



## **BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #3**

**October 5, 2022**

**Training Room, City Hall**

**Steering Committee Members Present:** Kent Kittleson, Anna Zalusky, Isaac Curtis

**Others Present:** Planner Sam Burns; Community Development Director Amy Peterson; Sustainability Coordinator Mike Noreen; Management Analyst Fellow Ellen Massey; Alta Planning + Design Maria Wardoku; Alta Planning + Design Erin Daley-Davenport; Resident Ben Fochs

The meeting begun at 6:30 pm

Wardoku started off the meeting by going through introductions. Staff members talked about the engagement efforts that went into the preliminary materials that were being reviewed. Wardoku provided an update on the planning process and stated that feedback to preliminary materials provided prior to the meeting will help shape the plan drafts. Wardoku then started to explain the preliminary materials that were provided prior to the meeting.

Wardoku started off by providing definitions of the different types of lineal improvements recommended so committee members would have context. Wardoku provided information on the three types of implementation timelines that would be part of the network recommendations. Wardoku provided details on the short-, medium- and long-term projects and the different forms that they might take. Wardoku then went into detail as to how they provided recommendations and which projects were prioritized.

Wardoku then opened the network recommendations map for the group. Committee members were provided the draft recommendations prior to the meeting. Wardoku provided a quick explanation as to how the GIS recommendation map worked, and how to find information on each specific recommendation. Wardoku opened up the discussion for initial reactions from the group. Noreen had a question about sidewalk infill and how that piece of the recommendations was done. A discussion on how sidewalk infill recommendations was added into the plan, and how a previous sidewalk infill report was utilized.

Zalusky had a question about crossing enhancements at Crescent and Cascade. Wardoku showed how that intersection was marked for an improvement, but the exact type of improvement would be decided at a design level. Zalusky then asked to see what the recommendations around Glen Park were. Wardoku shared the different recommendations surrounding the park. Burns provided background information on how funding for these types of recommendations were implemented and how the highest priority recommendations were not always the first addressed.

Kittelton had a question about the crossing at Park St and S. Main as it related to the development at 700 S Main. Wardoku showed the crossing enhancement that was recommended.

A conversation was had regarding the crossing sections around the High School on Cemetery Road. Steering Committee members shared their concerns about seeing students trying to cross. Zalusky provided some specific crossing intersections that were difficult and dangerous. These were noted.

Peterson had a question about the recommended greenway that connects to Hoffman Park via a utility easement. Burns and Wardoku provided context that city engineers had identified the easement as an opportunity for a trail as there would be no needed land acquisition.

Peterson and Noreen asked about a trail on Huppert St near the Sterling Ponds neighborhood. Wardoku stated that it had been called out during the staff review process and they would update the recommendations to include it. Committee members then asked about how the parts of the city east of the highway would connect to the rest of the trail network. Peterson said that the state highway 35 and 65 interchange is where the connection would ideally occur, but the highway makes it difficult.

Curtis then asked what the city's recommendation was for bicyclists traveling over the Kinnickinnic river on North Main St near the Aldi grocery store. Burns stated that he wasn't sure the exact recommendation and would check. Burns then talked about how that section of North Main was a natural bottle neck and was difficult to move pedestrian, bicycle, and car traffic across. Burns stated that the preferred solution was a pedestrian and cyclist bridge off of West Quarry that connects to Paulson Rd. Burns noted that it would be difficult and a long term plan for that bike and pedestrian crossing.

Peterson asked about the recommendations for Main St and 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Peterson said she noticed that bike lanes were recommended on Main and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wardoku replied that as Main is slated to be reconstructed in the next ten years or so, it makes sense to have 2<sup>nd</sup> fill in and have bike lanes there. Burns noted that 2<sup>nd</sup> St was a good candidate for a buffered bike lane due to its width.

Daley-Davenport then provided some background on how policy recommendations pair with network recommendations in an effort to actually implement the recommended improvements. Daley-Davenport talked about the opportunity to infill sidewalks based on new development and the importance of updating subdivisions and zoning ordinances to ensure neighborhoods have bike and pedestrian access. It was also noted that funding needed to be designated for infill opportunities. Ensuring that the funding is flexible so it can be implemented as needed.

Daley-Davenport also talked about education opportunities and how improvements can serve as demonstration projects. These highly visible improvements show residents community confidence and empowerment around walking and biking.

A discussion was had on how recommendations would be prioritized and how decisions on which to due first would occur.

Wardouk then provided next steps on the process. Alta Planning + Design will provide a draft plan to City Staff which will then be sent to committee members. Wardoku talked about the final meeting that will occur on November 30<sup>th</sup>. That meeting will be a final opportunity for feedback and also an opportunity for the committee to vote to recommend the plan be adopted by the Plan Commission and City Council.

The meeting concluded at 8:33 pm.