislation: Information about a state bill (HB 1182) on Complete Streets and federal bill (HB 4722) on Active Community Transportation (ACT Act) was presented and these were discussed. The Complete Streets initiative has been ongoing for several years by bicycle advocacy groups nationally and is geared to force transportation planners at the state and lower levels to adhere to complete streets guidelines provided at the federal level. A similar bill is pending in Michigan. HB 1182 was voted out of the house committee in January. [After the meeting Andy Hirsch emailed news from the IBC that the Senate version of this bill failed to get hearing in the Senate committee.] The ACT Act information was from the Rails to Trails Conservancy, and it was in the very early stages of having been introduced and had not yet been heard by the transportation subcommittee and was still seeking co-sponsors. The ACT Act would create a \$2B program to fund improvements to bicycling and pedestrian transportation networks to make them more usable by communities (for more information visit [http://www.railstotrails.org/ourWork/advocacy/activeTransportation/campaignForActiveTransportation/ACT\\_act.html](http://www.railstotrails.org/ourWork/advocacy/activeTransportation/campaignForActiveTransportation/ACT_act.html)). Andy Hirsch also asked about the safety bill that changed the safe passing requirements and some other rules of the road for bicycle-motor vehicle interactions. No one had any information at the meeting. [After the meeting Andy Hirsch emailed news from the IBC that this bill failed to proceed because it was not heard by a Senate committee.]

Others news – by participants present:

Stewart mentioned that there will be a new bicycle store opening this year in the 700 block of Main Street of Lafayette. He has met the owner and thought it may be possible to get his help with some of our initiatives, especially commuting and possibly bike to work day.

Stewart also indicated that by attending the meetings of the Wabash River Enhancement Commission (visit: <http://www.wabashriver.net/>), it is now clear that their planning for the “urban corridor” will focus initially on building a Brown Street Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge. Now that a target objective has been identified, they will begin to focus planning, determining resources needed, and on obtaining coordination of local authorities and the funding to make this a reality.

#### **4. New meeting time and day**

Curt indicated that the room availability and his schedule dictated that the meeting day be changed from the third Tuesday of the month. The candidates included the first Tuesday of the month and the second the month. Those present indicated there was not a preference for the day or any reason to change the time, so it was left to Curt, who picked the second Thursday of the month. A discussion of the meeting frequency led to the conclusion to meet monthly through May then reevaluate if monthly or bimonthly would be best.

#### **5. Open forum for problems and ideas for new actions**

Andy wondered why the at-grade rail crossing on Lindberg never seems to get repaired. Curt said he would try to find out via his contacts with the APC.

#### **6. Project Reports (with activity)**

- Bike to Day May 21, 2010 – Curt has asked Andy Hirsch and Bill Arthur to chair a subcommittee to do this project for this year. Andy indicated he has another advocate from the bike club, Pat Boling, who will also be involved. In addition to the information on this at the League of American Bicyclists web site (<http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bikemonth/>), past efforts for Bike to work day were discussed, including a joint (Lafayette and West Lafayette) mayoral proclamation, inviting local politicians an press, and getting participation of City employees. The latter element is consistent with the WL CLEAN Community Challenge objective 3 (See nest item).
- CLEAN Community Challenge (IDEM) Project – Curt has been working as part of the Go Greener Commission with the City of West Lafayette to develop and implement a non-motorized objective for the City’s CLEAN Community Challenge Environmental plan, which is currently in draft form that is about ready to be submitted to IDEM for approval. Objective #3 on Non-motorized Transportation (to improve air quality) includes sub-objectives to increase amount of multi-use trails, to implement Complete Streets objectives during all project planning, and increase non-motorized transportation and mass transit by city employees. This includes some monitoring as well as employ incentives and communications that may be able to dovetail with the Bike-To-Work Day activities.

#### **7. Upcoming meetings:**

- The next meeting of the APC Citizens Participation Committee's (CPC) is expected to be Tuesday April 27, at 7:00 pm in the Grand Prairie Room of the County Office Bldg, 20 N. Third Street, Lafayette
- Those interested in a finer-grained level of current municipal projects should attend either or both of the APC technical traffic committee and the WL traffic commission (see meeting times and places in the Agenda).

