



Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes

September 19th, 2006

4th Floor Conference Room, 840 Boonville Springfield, Missouri.

The following members were present:

Carol Cruise, City Utilities	Joel Keller, Greene County
Dawne Gardner, MODOT	Terry Whaley, Ozarks Greenways
Coy Hart, MO Bike Fed	Susan Wecker, Missouri State University
Kelly Hasner, Nixa	
David Hutchison, Springfield	Natasha Longpine, OTO
Eric Johnson, Spfd/Greene County Parks	Dan Rudge, OTO

- 1. Call to Order:** Vice-Chair, Terry Whaley, called the meeting to order.
- 2. Approval of the July 11th, 2006 Minutes:** Mr. Whaley asked if there were any corrections, additions or changes to be made to the minutes. Hearing none, Carol Cruise motioned that the minutes be approved; Eric Johnson seconded the motion. Mr. Whaley called the question; the motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Approval of the September 19th, 2006 Meeting Agenda:** Mr. Whaley asked if there were any corrections additions or changes to be made to the agenda. Dan Rudge asked to add one item to discuss the board action at the last meeting regarding the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Dawne Gardner moved to approve the agenda as amended and Coy Hart seconded the motion. Mr. Whaley called the question; the motion passed unanimously.
- 4. Discussion of BPAC Committee:** At their August meeting, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the creation of a Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee which would report directly to the Board, in the same way the Technical Committee does. This group is in charge of Bicycle and Pedestrian issues, including Safe Routes to School and may opt to take over the enhancements. Mr. Rudge asked the BPAC if they would prefer to keep meetings more informal or move to a more formal meeting process. The group decided to keep the committee more informal.

The group also had to decide whether to handle the enhancement grant application process. One year of funding is left during this round. Many involved with BPAC have also helped to score enhancements in the past. One suggestion would be to split the scoring process with the Technical Committee, five and five. David Hutchison

motioned to accept this suggestion, and Carol Cruise seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 5. Safe Routes to School Update:** Mr. Rudge discussed the state level Safe Routes to School grant applications. The application round is supposed to open this fall. These will be going through the highway safety division at MoDOT. Mr. Rudge has expressed the opinion at the state level that these dollars should be used to develop a proper SRTS program, however the OTO BPAC recommendations were not undertaken. The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission would like to work toward aligning Safety with the other facets of MoDOT.

Ozark Greenways has taken the lead for SRTS for the OTO jurisdiction. Already, Ozark Greenways has requested \$25,000 through an enhancement application to begin implementing Safe Routes to School. This has been awarded. Ozark Greenways would like to build the momentum of the trail system as a safe route to school. This project will also look at what can be done in each jurisdiction as well as some generically uniform implementation solutions.

SRTS also provides the opportunity to promote the bus system. Any SRTS project is valid at the K-8 level. Currently, Ozark Greenways has picked the Frisco Highline Trail and will have signs indicating this. The Springfield City Council is also eager to help. A joint meeting was held between City of Springfield management and the school board as well. It has been agreed that for real success, the movement must start at top.

Feedback from the demonstrations at the local PTAs has identified the need for a simplified guidebook on how to get started. Schools don't necessarily know what techniques are available. A 4 to 5 page guidebook would be more helpful than the comprehensive book available online. Safety assessments would also help. Mr. Rudge indicated that education needs to be done on the 4 "E's" besides engineering.

David Hutchison mentioned that Springfield Public Schools has a committee to address these issues, as well as a manual for deciding what measures are appropriate. Mr. Whaley mentioned that there are many existing groups for child safety.

A discussion followed on the best time to make presentations. There is a question as to what is more effective for the time required to implement. One suggestion is to start with the PTAs at each school which would take a time commitment, versus implementing safety strategies into existing programs.

There are also issues surround Missouri State University in regards to signage and bus information. One concern was that funding stopped at the 8th grade level. There are numerous universities in town which would benefit from increased Bike/Ped connectivity.

Mr.'s Whaley and Rudge will work to meet with the School Board.

- 6. Other Business:** Mr. Whaley pointed out that the Bike/Ped plan is now a year old. He would like to see it updated with photos of successful local projects. Some pictures already exist from when Nixa's plan was incorporated. Mr. Rudge will bring this request to the Technical Committee.

Coy Hart mentioned that October is International Walk to School Month.

- 7. Adjournment:** Mr. Whaley adjourned the meeting.

**The next meeting will be held November 14, 2006.*