



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

City of Billings & Yellowstone County
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 MEETING TIME: 11:30 am

1st Floor Conference Room of 2825 3rd Ave. N

Live Coverage was available here: <https://www.facebook.com/Billings-Planning-Community-Services-Department-1738982159659260/> Recording is also available on same Facebook page link.

APPROVED BY A MOTION ON JANUARY 24, 2023

Call to order: Anna O'Donnell, BPAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:33 am.

Members present: Dave Coppock, Planning Board; Nikki Zimmer, County; Joan Schey, County; Margy Bonner, City; Kristi Drake, City.

Others present: Elyse Monat, Active Transportation Planner; Scott Walker, Transportation Planning Coordinator. Member of the public Steve Shandera

Public Comment Period:

- a. Comments on items not on the agenda and request to add items to future agendas –** Steve Shandera, member of the public, thanked staff for adding the multi-use path along 27th St. to the draft of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He feels like it is a huge safety issue to have a safe route to the valley from the Rims.

Steve also wants BPAC to endorse more signage on the trails. He feels like it is a real safety issue and a common sense issue. He knows that there is no funding available, but thinks there is an opportunity for the public to help fund it. Kristi Drake, BPAC member and Executive Director of Billings TrailNet had applied for a grant to fund signage, but just found out it was not funded. Elyse Monat, Active Transportation Planner, will work on putting together a program where the public can sponsor signage.

Margy Bonner, BPAC member, requested a presentation on future funding for parks and trails from Parks Department Director Michael Whittaker.

Kristi Drake, BPAC member, requested that BPAC discuss the issue in the Indian Cliffs neighborhood. Neighbors are frustrated with traffic in the area that comes from trail users and the County has blocked off the road.

BPAC also wants to discuss what want to do with PD crash information in the future.

- b. Online comments and comments received by the Active Transportation Planner –** Elyse received a comment about the lack of safe crossings on Rimrock Road. Elyse passed the comment onto the Engineering Division and let the resident know the City was already looking into additional crossings on Rimrock.

Hank Jagodzinski, member of the public, would like to have protected bike lanes included as part of the one-way to two-way restoration project downtown.

Motion. Approval of the meeting minutes of October 25, 2022: Margy Bonner, BPAC member, moved to approve the October 25, 2022 minutes as presented. Dave Coppock, BPAC member, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

BPAC annual presentation to the governing bodies

The group reviewed the annual presentation power point and gave feedback. Kristi incorporated the feedback into the power point during the discussion.

During public comment, Steve suggested adding in that Bypass is being completed with a separated path. He suggested talking about the behavior of pedestrians and cyclists in addition to drivers. He suggested adding in that BPAC would be involved in the next Billings Area and Bikeway Trail Master Plan Update into the presentation.

New Business:

Open BPAC seat

Dorothy Dupree, BPAC member, is not reapplying so the County seat is open. BPAC members discussed if they wanted to request that the seat be opened to residents of the City as well, but decided to leave the seat as is and wait to see what applications came in.

Reaching out to organizations to encourage them to apply for trail maintenance grants

BPAC brainstormed some groups that could apply for Recreational Trails Program Grants or Trail Stewardship Grants for trail maintenance. Ideas included:

Bike walk Montana

Pedal United

Billings TrailNet

LIFTT

Healthy By Design entities

People for Parks Foundation

Rimrunners

Kristi suggested putting in an application to repave the Arnold Drain Trail just northeast of Lillis Park. She suggested identifying some trail projects that need to be repaired, as maybe that would help identify the organization that would be most appropriate to apply.

Margy thought maybe the tribal organization who bought the Shrine might want to put in an application for the Spring Creek Park trail as it is nearby.

Other Business:

Starting in March there will be a crosswalk at 3rd St. W and Ave. C

Future agenda items:

None

Dave moved to adjourn the meeting. Joan Schey seconded, all voted in favor.