



West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday March 23, 2017 6:00 PM
Board Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), Bill Arthur, Jim Bethel, Stewart Frescas, Carl Griffin, Nick Harby and Rose Kaczmarowski.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

2. **Corrections were requested for the minutes** of the previous meeting (January 12, 2017) which were posted to the WLBPB web site (<http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes.html>) on March 22, 2017 and also provided at this meeting. No corrections were noted in the meeting.

3. News of developments since the last meeting

- a. Bicycle Community Safety Program progress was updated by Rose, as Curt was unable to attend these meetings. Mostly the recent meetings were focused on marketing development (logo, website, branding, and media channels). The survey is still open (please publicize and complete): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LafayetteBikePed>
- b. State Street Redevelopment - major construction this summer starting around April 1 and lasting through November 30, with most intense closings/construction from May 11 through Aug 18. For details including maps, see <http://statestreetwl.com/>. Two public meetings were held on March 23 with presentation of many details. Nixle alerts will be made. Electronic sign up for these alerts is available (<https://local.nixle.com/city/in/west-lafayette/>).
- c. Curt reported on the January 24th meeting of the CPC. This involved discussion of the performance measures in the draft long range MTP but mostly discussed 2018 to 2021 projects in the (short range) Transportation improvement plan (TIP) including contract letting dates for projects yet in 2017 and early 2018. Projects (mostly in 2018) to be let include the long awaited Klondike/Lindberg widening in the county, as well as the construction of the Happy Hollow Neighborhood trail and the Sagamore parkway trail from the new bridge. A new project is the reconstruction and widening of Morehouse Rd which will be engineered in 2019 and constructed in 2021; the Cherry Ln extension to US231 (construction in 2019) – which will include an adjacent trail; and Yeager Rd extension and widening (2021). Planning will begin on Soldiers Home Rd phase 1 in 2020. Due to the Cherry Ln extension, the APC will be proposing that McCormick Rd be permanently closed just North of Cherry Ln.
- d. As part of Bike to Work Day activities, the committee for this has developed a plan to count bicycle commuters. Volunteers are being recruited for counting bicyclists during April 18 through May 5. 26 locations will be counted using standard methods, with incentives provided for volunteers who will count cyclists for 2 hours at one location and submit their counts. The link for signup will be sent out by email. Steph is managing the signup, Carl Griffin raised incentive funding from sponsors, and Tim Stroshine at the APC division of transportation planning developed and managed the counting and reporting processes and will generate the analysis and report of the results. The hope is to repeat this annually to determine how mode share is changing.
- e. A speed indicator sign was posted on Lafayette side of East-bound Harrison Bridge in January. These have been documented to slow travel speeds. Bill Arthur reported that he has been in contact with

Opal Kuhl (County Highways) and both City Engineering offices about safety for bicyclists on this bridge. Opal has indicated that the current deck will be restriped this year (by Lafayette) to include bike lanes made possible by narrowing the travel lanes. The deck will be replaced in 7 to 8 years and at that time the median will be removed to make room, the drains will be moved, and the sidewalks on each side will be widened to 10 ft trails with a barrier between the vehicle travel lanes and the trails. Also, Bill has been getting some traction with the idea that a 30 mph speed limit would be more appropriate than 35 mph since Lafayette recently reduced the speed limit on EB Union after the bridge to be 25mph (to conform to the WB Salem speed limit), and also since the speed limit in WL is 30mph. Also, Lafayette plans to put a traffic signal at the intersection of 6th Street and Union. This was highly positive news! Great work Bill!

- f. There was a general public information meeting on autonomous vehicle research at Purdue February 27. Stewart went to get the sentiment of the group. The meeting was very Pro-automation and there was no consideration indicated for vulnerable road users. Stewart urges strong and continued vigilance about this to prevent potentially dangerous testing of these vehicles on our community streets rather than in research testing venues built for this purpose. Also, Uber's autonomous vehicles were kicked off San Francisco's streets due to a combined effort of pedestrian and cycling advocates, which we may need to be prepared to do here.
- g. Road School was held March 7 and 8 at Purdue. Curt attended one session on pedestrian planning and project prioritization presented by the Indianapolis MPO and consultants involved. While informative, it is likely to be several years before Tippecanoe County and the Cities can reach this point in pedestrian planning.

4. Open forum for problems and ideas for new actions

Rose presented her plan for organizing an open street event, with Bicycle Lafayette, near Columbian Park. The schedule is not set yet, but with aspiration for it to be in late summer this year.

5. Projects of the Committee discussed

Bike To Work Day – Plans for event on Friday May 19, 2017 were presented. Planning involves effort from participants in this committee (Carl and Rose), Bicycle Lafayette, as well as the APC transportation staff, with financial support from IU-Health, Arconic, Evonik, and both Cities. The plans consists of two aspects: An event on the West side of the Myers Pedestrian Bridge including Mayoral proclamations, food and drink (including coffee from Fuel) from 7:30 to 8:30am; and the bicyclist counting indicated in Recent Developments, above. A poster was designed and printed and publicity (press release) will be done just before the even. Thank you to Carl, Rose, Steph (and others at Bicycle Lafayette) for their hard work on both of these efforts.

6. Other business and announcements

- The next meeting of the APC CPC is scheduled to be on Tuesday March 28 at 7:00 pm in the Grand Prairie Room of the Tippecanoe Office Building.
- The next meeting of this committee is was scheduled for May 11.
- 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. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm

These minutes were submitted to the WLBPC website on May 10, 2017 by Curt Ashendel