



## **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

City of Billings & Yellowstone County  
MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2025 MEETING TIME: 11:30 am  
Beartooth Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 316 N 26<sup>th</sup> St.

**Call to order:** Dave Coppock, BPAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:31 am.

**Members present:** Jason Wood, County; Stephanie Donovan, City; Anna O'Donnell, City, Kristy Halderman, City.

**Others present:** Lora Mattox, Transportation Planning Coordinator; Robby Gress, Transportation Planning Intern; Mike Hayes, Multi-Modal Planner.

**The group began with introductions.** Lora Mattox, Transportation Planning Coordinator, introduced Mike Hayes, Multi-Modal Planner.

### **Public Comment Period:**

**a. Comments on items not on the agenda and request to add items to future agendas –** Anna O'Donnell, BPAC member, asked about the progress made with a comment made about cars driving too fast down Prestwick in Briarwood when people are out walking their dogs. Mike replied by noting a current speed study being conducted on Prestwick.

**b. Online comments and comments received by the Active Transportation Planner –** A member of the public sent an email commenting on the Stillwater HOA near Monad Rd. and Central Ave. The resident stated that recently an e-bike user ran into a car coming out of their driveway. The HOA wanted to pay for a yield sign to pause sidewalk traffic. Lora mentioned that the email had been passed along.

**Motion: Approval of the meeting minutes of April 22, 2025:** Jason Wood motioned to approve the minutes. Anna O'Donnell, BPAC member, seconded. All voted in favor.

### **Old Business:**

#### **a. Presentation to the governing bodies**

BPAC members discussed their presentation to the Planning Board. Dave Coppock noted that sharing crash maps and crash data were the most useful slides in the presentation. Dave also mentioned Planning Board members suggesting gathering data from dispatchers.

Reflecting on the presentation, BPAC members discussed a variety of topics including protected bike lanes, comparing different city street layouts, and debris in roadways.

Anna mentioned the effect of debris on pathways. Kristy Halderman, BPAC member, discussed the relevance of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Masterplan data and future projects. Jason Wood mentioned the data collected was the most important aspect of applying the Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan. Anna mentioned the reasoning behind making streets in town two ways instead of one way for downtown and bicycle travelers. Lora replied by explaining engineering's input in improving bike and vehicle traveler safety. BPAC members stated two-way traffic results in safer travel.

BPAC members discussed stop sign visibility and raised concerns about the Skyline Trail. Anna commented on placement of stop signs behind trees and questioned placement of signs and traffic patterns. Mike explained that the City has standards for placing stop signs and follows them when new stop signs are placed. He said that if the public reports issues with sight distance or obstructions, Engineering will take another look.

Dave suggested adding more information to the presentation about projects/locations that BPAC has weighed in on to better explain BPAC's relevancy to the governing bodies. Other BPAC members agreed.

#### **a. E-bikes**

Dave raised concerns about e-bike riding safety in town. Dave suggested bike shops display an e-bike safety guide. Kristy questioned e-bike speed limits within the city. Dave said in his experience, the problem with regulating e-bike use and speed limits was enforcing the traffic laws. Jason mentioned there might already be some traffic laws in place that regulate the speed of e-bikes and scooters on roadways.

Dave mentioned the idea of introducing speed bumps to some areas. BPAC members discussed complications of adding speed bumps to trails for e-bike users. Dave mentioned a growing concern for young, motorized bike users. Kristy questioned the rules of motorized bike use by the youth. Jason suggested getting information about motorized state laws from a law enforcement officer.

Anna suggested sharing e-bike education on social media platforms. Dave suggested thinking of ideas for a handout with information on e-bikes and possibly gaining more information from bike shops. Lora mentioned potentially tying e-bike education into trail use education.

Dave mentioned that one of the Planning Board members noted that cyclists had been riding their bikes on the sidewalk of State Ave., because goat heads are bad on the road. Kirsty recommended sharing driving education along with biking education. Dave suggested BPAC members find examples of e-bike use guides to bring to the next meeting. BPAC members mentioned the volunteer bicycle programs and parks youth trail ambassador programs.

#### **b. PD Crash Mapping**

BPAC members shared crash data. Anna noted the fault of some accidents does not always fall on the drivers. BPAC members discussed low pedestrian visibility for drivers while pedestrians wait to use the crosswalks.

Kristy mentioned similarities and differences in signage in other cities like Red Lodge stating state laws give right of way to pedestrians crossing the street.

BPAC members discussed the dangers of riding e-bikes after discussing a crash incident involving a cyclist riding in the dark on Grand Ave, who was struck by a vehicle, ending in a fatality.

### **c. Transportation Planner Report**

Lora explained the value of staff attending transportation planning conferences.

#### **Other Business:**

#### **Future Agenda Items:**

Seargent Winden will be attending the July BPAC meeting to discuss how PD responds to crashes involving bike and pedestrians.

BPAC members planned on cancelling the August meet date.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:37 pm. Jason moved to adjourn; Anna seconded. All voted in favor.**