



Central Iowa Bicycle-Pedestrian Roundtable

12:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 17, 2019

Burnham Room, MPO Office

420 Watson Powell, Suite 200, Des Moines, IA

MINUTES

Roundtable Attendees Present

Chair, Vern Willey II, City of Altoona

Colby Fangman, City of Des Moines

Jeff Wiggins, City of Des Moines

Chris Widmer, City of Pleasant Hill

Marco Alvarez, City of West Des Moines

Adam Fendrick, Polk County Conservation

Loren Lown, Citizen Advisor

Ryan Weimold, Story County

Conservation

Carl Voss, Street Collective

Jeremy Lewis, Street Collective

Jeff Davidson, Keep Iowa

Beautiful – Jasper County

John Peterson, Citizen Advisor

Rob Haaland, Bolton & Menk

Mindy Moore, Snyder and Associates

Luke Bowers, Iowa Natural Heritage

Foundation

Laura Smidt, Catch Des Moines

Rich Leopold, Polk County Conservation

John Davis, City of Des Moines

Ross Grooters, City of Pleasant Hill/DART

Clifford A Leonard, Citizen

Roundtable Staff Present

Sreyoshi Chakraborty, Senior Planner

Zhi Chen, Associate Planner

Tanvi Halde, Intern

- 1. Call To Order – 12:00 PM**
- 2. Introductions**
- 3. VOTE: Approval of Agenda**
- 4. VOTE: Approval of November 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

5. PRESENTATION: Strategic Trail Planning

Rich Leopold from Polk County Conservation led a discussion on strategic trail planning, for the future. The discussion focused on the need for a strategic governance model for trails. The goal was to visualize into the future and think about what policies, processes and operational agreements need to be institutionalized. Thought needs to be put into emerging technology, safety and congestion problems, static budgets, economic downturns etc. Currently there is no standardized decision making process for trails. Common governance model or some other mechanism such as a series of MOUs might help us. Is there interest in seeing a solid governance model for regional trail issues? The MPO is a good way to bring entities together for a discussion and working out an agreement. A smaller subgroup to research different governance and maintenance model and flushing out the challenges and opportunities regarding this topic as next steps. Potential meeting with regional parks departments to talk about this and a few other topics being explored.

6. PRESENTATION: 2019 Central Iowa Trails Condition Report

Zhi Chen from the MPO presented findings from the 2019 Trails Condition Report. The Report provides a good snapshot of the roughness of the trail system. However, there should be upfront acknowledgement that the report should be used in conjunction with visual and other surveys, as roughness is just one of several components used to determine trail condition. Actual visual experience of some sections of trail does not jive with the report. A friendly reminder to jurisdictions where problems exist could be the start of a conversation regarding a systematic approach to maintenance.

7. DISCUSSION: Trail Mapping Tool and Update

The MPO staff has been working with its regional partners to make the process of updating the trail maps and GIS database more efficient and accurate. A trail mapping subcommittee has been formed which is helping with identifying ways to streamline the process and improve the quality of information within the database. Additionally, in order to make the process of collecting updates regarding new trails and bike/ped facilities, the MPO has worked with the City of Des Moines to create a web-based application, which allows member agencies to provide input electronically. Not only does this make it more convenient and accessible, it allows valuable trail attribute information to be input electronically and added to the database. Input to be provided to the MPO by January 21st. The web application can be accessed [here](#). Following input, the updates will be sent to the City of Des Moines to be edited into the trail GIS database.

8. Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee

- SRTS Conference – January 23, 2020
- E-Scooter survey, <https://dmampo.org/e-scooter-study/>

9. Project Updates

Levee trail construction is done, west from 63rd street to Jordan Creek Trail; Youngstown Trail connecting GLW Trail to south is done, landscaping remains; Colby Fangman from City of DSM has done great work for 5th Street bridge, there is a bicycle access ramp now, turning radius still challenging.

10. Future Agenda Items

- TBD

11. Next Roundtable Meeting Date: 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2020

12. Adjournment