

**Minutes of The  
City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee Meeting  
May 19, 2020**

Meeting of the City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee was called to order at 1:30pm May 19, 2020 Chairperson Cass. Due to the COVID-19 epidemic the meeting was held via the Zoom online meeting application.

Roll Call: Members present electronically: Felecia Cass, Mohammad Elahi, Ray Feuss, Brian Schoon, Pat Morrissey, Wayne Castle, Codie Leseman, Jessica Rucker, Kevin Blanshan, Janet Buls, and Aric Schroeder.

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

Other people attending: Larry Wiele, Doug Schindel, and Michelle Sweeney – AECOM; Noel Anderson – Community Planning and Development Director; and John Dornoff – Planning Department.

**It was moved by Schroeder, seconded by Schoon to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **AECOM Update**

#### University Avenue Update

- There is a new Drone video of the University Avenue project.
- PCI is using dirt from reducing grade of University Avenue approach to the former Chicago Great Western railroad overpass and using it to build up the former log site.
- Once completed there will be an enhanced underpass along the Sargent Road trail at University Avenue.
- Projected completion date is anticipated to be November 2021.
- Water main work currently going on Greenhill Road at University Avenue but work has not begun on the connection from the University Avenue trail to the Greenhill Road trail.

#### Highway 63 Enhancements

- Project has been underway for 3 years
- Will be adding colored paving to replace the dirt where US Highway 63 goes under US Highway 218 along with pedestrian lighting.
- Looking to help with pedestrian traffic through the area.
- Enhancing the sidewalks at Jefferson Street and Commercial Streets.
- There will be columns added at the ends of the bridge over the Canadian National tracks.
- There will be banners on the light poles over the CN bridge but they will be metal instead of fabric so they should last longer.
- Trees were added near Sullivan Park along walkway that leads to the tunnel under the bridge.
- The enhancements should be done by next year.
- The trail from Newell to Parker was included in original contract but was added to the enhancements.
- The project should be let in December.
- Trail will be on sidewalks from Franklin to Jefferson with each sidewalk 5' wide.
- TAP, and STBG funds were used to pay for the project.
- Planning, Engineering, and INRCOG worked together to get project funded.

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### **Lap Porte Road/Hess Road project**

- Project would start on the south side just to the north of the new roundabout that will be located at Hess Road and Shaulis Road.
- Plan is for two lanes with turnout areas including at potential development areas.
- A recreational trail will be built to the west side of the road.
- Sidewalk on east side will start at Grimm.
- Grimm to Ridgeway will be 5-lanes then will become 3-lanes north of Plymouth Avenue.
- From the Mitchell intersection north the frontage road will be eliminated and main road moved to the west.
- The sidewalk will stop at Lorraine Avenue, as there is no businesses located on the east side of the road north of there.
- Trail will end at Mitchell Avenue.
- There was discussion how to extend the trail from Mitchell Avenue to the US Highway 218 trail that starts at Williston Avenue/West 18<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Discussion on having a trail on Grimm to access Crossroads Mall. Streets were designed almost property line to property line so without significant acquisitions, it would have to be shared vehicle/bike lanes with sharrows.
- Trail on Shaulis Road will be modified with the addition of the roundabout at Hess Road.
- Discussion on extending the Shaulis Road trail from Isle of Capri Boulevard to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail and the issues that exist in that extension, including a potential at-grade crossing of 6-lane 55 mph Highway 218.

### **Focus Project.**

- Discussion on having a connection from the US Highway 63 trail through the Walnut Neighborhood to the Park Avenue buffered bike lanes.
- Discussion about possibility of having commission members actually doing the painting of the sharrows between the two projects.
- Discussion on connecting the two trails on the south side of downtown.
- It was asked if existing complete streets money could be used for this project but the money has been committed to sidewalk infill projects that are underway.
- Discussion on having sharrows from the University Avenue trail along Leland Avenue and South Street to connect with the Park Avenue buffered bike lanes. Due to the low volume of traffic on those streets sharrows may not be needed but there would still be a need for wayfinding.
- Discussion on wayfinding along Washington Street as a way to complete the loop from the US Highway 63 trail to the Park Avenue buffered bike lanes and back to US Highway 63.

### **Sidewalk Infill Policy**

- Cass had a meeting with Jaime Knutson City Engineer discuss the sidewalk infill policy and the next steps.

### **Pedestrian Master Plan and MET Transit Changes**

- Leseman has not been able to have a meeting with the new leadership and employees at MET Transit yet.
- Leseman went over maps and talked about creating GIS maps of the sidewalks projects noting areas that have sidewalks but do not connect to anything.

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- Discussion if there should be a block to block master plan and what other cities would require of INRCOG if it did a block to block plan for Waterloo. It was noted that most of the smaller cities also have a less requirements for their plan.
- Anderson noted that the more information that is available the better.

## **Planning and Zoning Commission**

- Schroeder went over the Planning & Zoning Commission agenda.
- Schroeder noted that the first item has trails in the area and the second item has an extensive sidewalk network.
- The third and fourth items involve a company that has purchased the former Ocwen/GMAC building on Hammond. Noted that the company is hoping to convert a portion of the building to a self-storage building with the remainder leased out for office space.
- Discussion about the need for sidewalks in the area as their major gap in the sidewalk network along Schukei Road, and requiring sidewalk along the street frontages that do not have it. Also discussion on if private sidewalk could be developed to connect the building to the public streets if parts of it will be office space, allowing workers to safely get through the parking lots.

**It was moved by Leseman, seconded by Castle to endorse the Planning, Programming and Zoning Commission recommending sidewalks along all three frontages of Hammond Avenue, Flammang Drive, and Schukei Road with consideration for sidewalk connections from the sidewalks to the building. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **Other Project Updates**

- Traffic study on Ridgeway Avenue from Kimball Avenue to US Highway 63 is 95% done. MPO money has been programmed for Preliminary Design of the proposed changes.
- No contractor bid on reconstructing the sidewalks in front of the INRCOG building so the city contractor will do the work.

## **Other Discussion**

- None

## **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully submitted,



John Dornoff  
Planner I