

**Central Iowa Bicycle-Pedestrian Roundtable**

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**12:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 17, 2022**

**Burnham Room, MPO Office**

**420 Watson Powell, Suite 200, Des Moines, IA (\*HYBRID)**

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**MINUTES**

[**MEETING RECORDING LINK**](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Lm2kg8a9oBY3C0XkeeH9AbA6qtZtAlBdDidkj_gAva7HsoT4KguhWwcnsc0DmRIL.ppLWJHfho2Qz_DtQ?startTime=1652806415000)

**Roundtable Attendees Present:**

Jeff Wiggins, DSM Engineering

Eric Holt, Bolton + Menk

Vern Willey, City of Altoona

Kent Sovern, AARP

Marco Alvarez, WDM Parks & Rec

Andrea Boulton, INHF

Marina Reasoner, City of Altoona

Richard Voelker, Snyder & Associates

Carl Voss, City of DSM and Street Collective

Colby Fangman, DSM Parks & Recreation Dept.

Mindy Moore, HDR

Adam Fendrick, Polk County Conservation

Derek Hansen, DSM Parks & Recreation Dept.

Carl Saxon, DART

Pat Sheehan, Story County Conservation

Scott Hock, Urbandale Parks, Rec & Facilities

Nick Lenox, City of Ankeny

Chris Widmer, City of Pleasant Hill

**MPO Staff Present:**

Aspen Pflanz

Zhi Chen

1. **Call To Order – 12:04 p.m.**
2. **Introductions**
3. **VOTE: Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** Colby Fangman | **SECOND:** Jeff Wiggins

**MOTION PASSES.**

1. **VOTE: Approval of April 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Jeff Wiggins | **SECOND:** Colby Fangman

**MOTION PASSES.**

1. **DISCUSSION: Trails Planning and GIS Subcommittees**

Aspen summarized the Trails Planning and GIS Subcommittee meeting. The hour before the monthly Bike-Ped RT meeting will be reserved for both subcommittees (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.), who will meet as-needed. Aspen will coordinate the Planning group Zhi Chen will coordinate the GIS group. The Planning group will focus on best practices, internal policies, and facilitating coordination and communication between communities for trail maintenance, operations, aesthetics, access and crossings, easements, and signage. The GIS group will focus on cleaning up the regional GIS database’s standardized attributes and unnecessary fields and create a data management contacts inventory.

1. **DISCUSSION: Model Bicycle/Micromobility Ordinance**

Aspen, Jeff, and Mindy updated the group about the ordinance, which has been revised over the course of 5 months by a subcommittee and various city departments. The draft ordinance will undergo a handful of terminology edits and “Dead red” language polishing before it is sent out for review by the MPO’s legal counsel and City of Des Moines in June. The comments received will be incorporated into the final draft and presented to the Bike-Ped RT in July for official recommendation to the MPO’s Technical, Executive, and Policy Committees in August/September. It was recommended to develop a list of intersections that demonstrate the “Dead red” provision’s importance. Concerns about bicycles permitted on sidewalks, unless specifically prohibited, were shared. It was also recommended to distill the memo preceding the ordinance down to a one-page executive summary for our policymakers. Discussion about the status of permitting motorized/electric devices on soft-surface trails also followed. Touring the metro to discuss the ordinance with member communities prior to the MPO vote was advised.

1. **Other Non-Action Items of Interest to the Committee**
	* **Winter Snow Removal on Trails**

Aspen shared that 16 of the 25 MPO member communities responded to the request of sharing their snow removal policy on trails and bike routes. The communities that have not responded are smaller MPO communities, such as Cumming, that perhaps do not have trails and bike facilities to clear in addition to the roads and sidewalks. This information will be put into a regional map and one-page summary that may be shared with the communities and general public. Adam mentioned that for Polk County Conservation, and perhaps other county jurisdictions, it is not as cut and dry a determination of whether a trail is plowed or not in the wintertime: it is dependent on the drifting and overall safety of the crew tasked with removing the snow. In sum, it is more variable and subjective. This information will also be used in the upcoming InterConnect Plan.

* + **2020 E-Scooter Study**

Aspen shared the summary of the 20202 E-Scooter Study that the MPO assisted with in the region, which is now available on the MPO’s website. This study is not a best practice or recommendation, it is simply a survey gauging the metro’s attitudes towards e-scooters.

* **Others?**

None discussed.

1. **Project Updates**

Project updates were shared by Colby (City of Des Moines), Adam (Polk County Conservation), and Marco (City of West Des Moines), Nick (City of Ankeny), Scott (City of Urbandale),

1. **Upcoming Events & Notable News**
	* [**“Family of Cyclist ‘in shock’ over Iowa Law that Let Off Driver who Hit, Killed her while Looking at Phone”**](https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/crime-and-courts/2022/05/09/iowa-texting-driving-law-inadequate-family-cyclist-ellen-bengtson-says/9615576002/)
	* [**“Pastor on Bicycle Ride from Nashua, Iowa, to Nasua, New Hampshire”**](https://www.wmur.com/article/nashua-new-hampshire-pastor-fundraiser-bicycle/40011046)
	* [**Waukee Welcomes Bird Election Scooter Rentals, the Second Central Iowa City to do so”**](https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/local/waukee/2022/04/07/waukee-becomes-second-central-iowa-city-welcome-bird-scooter-rental-near-me/7272155001/)
	* [**Street Collective’s Bike Month Events**](https://www.dsmstreetcollective.org/bike-month)
2. **Future Agenda Items**

None shared.

1. **Next Roundtable Meeting Date: June 21, 2022!**
2. **Adjournment – 1:04 p.m.**

**MOTION:** Carl Voss **| SECOND:** Adam Fendrick

**MOTION PASSES.**

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