

**Minutes of The
City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee Meeting
April 21, 2020**

Meeting of the City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee was called to order at 1:33pm February 18, 2020 Chairperson Cass. Due to the COVID-19 epidemic the meeting was held via the Zoom online meeting application.

Roll Call: Members present electronically: Mohammad Elahi, Ray Feuss, Brian Schoon, Paul Huting, Pat Morrissey, Wayne Castle, Codie Leseman, Jessica Rucker, Kevin Blanshan, Janet Buls (2:00 p.m.), and John Dornoff was present as the designated member for Aric Schroeder.

Members absent were: Will Frost, Dan Trelka, Jeff Bales, Abraham Funchess, and Greg Young.

Other people attending: Kayla Dunning – Citizen and Kyle Durant – INRCOG

It was moved by Rucker, seconded by Morrissey to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Focus Item

- Leseman suggested that the committee have a focus project for the year.
- One suggested project would be to create bike lanes on the 6th Avenue bridge when the Park Avenue bridge is replaced.
- Other projects to consider:
 - Walking Audit
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Trail connection
 - Pedestrian master plan
 - Downtown sidewalks
 - Changing the city policy on street width.
- The question was asked if the 6th street project would be temporary but should be permanent.
 - Elahi stated that the current numbers show that adding a bike lane to the 6th street bridge would not affect traffic.
 - It was noted that there is no money available for complete streets in 2020 due to the number of projects that will be upcoming in the next couple of years.
 - Would not be very expensive, mainly paint and possibly jersey barriers.
- It was noted that the committee does not have a strategic plan.
- Discussion if bike lanes should be on 5th street bridge but it was pointed out that at the present time there would be no connections to a bike lane on 5th street on the west side of the river.

It was moved by Rucker, seconded by Morrissey to create a focus item for the committee to concentrate on. Motion passed 7 – 1 (Cass voted Nay).

Buls joined the meeting at 2:00pm.

Waterloo Strategic Plan

- No update

Complete Streets Advisory Committee

April 21, 2020

Park Avenue & 11 Street Bridges

- Design work for both the Park Avenue bridge and 11th Street bridge is underway by Stanley Consultants
- Possible to have both on street and off street bicycling facilities.
- Park Avenue and 11th Street may be reconstructed from US Highway 218 to Franklin, and would likely change from 4-lanes to 3-lanes
- Elahi will coordinate his bicycle light project with the bridge contractor.
- Elahi applied for a grant to add green paint to bike lanes which will pay for 50 gallons of paint which should pay for the section from Mulberry to Franklin.

Downtown Trees

- Deeds went over JSA's plans for trees along their property in downtown.
- JSA will work on making sure trees are watered since they do not want to invest the money into the trees then have them die.
- JSA has been working with the city forester to select the appropriate types of trees and locations.
- There is about 175 trees planned for the downtown area in the long range plan.
- Goal is not just replace sidewalk panels but to improve them.
- Suggested having project ready to go since there will probably be stimulus money for shovel ready projects.
- Question about trees along the portion of the parking garage that faces Park Avenue since it looks barren but there is concern about utilities as they are everywhere in downtown including electrical.
- JSA is paying for the sections along their buildings and are working with other owners giving the choice to be part of the project or just doing their sidewalks.
- JSA will also be refurbishing the buildings along Jefferson in addition to planting the trees.
- There will be at least 2 varieties of trees that JSA will be planting.

Pedestrian Master Plan

- There are four types of projects that need to be looked at including: infill, stand alone, corridor, and associated with new developments or redevelopments. Currently only the stand-alone is being looked at.
- There was discussion about a block by block pedestrian plan which would look for problems block by block with an example being that there is no connection for persons walking along the north side of Columbus Circle to cross Lawnhill to the other side. However, there was concerns about doing a block by block plan.
- Dunning asked about the situation in her neighborhood such as Hammond and Ridgeway to which it was suggested that a petition be put together and the signatures of the people in the areas supporting sidewalks. It was noted that there had never been a situation where a neighborhood petitioned for sidewalks and it would be interesting to see how the city would handle it.
- Morrissey mentioned the City Council Work Session from the April 20th where one city council member asked the City Attorney to look at banning people from using the medians of streets to walk along or stand on in order to get rid of panhandlers. However, there is no sidewalks in the Crossroads area making it dangerous for people to walk.

Complete Streets Advisory Committee

April 21, 2020

Planning and Zoning Commission

- Dornoff went over the Planning & Zoning Commission agenda.
- The only item on the agenda is the rezone of a property at 122 Black Hawk Road that has sidewalk along Black Hawk Road, but does not have sidewalk along Paul Avenue or Janney Avenue. The rezone is to allow a new use for the existing facility, and no major changes are planned.

SNAP/Physical Project

- INRCOG is working on a project to encourage and educate physical activity among seniors in low income apartment complexes.
- Project would focus at Crossroads, Camelot, and Stokes.

Other Project Updates

- Elahi stated that the Ridgeway study is in its final stages. Doing three lanes will have major problems at 3 intersections. Complete streets are part of the planning process. There is a possibility that an 8' trail on one side of the road will be part of the recommendations.
- Because of the Amusement Park project the La Porte/Hess study is starting its focus on the south side of the corridor then will move north.
- Morrissey asked about the status of the bike path along US Highway 63 from Conger to Parker.

Other Discussion

- Suggested to see if AECOM come back next month to give updates on University Avenue, US Highway 63 enhancements, and La Porte/Hess.

Adjournment

Cass adjourned the meeting at 3:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Dornoff
Planner I