

**WICHITA FALLS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**  
**Minutes**

June 29, 2017

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***Members Present:***

Lin Barnett – Wichita Falls MPO, Director  
Ben “Chip” Filer - Wichita Falls Streams and Valleys, Hotter’N Hell Hundred  
Davis Powell – City of Wichita Falls, City Engineer  
Jack Murphy, City of Wichita Falls Parks and Recreation  
Larry Wilkinson – City of Wichita Falls, Traffic Superintendent  
Mark Beauchamp – Wichita County Commissioner  
Michael Smith - City of Wichita Falls, Councilor  
Roby Christie - Wichita Falls Streams and Valleys, Hotter’N Hell Hundred  
Sandy Fleming – Wichita Falls Streams and Valleys, Hotter’N Hell Hundred

**MPO Staff:**

Jaimie Lee – Wichita Falls MPO, Transportation Planner II

**Visitors:**

TJ Herrell – TxDOT  
Matt Smith – TxDOT  
Jared Linton – Self-Owned Business Owner  
Anne-Marie Williamson – TxDOT, BAC  
Claire Kowalick – Times Record News  
Becky Raeke – Downtown Development  
John Burrus – Director of AT&T  
Laci Edwards – Wichita Falls Wichita County Public Health District  
Jeanette Charos – Downtown Development  
John Fritz – WF Parks Board/ WFBC/WFRC

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**A G E N D A**

**I. Welcome & Introduction**

The meeting began at 2:00 p.m. Mr. Barnett welcomed everyone in attendance. Everyone introduced himself or herself and stated their affiliations.

**II. Update on TA Set-Aside Grants to Fund Circle Trail System**

Mr. Barnett discussed the three trail projects submitted on May 19, 2017 for funding through the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program. He stated the program would provide funding for a variety of alternative transportation projects that improve mobility

for non-motorized users. Mr. Barnett stated the first project was the hike and bike trail along the BNSF railroad spur from Seymour Highway to Barnett Road. The second project was the hike and bike trail from Loop 11 to Lucy Park. The third project was the hike and bike trail on the north side of Lake Wichita from Larry's Marine to Lake Wichita Park. Mr. Barnett stated the sum total of all projects was estimated at \$5.9 million dollars. Mr. Barnett asked for any comments or questions regarding TA Set-Aside Grants Funding. Receiving none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

### **III. Presentation of Updates to the 2015-2040 Bicycle Master Plan Map**

Mr. Barnett presented several maps containing updates to the 2015-2040 Bicycle Master Plan. Mr. Barnett discussed the updates to Class A, B, & C Routes. Class A routes are designated as High-Caliber Training. These routes are typical for more experienced rides such as the MSU Cycling Team. Class B routes are classified as Daily Use routes, and Class C routes are for all users. Mr. Barnett presented the updated Circle Trail System map that included proposed trails and concept trails. This map also illustrates the three remaining incomplete trail sections. Mr. Murphy discussed the need for a five-mile railroad Right of Way spur from the Circle Trail at Berend's Landing to Missile Road. Mr. Barnett stated that he would add that to the BMP map. Mr. Barnett asked for any comments regarding updates to the 2015-2040 Bicycle Master Plan. None were received. The committee moved on to the next agenda item.

### **IV. Discussion on Developing and Funding Identified Trails and Corridors**

Mr. Barnett discussed the National Trails Training Partnership (NTTP), which provides funding for trails and greenways. NTTP is a national, nonprofit organization working on behalf of all trail interests. Mr. Barnett discussed traditional funding and entrepreneurial funding to build trails and raise money for things such as signage, bike parking and bike racks. Ms. Charos, Downtown Development, stated her organization was looking to bring bike racks to downtown Wichita Falls. Mr. Barnett commented that he wanted to form a subcommittee to look at alternative funding mechanisms for the trail system. Public/Private partnerships, federal and state grants, and fundraisers are just a few of the many ways to raise money for trails and amenities. Mr. Barnett asked for any questions regarding developing and funding identified trails and corridors. None were received. He moved on to the next agenda item.

### **V. Safe Routes to School – Future Qualifying Areas**

Mr. Barnett discussed the Safe Routes to School areas. He stated Safe Routes to School programs aim to make it safer for children to walk and bike to school. The three locations included Southern Hills Area, City View Area, and John Tower Area. Mr. Barnett stated if there were any other areas that needed Safe Routes to School designation to contact WFMPO. Mr. Beauchamp recommended Washington Jackson along Harding be designated as a Safe Routes to School zone. Ms. Raeke commented that while the SRTS program at John Tower Elementary School had improved conditions in the area, there was still much work needed on Reilly Road north of the school. Mr. Barnett asked for any further comments regarding Safe Routes to School. Receiving none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

### **VI. Bicycle Friendly Community Designation – Next Steps**

Mr. Barnett discussed Bicycle Friendly Community Designation. He stated it was a working plan to meet the requirements needed to establish Wichita Falls as a bicycle friendly community. Mr. Barnett discussed the ten building blocks that appear on Bicycle Friendly Community report cards including bike to work events, bicycle friendly laws & ordinances, and having a current bike plan on hand. The City of Wichita Falls tried to obtain a bronze designation from The League of American Bicyclists in 2016, but the City could not meet some of the criteria. Mr. Burrus commented about having more bicycle ordinances. Mr. Barnett stated he would look at the building blocks and work on finding ways to secure the bronze designation. He asked for any comments or questions regarding Bicycle Friendly Designation. Receiving none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

**VII. Topics for Next BPAC Meeting**

Mr. Barnett asked for any topics for the next BPAC meeting. Receiving none, he informed the committee that the next BPAC meeting would take place in late October or early November of 2017. Because of the large attendance (20 people), he stated the next meeting will take place in the Downtown Travel Center.

**VIII. Adjourn**

Mr. Barnett thanked everyone in attendance for coming to the meeting. The committee adjourned at 3:30 p.m.