

**Minutes of The  
City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee Meeting  
September 15, 2020**

Meeting of the City of Waterloo Complete Streets Advisory Committee was called to order at 1:30pm September 15, 2020 by Vice Chairperson Leseman. Due to the COVID-19 epidemic the meeting was held via the Zoom online meeting application.

Roll Call: Members present electronically: Mohammad Elahi, Paul Huting, Ray Feuss, Brian Schoon, Wayne Castle, Codie Leseman, Kevin Blanshan, and Aric Schroeder.

Members absent were: Janet Buls, Jessica Rucker, Felicia Cass, Pat Morrissey, Will Frost, Dan Trelka, Jeff Bales, Abraham Funchess, and Greg Young.

Other people attending: Noel Anderson and John Dornoff – City of Waterloo Planning; Jeff Hillegonds and Tony Bower- Stanley Consultants.

*It was moved by Schroeder, seconded by Huting to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Park Avenue and 11st Street Bridge Replacement Project**

- Stanley Consultants presented their update on the bridge projects for 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Park Avenue bridges.
- Competitive Highway Bridge Program grant to replace bridges.
- Letting projected no later than September 2021.
- Both bridges need to be similar due to bundling and bridges must be replaced.
- Value Planning Workshop in December 2019.
- Multi-Use of Crossings and how to incorporate the trail system.
- Did Architectural and Archeological resource studies.
- Mussel survey at request of Iowa DNR
- Park Avenue
  - Bridge is required to meet “no-rise” certification.
  - Provide vertical clearance for trails.
  - Trail connections.
  - Minimize impacts on businesses.
  - Need to maintain Amphitheater entrance.
  - First alternative has buffered bike lanes and two lanes plus 7’ sidewalks.
  - Second alternative has protected bike lanes with combined bike and pedestrian lane on north side with separation.
  - Looking at profile of Park Avenue to raise the bridge. Option 1 would allow 8’ trail undercrossing but would need to be closed at high level mark. Option 2 would not require high water closure but would push the project to extend from Commercial to Sycamore Streets plus require closure of Cedar Street and other entrances closed.
  - Leaning toward option 1.
  - Looking to add overlooks along the bridge.
  - Different options for feature lighting.
  - Looking at similar railing to existing due to the historic nature of existing railing.
  - Currently 6 ½’ clearance under Park Avenue bridge would increase to 8’.
  - New closure structures on the road.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Street

## **Complete Streets Advisory Committee**

September 15, 2020

- Similar design criteria to Park Avenue.
- No-rise certification.
- Eliminating or reducing flood protection.
- Black Hawk Street at current location.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Street traffic study done and currently has excess capacity.
- Three-lane section the preferred option with two lanes on bridge.
- Sidewalks are currently very narrow.
- Both options have pedestrian facilities on only one side.
- Eliminating flood protection would require the closure of the Canadian National tracks at the end of the bridge which CN does support.
- Also looking at improving the Sycamore intersection.
- Change trail under bridge to reduce number of closures.
- Better access to trails.
- Finalizing alternatives.
- Public information meeting in the fall.
- Detailed design will be completed spring 2021.
- Construction in 2022 and 2023 with 12 month closures at each bridge.
- Estimated cost \$20-\$25 million, grant was for \$12.5 million.
- The more flexibility usually the better price.
- Current preferred alternative for Park Avenue is protected bike lanes.
  - Would mimic existing bridge which SHPO supports.
- Schroeder recommends openings in the barriers to allow pedestrians to go through when closed down for festivals.
  - Barrier design makes this tricky.
- Utilizing 10' or 11' driving lanes would allow for more room.

### **Amendment to the Complete Streets Advisory Committee Administrative Rules**

- Two sections that are a challenge are if you are still on the committee when no longer in your city position, and dealing with attendance.
- If a person misses meetings the chairperson can make a recommendation to the Mayor to replace, but it would still need Mayor and Council action.
- The other change would specify what Committee members that were appointed because of their position, will automatically be off the Committee if they no longer are in that position (City staff and Council members).

*It was moved by Huting, seconded by Blanshan to approve the amendment to the Complete Streets Advisory Committee Administrative Rules. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **Update of Council Work Session on Sidewalk Infill Policy**

- Were scheduled on a Council work session to talk about short gap policy.
- Due to length of another work session, it will be moved to another date later in the month.

### **Update on Development of Additional Sidewalk Infill Policy (Large Projects)**

- Uncertainty on the direction of the policy.
- What is the best angle to approach the longer gaps.
- Need to have a clear funding mechanism such as part of street recon or another funding source.

## **Complete Streets Advisory Committee**

September 15, 2020

### **Review of Sidewalk Project Scores from Street Recon List and Recommendations on Requests for Funding for CIP**

- Castle reviewed the areas for upcoming street reconstruction and overlay, and noted that all of the areas impacted either already have sidewalk, or don't have sidewalk but are too big or won't connect to anything to make them justifiable, with the exception of Heath St, but that is going to be addressed anyway because of ADA needs.
- Leseman noted that it is important to try and find a stable funding source, because some of the areas deemed to be to large of a gap and too expensive to justify would be great pedestrian improvements.

### **Upcoming PZ Agenda Review**

- Schroeder went over the planning agenda.

### **Update on the Walnut Street Bike Route Focus Project**

- Hopefully project will be done by next spring.
- Signs done during the spring.
- Will be signs and pavement markings such as sharrows.
- Stanley Consultants is also studying adding bicycle signals along entire corridor.
- Traffic lights would give a few seconds of green to bikers before automotive lights turn green.

### **Shaulis/218 Connection Update**

- Still in final stages of planning, still moving forward.

### **Other Project Updates**

- No updates.

### **Other Discussion**

- None.

### **Adjournment**

*Leseman adjourned the meeting at 3:03p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



John Dornoff  
Planner I