#### **8. Other business and announcements**

Curt said there was an inquiry about obtaining the group’s email addresses for inviting to be a part of a study and asked if anyone objected. There were none.

The next meeting of this committee will be Thursday, April 8th at 6:00 pm.

**9. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 pm**

*These minutes were submitted by email on March 5, 2010 by Curt Ashendel.*

Addendum to the minutes of the March 4, 2010 meeting.

### **Report on Local Infrastructure Projects:**

PE= preconstruction engineering

RW= purchase of right of way

CN=construction

### **US 231 and Consequences**

There are many projects of interest, but the one with the most consequences is US231. Now a single \$81M project, construction is now scheduled to begin October 1 this year and be completed by 2012. This affects both the Klondike/Lindberg and Cumberland extension projects in the County, the Purdue Transportation Plan roads, as well as the handing over of numerous INDOT owned streets to the city of West Lafayette. This includes: Happy Hollow Road, Soldiers' Home Road, State Street, and Northwestern Avenue.

Klondike/Lindberg (Widen to four lanes, with sidewalk on one side and paved multiuse trail on the other side):

Klondike (200N to US52) PE 2011, RW 2011 CN 2014

Lindberg (Klondike to McCormik) PE 2011, RW 2011, CN 2014

Happy Hollow Road (US 52 to N. River Rd):

Reconstruction with sidewalks along most of both sides. RW 2011 CN 2013

Soldiers' Home Road (reconstruction and urbanization):

Phase I (US52 to Kalberer) PE 2012, RW 2013, CN 2014

Phase II (Kalberer to WL city limits) PE 2013, RW 2014, CN 2015

Cumberland Extension westward (County):

On hold until 231 is completed.

Purdue Transportation Plan:

Williams/Harrison streets (reconstruction and widening) CN 2010

Phase 1A, Pt 2: (Portions of Harrison, Gant, Williams, and Chauncey: reconstruction and widening) – PE+RW 2011, CN 2012

Phase 1B – (Northwestern, Vine) reconfigure one-way streets – PE 2010, RW 2011, CN 2012

Phase 1B – (Grant and Chauncey) reconfigure one way – PE 2011 RW 2012, CN 2013

Phase 2: Stadium – Jiske to Northwestern – widening: PE 2011, CN 2013

Phase 3A: Harrison (Airport to State) reconstruction and widening PE 2015

### **Other Local Projects**

Yeager Rd Phase I (Northwestern to US52)

Widen to 4 lanes and complete sidewalks. Construction in 2011.

Yeager Rd Phase II (Kalberer to city limits)

Road paving. Constr. in 2013

Yeager Rd Phase III (at curves north of Kalberer)

Road Realignment and paving. PE 2011, constr. In 2012

Cumberland (reconstruction):

Phase II (Yeager to Salisbury) – construction in 2011

Phase III (Salisbury to Soldiers' Home Rd) – PE 2012, RW 2013, CN 2014

Pretty Prairie Rd (Battleground to Tyler Rd):

Resurfacing (County will also add 12 inch paved shoulders) – construction in 2010 (already contracted)

Salisbury:

Phase III (Rainbow to US52) Reconstruction with new sidewalks and intersection improvements.

RW 2011 and constr. In 2012

Wiggins to Robinson: Resurface – construction in 2010 (already contracted)

Wabash Heritage Trail Extension:

Phase I (Trolley Line Trail to Existing Trail at the River) – construction in 2010

Phase II (Happy Hollow Park to Rose Street) – construction in 2011

Cattail Trail Extension (Northwestern to Neil Armstrong Dr.):

PE in 2013, construction in 2014

Tyler Road (900N to N County Line Rd):

Surface (safety) improvements. Cons. To begin 2011

South River Road Phase III (Co Rd 300W to US231):

Widening and resurfacing. Const to start 2011

Co Rd 350N (Morehouse to WL city limit):

Resurfacing – 2010 (already contracted)

Lilly Road Bridge (replacement and approaches):

Construction in 2011