



## BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

City of Billings & Yellowstone County  
MEETING MINUTES



Tuesday, January 28, 2020 MEETING TIME: 11:30 am  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, Miller Building  
2825 3rd Avenue North, Billings, MT 59101

APPROVED BY A MOTION ON FEBRUARY 25, 2020

**Call to order:** Ed Gulick, BPAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:30 am

**Members present:** Anna O'Donnell, City; Scott Barber, City; Liana Susott, County.

**Others present:** Elyse Monat, Active Transportation Planner; Danny Choriki, Councilmember; Michelle Aman, Assistant Manager Billings 911 Center; Cassie Hoiness, Dispatcher Billings 911 Center; Matt Hoppel, Assistant Fire Chief; Morgan Miller.

### Public Comment Period:

- a. **Comments on items not on the agenda and request to add items to future agendas –**  
none
- b. **Online comments and comments received by the Active Transportation Planner –**  
None.

**Motion. Approval of the meeting minutes of December 3, 2019:** Liana Susott, BPAC member, moved to approve the minutes, Scott Barber, BPAC member, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business:

#### Bike Parking Update

All of the Billings branded bike racks have been installed downtown. There are currently 60 racks out and 3 that will be installed when the County pours concrete at the Courthouse. There is \$1,722.30 in the revolving bike parking account.

#### Project Re:Code Bike Parking Recommendations Adopted into draft plan.

Ed Gulick, BPAC Chair, congratulated BPAC members on getting required bike parking into Project Re:Code recommendations. BPAC will have to follow this through the adoption process to make sure that the required bike parking makes it into the final version.

### New Business:

#### Trail Emergencies

Mile markers or half-mile markers would be helpful for finding people on trails during emergencies. Pings are unreliable, and may delay response time. Several places across the county have developed trail-marking systems.

Matt said there are many grants for emergency services. Walmart and Town Pump might have grant options if the RTP grant option does not come through. Matt will also look into other grant opportunities.

Elyse will try to add in mile markers into the RTP grant.

Elyse will send the plan to Ron Frisbee to see if he has any input on sign placement.

### **Election of 2020 Officers**

Scott nominated Ed for 2020 BPAC Chair. Liana motioned to have Ed Gulick as BPAC Chair in 2020. Anna O'Donnell, BPAC Member, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

BPAC tabled the Vice Chair election until BPAC members Rose and Kristi are back.

### **Walkable City Rules**

Jeff Speck is coming to speak on April 16 at the Babcock Theater. There will be a book club leading up to his presentation to read and discuss his book *Walkable City Rules*.

Ed read "Rule 38: Revert Multi-lane One-ways to Two-way for Business", the "Sell Cycling" introduction, and "Rule 52: Justify Biking Investments" from *Walkable City Rules*.

Anna suggested making an event on Facebook for Jeff's speech.

Councilmember Choriki suggested adding a line item in the budget for education and having an event like this every year. He offered to announce it at a City Council meeting.

This House of Books will be carrying the *Walkable City Rules* book.

### **City of Billings staff parking/transit/active transportation policy**

Some organizations or businesses charge staff to use a parking space, payout employees who do not use their parking space in either money or vacation time, or give discounted bus passes. The City of Billings already gives discounted bus passes to its employees. This could be a topic for BPAC to take on and encourage the City to implement one of these strategies with their employees as a model for other employers in Billings.

Anna suggested that this might tie in somehow as one of the downtown parking garages is now accepting payment until 9 pm. Downtown businesses are looking at how to get parking for shift workers. One option would be to look at seasonal incentives to help downtown businesses.

The first step could be a survey, and then convening a meeting to discuss some possibilities.

Scott suggested that 2-way conversion is more of a pressing issue. The group agreed that BPAC being involved in the downtown traffic study is a more timely issue, and they will work on the transportation policy issue as time allows.

### **Other Business:**

Wayfinding Signage Plan Adoption – Elyse reviewed the adoption schedule in case BPAC members would like to provide input.

Council has a special work session on February 1 and Billings TrailNet is going to advocate for trails.

### **Future Agenda Items:**

Wayfinding with Fire and GIS

Downtown transportation plan roll out

Walkable City Rules

Active Transportation Policy – see if there are some model policies as a starting point

**Meeting adjourned at 1:02 pm.**