Central Iowa Bicycle-Pedestrian Roundtable

12:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2019
Burnham Room, MPO Office
420 Watson Powell, Suite 200, Des Moines, IA

MINUTES

Roundtable Attendees Present
Chair, Vern Willey II, City of Altoona  Jeff Davidson, Keep Iowa
Nick Lenox, City of Ankeny  Beautiful – Jasper County
Colby Fangman, City of Des Moines  Coty Thompson, U.S. Army
Jeff Wiggins, City of Des Moines  Corps of Engineers
Chris Widmer, City of Pleasant Hill  Butch Neibuhr, Bolton & Menk
Kevin James, City of Urbandale  Rob Haaland, Bolton & Menk
Marco Alvarez, City of West Des Moines  Eric Holt, Shive Hattery
Loren Lown, Citizen Advisor  Jenifer Bates, Shive Hattery
Carl Saxon, DART  Mindy Moore, Snyder and Associates
Carl Voss, Street Collective  Dian Nostikasari, Drake University
Andrea Boulton, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation  Pat Shehan, Story County Conservation
Heritage Foundation  Ethan Standard, Wellmark
Lisa Hein, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation  Allison van Pelt, DMAMPO/Street Collective
Foundation  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 December 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

5. **PRESENTATION: MPO and CIRTPA TAP Application Update**
   MPO Staff provided an update on MPO TAP and CIRTPA TAP applications submitted for FFY 2024. Four applications were received from the MPO area including the City of Ankeny, City of Clive, City of Des Moines, and DART. The total ask between all four projects is about $1.7 million. The projects have been scored by an independent subcommittee. Their scores will be forwarded to the Funding Subcommittee who will make the final award allocations. The applicants will present their projects to the Funding Subcommittee on February 26. Two CIRTPA applications were received from the City of Adel and the City of Pleasantville. The CIRTPA Board will meet in March to review the projects.

6. **DISCUSSION: Trail Mapping Update, MPO**
   An update was provided on the trail input received so far. 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. A few communities have provided input. The MPO will continue to take feedback till the end of January. RT members expressed the need to collect additional facilities information in addition to trails.

7. **DISCUSSION: Trail Mapping Attribute Discussion, MPO**
   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. The subcommittee is working on attribute information related to the trails. One of the key recommendations is make trail classifications consistent with the State which has updated its classification levels. The consensus from the RT members is to be consistent with the State, however, have additional discussions to flesh out how the local and connector trails would be classified.

8. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
   - SRTS Conference – January 23, 2020
9. **Project Updates**
   - Potential statewide REI Grant opportunity, tangible project that public can use, e.g exercise equipment,
   - Des Moines Councilman Voss points out that trails are often referred to as bike trails. Trails are used by everyone, including walkers, runners, skaters etc. Yet bicyclists are being called out to pay for trails. Everyone benefits from the trails, not just bicyclists.
   - Colby Fangman to be recognized as Volunteer Supervisor of the Year,
   - Prairie Rail Trail to be completed this fall, Heart of Iowa Nature Trail Phase I should be wrapping up next month, Phase II will go from Huxley to Skunk River, goes out to bid in April/May should be done by late summer of 2020, also planning to do the Slater connection from High Trestle Trail this summer and looking for funding, Phase III from south end of Ames to tie to Slater connection,
   - Couple projects worth noting include Levy Trail Renovation which started this fall, have had the concrete portions paved, rerouted where there were some erosion issues, reconstruction of the asphalt portion to be done in spring, couple planning project updates – consultants continue to work on Sugar Creek Trail, expected to be done by fall, it is a regionally significant trail for West Des Moines, also working with a consultant on single track trail planning, will be the first single track trail for the community, site inventory being done right now,
   - Governor has mentioned funding IWILL, talks about changing the formula, trails are expected to go from 10 to 4 percent, but that would still be $7-8 million in state funds, which is a huge improvement over the current amount, Trails Summit on October 2 in Hamilton County, Enhance Iowa Program Funds application deadline is in May,
   - Iowa Bicycling Lobby Day tomorrow at the Capitol.

10. **Future Agenda Items**
    - City of Urbandale’s Complete Streets Plan, Jan Herke, City of Urbandale (March, 2020)

11. **Next Roundtable Meeting Date:** 12:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, February 17, 2020**

12. **Adjournment**