



## **West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee**

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday May 10, 2012 6:00 PM  
Board Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), Stewart Frescas, Nick Harby, and Andy Hirsch.

### **1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.**

**2. Corrections were requested for the minutes** of the previous meeting (March 8, 2012) which were posted to the WLBPC web site (<http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes.html>) on March 10, 2012. None were noted in the meeting.

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

CPC meeting March 27: Curt reported that this again covered the 2040 transportation plans for bicycle and pedestrian projects, which have been slightly revised (two changes were to add bike lanes to both Wiggins and Fowler in WL and to have sidewalks on both sides of Sagamore Parkway in Lafayette) as well as prioritized. It also covered a draft of a complete streets policy to be included in this plan. This represents the first time a complete streets policy has been proposed for inclusion in transportation planning in the county. Unfortunately, the City of Lafayette wishes to be exempt from many of the provisions, and residents of Lafayette are urged to communicate to the Mayor's office the importance of cyclists and pedestrians in transportation planning. The plan, including the policy, can be viewed on the [APC web page for the 2040 plan](#) and the APC staff is still hoping for more feedback on these (see email addresses on that web page). In the discussion at the end of the meeting, the APC staff said that a bike-ped plan revision would be done soon and that it would include both inter-city trail development as well as mountain bicycling facilities.

Andy reported that the APC transportation planning staff also talked to the Wabash River Cycle Club about the plan at a recent meeting of the club. This was very well received and the communication was highly constructive and effective.

An APC public hearing on long range transportation plan including the complete streets was held Thursday April 26. Stewart and Nick attended and reported that there was a reasonable attendance and that the comments were uniformly positive and supportive of the plan and proposed policy.

Purdue Parking and Transportation Committee - Jim Bethel presented to this committee on April 24 about the need for covered and secure bicycle parking on campus for commuters. Curt was present and helped answer questions. The senior PU Physical Facilities staff member there, Alan Leonard, said that he had already discussed this with the PUPD and there were questions about safety of cyclists in parking structures. Though we responded at the time to this and other concerns, Jim is working on gathering data from other universities about this issue to pass on to PU Physical Facilities and the PUPD. Curt and Jim plan to follow up on this to make sure the issue keeps getting pushed.

The Lafayette City Council discussed at its most recent meeting a proposed ordinance by Margy Deverall that addresses removal of abandoned bicycles at the public bike racks in Lafayette. The significance of this was discussed. It was noted that West Lafayette, though it has less publicly funded bicycle parking infrastructure than Lafayette, is likely need for a similar policy sometime in the near future. Stewart commented on this at the City council meeting.

The railroad crossing on Lindberg Road west of West Lafayette has been repaired (Andy reported it was completed during the last week of April).

Curt was invited to participate in a panel discussion on Urban Design to the Purdue Urban Design student organization during Spring Fest in April. Two other speakers included Jenifer Peterson from the Lafayette Development office and John Fricker of Purdue's Civil Engineering department. The meeting had low attendance but the presentations were informative and discussion was good. Curt was the only one to speak on transportation planning.

The Indiana Safe Routes to School Partnership announced two items. (a) that May 9 was the first annual national Bike to School Day. Only 15 schools participated, and none were from Tippecanoe County. We need to be providing some help with this so that somehow we can break the current gridlock caused by parents driving their kids to school. (b) May 29 is the due date for submission of Safe Routes To School grant proposals to INDOT for the next year of funding.

Andy reported that an agreement has been reached by the Wabash River Cycle Club with the City of West Lafayette and Bicycle Indiana to cost-share the purchase and installation of two "share the road" signs (one for each traffic direction) for the approach to the new bridge across Celery Bog. Work to finalize detail is ongoing, so an estimated time for installation is not yet available.

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

- a. Curt reported that John Thomas of the APC told him that the problem with the expansion plate on the WB sidewalk of the new SR26 bridge is scheduled for repair by a contractor, though there is no information about the time-line for this repair. Stewart reported that the metal plate blocking traffic had been moved to allow for traffic to proceed through the area with the problem.

#### **5. Projects of the Committee (only projects with progress will be reported on):**

- a. Bike to work day will be held Friday May 18, 2012 – Planning for this event. Andy Hirsch, Bill Arthur, Pat Boling and Scott Davis are involved, and Stewart helped with the posters. This event shows the community that cycle commuters are important and growing in numbers and that sharing the road (and the transportation funding) is important. Please show up at the rally at 7:30am Friday at the bus turnaround at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Main Street in Lafayette. Coffee and possibly some breakfast munchies will be provided by KD's Coffee. There will be a mayoral proclamation, and possibly some give-away items.

#### **6. Upcoming meetings:**

The next meeting of the Citizens Participation Committee of the Area Plan Commission has not yet been announced, but the next meeting normally would be scheduled to be held at 7PM Tuesday, May 22 in the Grand Prairie room of the County Office Building.

The next WL Traffic Commission meetings are at 5:00pm on the second Tuesday of each month in the WL City Hall

The next APC Technical Transportation Meetings are at 2pm on the second Wednesday of each month in the County Office Bldg.

**7. Other business and announcements**

The next meeting of this committee will be Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**8. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm**

These minutes were submitted to the WLBPC website on May 15, 2012 by Curt Ashendel