



CITY OF URBANA BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, July 18, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

MINUTES

Members Present: Annie Adams, Susan Jones, Bruce Michelson, Audrey Ishii, Sarthak Prasad, Daniel Saphiere, Nancy Westcott, John Zeman

Others Present: Mayor Diane Marlin, Jeff Yockey, Thomas Valencia

Members Absent: none

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Audrey Ishii called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll was taken. A Quorum of Members was present.

B. Changes to the Agenda

none

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. April 2023 Meeting Minutes

Bruce Michelson motioned to approve the minutes, Nancy Westcott seconded. Motion approved with a unanimous voice vote.

D. Public Input

Former Chair of BPAC, Bill Brown, thanked the members for their hard work and unique contributions. Bill said that he forwarded information to Tim (Cowan) & John regarding “Walk Your Wheels” stencils for downtown sidewalks.

E. Unfinished Business

none

F. Reports of City Officials and Staff and Reports of Committees

1. Mayor Diane Marlin

Mayor Marlin recognized the work & accomplishments of BPAC. She thanked Bill Brown for his BPAC service. She also thanked Cynthia Hoyle, organizations, & partners of BPAC.

The City of Urbana was renewed as a gold level Bicycle Friendly Community. We are the only gold level in Illinois.

Two grants were awarded for shared use paths:

\$1.1 million for the Florida Avenue

\$1.5 million for the Main Street to Washington Street

Mayor Marlin shared many items that are in the works:

- 1) Highway Safety Improvement grant application for the Race/Florida intersection
- 2) SS4A grant has been re-applied for with a priority on safety improvements with a focus on equity. This will be for Lincoln Avenue.
- 3) A partial Special Census will be done next Spring. Transportation funds are based on population. The last census was done right after COVID hit, so our numbers were down.
- 4) An Asphalt Art grant has been applied for. This would be for the first street art mural which would help with street calming around the Market at the Square.
- 5) The Urbana Amble is coming up.

Mayor Marlin recognized Champaign County RPC for their partnership over the last several years.

2. John Zeman

The Capital Improvement Plan was passed.

TIF funds expire in 2025. The remaining funds will be used for Cunningham Avenue. John welcomes any ideas for this area.

G. New Business

1. Bicycle Friendly Community Report Card – Jeff Yockey

Jeff presented the Bicycle Friendly Community Report Card. The City of Urbana has been gold level since 2014.

Going over the 5 “E” scores, Equity is a growth area for us.

Key Outcomes showed that commuter ridership is a place for us to grow.

For Bicycle Mode Share, we should set a goal.

We are 15 out of 50 in the Illinois Bicycle Friendly State ranking.

An area of growth that was highlighted by cyclists is protection against fast moving, distracted vehicles.

We scored low in encouragement, policies, programs, & partnerships.

We scored lowest in planning, funding, & implementation.

Some feedback to improve our scores was staff time, keep up complete streets, & to reduce speed on shared roads.

2. Vision Zero Campaign Report – Thomas Valencia

Thomas presented on the Vision Zero Campaign Report. The data collection period was from February 2023 to May 2023.

Thomas showed an overview of Barriers & Incidents and Routes, as well as sharing some comments for each of these.

Some solutions could be innovative & progressive infrastructure, traffic calming, to expand walking/biking safety skills to students of all ages (K – college), & increase enforcement of existing laws.

3. Recognition of Bill Brown's Service to BPAC

Audrey recognized Bill for his 6 years of BPAC service and thanked him for his countless contributions.

H. Announcements

Bruce will be talking about E-Bikes with Urbana Park District officials as a concerned citizen.

Annie promoted the Urbana Amble Front Yard Garden & Art tour that takes place on July 22nd-23rd.

Sarthak had the following announcements:

- 1) He is working on the Bike Friendly application for the University. This is due on August 10th.
- 2) The University is hosting a learn how to ride class for University students in mid-August.
- 3) Bird has contacted the University & wants to bring their bikeshare here.
- 4) The Veo bikeshare pilot ends August 7th. A survey will go out asking how the pilot went.

I. Future Topics

1. Revisit BPAC goals

2. There are 3 vacancies on BPAC

J. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.