

**Minutes of The
City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee Meeting
February 23, 2021**

Meeting of the City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee was called to order at 1:30pm February 23, 2021 by Chairperson Cass. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the meeting was held via the Zoom online meeting application.

Roll Call: Members present electronically: Felicia Cass, Sandi Greco, Jessica Rucker, David Sturch, Anne Marie Kofta, John Dornoff, Brian Schoon, Pat Morrissey, Ray Feuss, Wayne Castle, Codie Leseman, Paul Huting, Will Frost, Greg Young and Aric Schroeder.

Members absent were: Matt Schindel.

Other people attending: Kevin Blanshan – INRCOG; Tony Bower and Jeff Hillegonds – Stanley Consultants; Travis Kraus and Steven Spears – University of Iowa/Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities; Michelle Sweeney and Larry Wiele –AECOM.

It was moved by Morrissey, seconded by Schroeder to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Presentation by Stanley Consultants-Downtown Bridges

- Currently in design portion of the project and design ascetics.
- Hosted value planning workshop in December 2019.
- Gather survey along corridors.
- Conducted Cultural Resources Studies.
- Looking at two 11' lanes, 4 ft. shoulders, and 11' trails on both sides along with 8' overlooks.
- Separation barriers between autos and active transportation.
- Looking at ornamental rails on bridges.
- Trying to remember the existing bridge.
- Possible colored lighting.
- Different options for the railing design.
- Feature lighting along walking surface and colorful lighting along outer edge of bridge.
- Looking at different treatments for the concrete barriers between automobiles and active transportation.
- Looking at options for piers.
- Possible color treatments on piers possibly make it look it like limestone or brick.
- Will not be raising the bridge extensively.
- There will be a mid-block crossing on the east side of the Park Avenue bridge.
- Possible diagonal parking lanes along Park Avenue.
- Trail under bridge will not change except with the raising of bridge there will be better clearance.
- 11th Street will have two 11' lanes, with a 11' trail on one side and a 4' shoulder on the other side of the bridge.
- 11th Street will be raised to eliminate the necessity of closers during high water times.
- 3 lane section of 11th street from Commercial to the new bridge.
- Enhancing the bicycle facilities with wider path and connection to the existing trail along west side of river.
- Extending 3 lane section to Sycamore Street.

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- Pavement markings to transition to 3 lanes east of Sycamore.
- Detailed design continuing until spring 2021.
- Project letting no later than September 2021.
- Bridges will be closed for 12th months.
- Schroeder asked about the midblock crossing and the thought process to which the consultants answered that due to there being only one access on the north side it would allow for people from the south side to cross and access the trail.
- Castle noted that there will be a plaza on the south side of Park Avenue.
- There is polling on different options on the <http://www.waterloobridgesproject.com> website.
- Cass wanted to be sure that there is cohesiveness in all the projects in the area.
- Main Street Waterloo is looking for continuity in the downtown area.
- Morrissey would like to see high performance concrete used and believes that Park Avenue needs to be reconstructed.
- Rucker feels that the black railings will be more in keeping with what else has been done in downtown Waterloo.

2. Presentation by University of Iowa Students

- Kraus stated that he was a former planner.
- Program looking at 18 projects in the City of Waterloo.

Projects:

1. Church Row Neighborhood Plan
 2. Church Row Sustainable and Equitable Transportation Plan
 3. Waterloo Downtown Parking Study
 4. Demolition vs. Rehab Cost/Benefit Analysis
 5. Law Enforcement, Mental Health, and Community Relations
 6. Housing Policy Briefs
 7. Housing Policy Briefs-Implementation
 8. Fair Chance Initiative Legal Analysis
 9. Waterloo Public Art
 10. Waterloo Library Marketing and Public Relations Campaign
 11. Public Library Account Holder spatial analysis
 12. Civil Rights Oral History Project
 13. Neighborhood Mapping
 14. Fire Rescue Community Risk Assessment
 15. Sump Pumps and Piping Systems
 16. Prairie Trail Bridge Replacement
 17. Master Plan for former Edison School site
 18. Pedestrian overpass for rail crossing on East 4th Street
- Engineering projects are being done by seniors as a Senior Capstone project.
 - Final deliverables will be on the school's website.
 - Did plan for Church Row to improve safety and accessibility.
 - 5 second year planning students worked on plan.
 - Looked at volume and crash heat maps.
 - Issues with West 3rd Street along with the 4th/5th/6th couplet.
 - Looked at urban condition and safety.
 - What easy fixes could help the area?

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- 4th/5th are great for moving cars fast but bad for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- 5th could be reduced by a lane and not affect traffic.
- 3rd street has fast traffic and few traffic calming.
- Recommending reducing street widths and parking strips.
- Look at both one-way and two-way options.
- Either option could change character of street and safety.
- Looked at stop signs, lane lines, and bus amenities on 3rd street to slow travel speeds.
- High visibility cross walks near Irving Elementary School, warning beacons, etc.
- 4th street redesigned to 2-lane road, high visibility crosswalks, bike lanes, and roundabout at 4th/5th/Kimball.
- Some of the larger parks in the area are not accessible.
- Church row is blocked off from the recreational trails, needs to be connections.
- Connection proposed under US Highway 63.
- Possible redesign of 3rd street that would include bike lanes.
- Recommendations: Complete Streets treatment, possible 1 way to 2 way conversions, high visibility cross walks, connections to trails.
- Sweeney noted that there will be a connection to the University Avenue trail that will go through the north part of Church Row, and AECOM is looking at the conversion of 4th/5th/6th to two way streets.
- AECOM is looking at the whole one-way section of 4th/5th/6th.
- Morrissey appreciates the work of the students on 3rd street since he lives on the street.
- Frost agrees the thought process that the students went through.
- Cass asked if the heat map showed all crashes including pedestrian and bicycles to which Spears said yes.
- Cass asked Spears about the funding to which he went over the funding system he talked about.
- Leseman asked if the city was interested in the kinds of treatments that is being discussed by the students.
- Spears stated there needs to be more pedestrian crossings.

3. MET Update

- No updates at this time.

4. Upcoming Planning Commission Agenda Review

- Schroeder went over the Planning and Zoning Commission agenda.
- Rezone on 6415 Kimball Avenue that is a farm house.
- Special Permit for Peoples Community Health Clinic.

5. Other Project Status Updates

- Just starting project to study making 4th/5th/6th Streets couplets into two-way streets.
- Start having stakeholder meetings on La Porte Road in April.
- Construction should restart on University Avenue in March.
- Cass asked who has responsibility for continuity in projects in the city to which different departments look at it but it is being looked at it more recently.
- AECOM will be on next month to discuss their projects.
- Letting was done in January for the final esthetics for the US Highway 63 project.

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- The recreational trail from Newell to Parker should be constructed this summer.
- Ridgeway project is currently at a stalemate due to lack of funding, Knutson does not feel that local option can support it for several years.
- Portion of Shaulis Trail from Cedar Terrace to the Cedar River Nature Trail has been let.

6. Other Discussion Items

- Cass noted that the meetings are now the last Tuesday of the month so next month the meeting will be on March 30th, noting that is a 5th Tuesday.

Adjournment

Cass adjourned the meeting at 3:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Dornoff
Planner I