

**SANDPOINT PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
WEDNESDAY JUNE 21, 2017
2:15 PM CITY HALL DOWNSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM
1123 LAKE STREET**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Rebecca Holland, Steve Berenson (left after 20 minutes), Jessica Janssen, Molly O'Reilly

COUNCIL/STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Public Works Staff liaison Bruce Robertson, City Staff liaison Melissa Bethel - Minutes

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Tah Nguyen, Emmerson Kanning (student liaison)

Chairman Holland called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Approval of Minutes:

O'Reilly made several comments based on the previous discussions listed in the minutes.

Holland read a statement she felt should be included in the minutes.

Janssen moved and Berenson second to approve the May 17, 2017 minutes with Holland's statement. **Motion passes unanimously.**

Berenson stated based on the traffic reversion, now is the time for everyone in the community and the committee to act in an advisory role.

Old Business:

Pedestrian Safety around construction zones: 2nd discussion item

O'Reilly stated there was a motion made by the SPBAC in June last year regarding the City adopting safety standards for pedestrians around construction zones. She stated there has not been any word on what has happened. Robertson stated there is discussion adopting Idaho Standards for Public Works Construction and in that document is language which includes a short statement regarding pedestrians. Robertson stated he is doing what he can to get it adopted, but it is in administrative discussions. The Committee agreed to keep this item on the agenda for updates.

Pedestrian flags for Pine & Fifth Avenue crossing: 1st discussion item

Holland stated she would like to have pedestrian crossing flags at the bulb out at Pine and Fifth.

O'Reilly stated Pine Street is one way in that location and only one lane of traffic and she does not feel flags are needed in that location. O'Reilly stated Pine and Euclid has two lanes so it may be more dangerous, but she would keep watching the area to see.

"Wish List" for street markings and signage:

Holland stated every year the Committee puts together a wish list to go to Public Works.

O'Reilly stated the first markings should be at schools, then start at busy streets and work down. Robertson stated RPI has been rained out and is scheduled again for a Sunday soon. Robertson explained what RPI does and what City crews are responsible for. Holland stated she would like to see the sharrows done. She stated sharrows on Bridge Street should be implemented, she stated the right thing to do is bike like a car and take that route and by not striping it is asking bicycles to do what pedestrians do. Robertson stated it is a complicated spot. Officer Hutter stated bicycles should be in the street with traffic. He stated the good thing is Bridge Street is 15 miles per hour and he see bikes there all the time. Holland stated sharrows allow cars to know that bikes will be on the street and bikes to be on the street. Paint types were discussed in relation to wear and tear.

Stated as a new person he did not know about the sidewalk rule. Robertson stated it is his understanding that the City Attorney is reluctant to put official signage up because of the liability. The Committee is encouraged to have informal signage. Holland stated the Committee has a nice sign that can be posted downtown for advisement.

O'Reilly stated the danger is because most buildings open right onto the sidewalk and riding on the sidewalks can be dangerous to pedestrians coming out of buildings. The Committee discussed bicycle and pedestrian issues with downtown.

Holland stated she would like east/west bike route signs located..

And in front of South Fork Hardware the tree blocks the signage.

O'Reilly stated the community trail lines have been nice and made a difference.

Bike registration online: 3rd discussion item

Officer Hutter stated laserfiche will be active for the bike registrations in October. He stated the current paperwork is on-line so people can fill them out and bring in the form. Officer Hutter stated the reason for having people bring in the form is because most do not fill it out all the way and it needs to be completed. He stated once the form is completed it is entered into a database and makes it easy for recovery of bikes.

Holland stated the form is already on-line, but would like it to be available for submission on line. She stated there are several ways to make the form more user friendly such as providing information on where to find serial numbers, what to do if your bike is stolen, and a confirmation that the submission was received.

Holland stated she found a site called Bikeindex.org which is a non profit out of Seattle. She stated it is a free registration with searchable database. Holland stated this moves the search to outside of Sandpoint area. Officer Hutter stated independent organizations are not efficient because not every independent organization can be searched as it would take too much time for staff. He stated NCIC is a national database for law enforcement and is what they use. He stated the independent databases are nice for someone who is looking to buy a bike and check to see if the bike is stolen.

Officer Hutter stated there has been two thefts recently from Greasy Fingers, and although bike thefts go up in the summer, they are usually from people leaving them out in yards. Officer

Hutter stated locked bikes are not usually stolen and video surveillance is helping to recover stolen bikes.

O'Reilly stated bike shops should be encouraged to register newly sold bikes. Janssen inquired if a stack of forms could be dropped off to bike shops. Holland stated she would like to work with staff and come up with a revamped form and instructions. O'Reilly stated as soon as it does go online there should be a marketing strategy to help get the word out about the registration process.

New Business:

New traffic patterns for downtown streets:

No discussion

Oak Street Bike Lanes and Sidewalk Project:

Robertson discussed the original grant application and project. He stated the project has changed and showed updated drawings of the project. Robertson stated a reason for the change in design is costs have gone up over the years. Robertson stated on July 11th there will be an open house to discuss the alternatives and designs for Oak Street.

Robertson stated the Downtown Streets Guide called for separated bike lanes. Robertson stated the neighboring property owners will be notified of the open house. The Committee discussed alternatives like widening the path to make one multimodal path for both bikes and pedestrians. Robertson explained issues with street, trees and design.

Matters from Commission or staff:

Walk/Bike/Skate safety concerns:

O'Reilly stated the SE pedestrian button on Hwy 2 & Boyer is not a talking button. Robertson stated it is in ITD's jurisdiction.

Holland inquired how the no right turn onto Hwy 2 can get implemented. Robertson stated it is also a ITD issue.

O'Reilly clarified the First and Cedar pedestrian crossing is not a problem and visibility is fine. Officer Hutter stated the Police Department is looking at the crossing.

Officer Hutter stated his primary task is traffic enforcement and his biggest concern is pedestrians waiting for traffic to stop. Pedestrians needs to stick one foot out to get traffic to stop. He stated traffic is not required to stop.

Holland stated there was extra City bike racks left over and would like to know if more staples could be put in on Main and Fourth in the bulb out.

City Project updates:

Robertson stated Oak Street and Baldy are the two projects right now.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m. Next meeting July 19, 2017