

WICHITA FALLS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Minutes

March 25, 2014

Members Present:

Lin Barnett – Wichita Falls MPO, MPO Director
Caden Burross – Social Media and Marketing, Hotter’N Hell Hundred
Charles Grady – American Medical Response
Crystal Morgan – City of Wichita Falls Health Department
Curt Cassidy – City of Wichita Falls, Civil Engineer
Davis Powell – City of Wichita Falls, City Engineer
Jack Murphy, City of Wichita Falls Parks and Recreation
Mark Beauchamp – City of Wichita Falls, Traffic Superintendent
Michael Smith - City of Wichita Falls, Councilor
Roby Christie - Wichita Falls Streams and Valleys, Hotter’N Hell Hundred
Sandi Monson – Wichita Falls Streams and Valleys, Hotter’N Hell Hundred
Tim Daniel – City of Wichita Falls Health Department

MPO Staff:

Jaimie Lee – Wichita Falls MPO, Transportation Planner II

Visitors:

Donnie Arbeau, Consultant, WFMPO

A G E N D A

I. Welcome & Introduction

The meeting began at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Barnett welcomed everyone in attendance followed by introductions from the attendees.

II. Wichita Falls MPO Vision 2040 Plan

Mr. Barnett provided a brief overview of the Wichita Falls MPO Vision 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update. He stated the plan will cover years 2015-2040 and any state and federal money that is obtained will be allocated to projects listed in the Vision 2040 plan. Mr. Barnett reviewed the Bicycle and Pedestrian section of the MTP outline. He discussed public charrette workshops that will take place in the future and will involve stakeholders and residents to participate in the planning process and help create the “vision” to the MTP update. Mr. Barnett asked for any questions regarding the Vision 2040 plan. Mr. Christie inquired about the Ohio Street Bridge project. Mr. Barnett explained the remaining trail connectors to complete the circle trail are anticipated to complete first and the Ohio Street Bridge will be considered when the spur to connect the railroad tracks to Sheppard AFB is under development.

Mr. Barnett asked for any other questions regarding the Vision 2040 plan. Receiving none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

III. Update: League of American Bicyclists Friendly Community Designation

Mr. Beauchamp, City Traffic Superintendent, informed the attendees of the progress on obtaining the Bicyclists Friendly Community designation. He discussed way finding for the hike and bike trail. Mr. Beauchamp presented the attendees with one of the trailhead markers and stated they should be in place by Hotter'n Hell 2014 along with mile marker installation. Mr. Beauchamp stated the city has an overall budget of \$1,000,000 set aside for phase one of the project which can be carried over into other phases of signage for the trail system.

Mr. Beauchamp discussed the five principals to become a bicyclists friendly community. He stated the Five E's are: Engineering: Creating safe and convenient places to ride and park; Education: Giving people of all ages and abilities the skills and confidence to ride; Encouragement: Creating a strong bike culture that welcomes and celebrates bicycling; Enforcement: Ensuring safe roads for all users; Evaluation & Planning: Planning for bicycling as a safe and viable transportation option. Mr. Beauchamp stated the Wichita Falls Health Department has acquired ten new bicycle racks that will be installed at public buildings throughout the city. Additionally, the health department will install three self-serve bicycle repair stations and bicycle pumps along the hike and bike trail. Mr. Beauchamp stated he feels Wichita Falls has a considerable opportunity of becoming a bicycle friendly community within one year. He stated the only element he perceives as a problem is Wichita Falls not having any bicycle-shared lanes; however, plans are in place to hire a consultant to determine the best corridors to utilize shared lanes. Mr. Arbeau mentioned holding a public workshop for shared use bicycle lanes during the MPO public involvement process.

Mr. Barnett asked for any questions regarding the League of American Bicyclists Friendly Community Designation? There were none. He moved on to the next agenda item.

IV. Discussion on BPAC Roster and Community Outreach

Mr. Barnett informed the attendees of the importance of having a Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee (BPAC). He stated BPAC has been successful at providing input regarding future bicycle and pedestrian projects. Mr. Barnett recommended implementing a chairperson for a more formalized committee. Mr. Beauchamp stated having a chairperson would help with obtaining the bicyclists friendly designation. Mr. Barnett was appointed chairperson over the BPAC. The attendees unanimously agreed. Mr. Beauchamp recommended attendees invite additional stakeholders to participate in future BPAC meetings.

Mr. Barnett asked for any comments or questions. Receiving none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

V. Adjourn

The meeting concluded at 10:40 a.m.