

1. CALL TO ORDER: (4:06)

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Barkalow, Billings, Brandt, Carolan, Neilly, Schramm, Scott, Thayer, Whyte  
Guest: Linda Waddington

3. MINUTES:

- a. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – January 30, 2018  
Motion by Neilly, seconded by Scott to approve the minutes.  
All ‘Ayes’, minutes approved.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

Billings noted the member of the public in the room and offered to answer any questions before the Committee began with their regular agenda.

Linda Waddington introduced herself as a reporter with the Gazette and asked about the transit shelter that had been removed from the Wal-Mart parking lot. Billings responded that she thought the shelter had been removed as part of the parking lot maintenance. Billings noted that the unused shelter was at the CR Transit facility for some time before it was picked up by the Marion Public Service Department to be re-installed near the Azure apartments off of N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Billings noted that the Azure stop is a highly used stop, but also admitted that the Wal-Mart stop is highly used as well. In 2021 the City will receive monies to install a number of bus pads with benches or shelters at the highest traffic stops in Marion.

4. DISCUSS HOUSE FILE 2341:

Billings brought up the most recent proposal for safe passing of bicycles which requires at least 144 square inches of high visibility or reflective clothing. Whyte clarified that the high visibility/reflective requirement is for 45 mph or more roadways. He had concerns for roads that were under 45mph but intersected with a 45mph+ road, and also had concerns for large group rides. It was discussed that those items have been addressed in the current draft in which crossing at intersections and large group rides (over 500) does not apply to the high visibility requirement. The bill still requires front and rear lights on bikes, but only during sunset to sunrise.

Billings asked the Committee if they felt it was best for the Committee to have a voice in these types of regulatory developments or if they wanted to stay silent on the matter. Carolan noted that he felt it was the task of the BPAC to make recommendations to the Marion City Council, but not at the State level. The Committee concurred that they, as individuals, could voice their opinion, but not as a Committee. The group also agreed that it would be best to continue these conversations about potential regulations for informational purposes.

5. BIKE TO WORK WEEK:

Billings informed the Committee she found interesting bike related reading material on the League of American Bicyclists website. One of the articles discussed ways to promote Bike Month and Bike to Work Week. Billings read the good things that Marion has already done to promote Bike to Work Week and asked the Committee if they could think of other events to contribute towards Bike to Work Week or Bike Month. Billings noted she has been in contact with Rockwell to have involvement from their employees, potentially boosting the bike to lunch day as part of Bike to Work Week. The Committee also discussed the popularity of the 'pit stop' at Rockwell last year (Cedar Rapids event) and potentially setting up a booth on the Lindale trail this year. Billings noted the potential importance of providing food and/or drinks at a stop or after a community ride to get more people to come.

Schramm suggested a family bike ride, but perhaps not at night to allow more families to participate. Whyte noted the CMPO ride to Ely on the Saturday following Bike to Work Week. Billings also noted the Pedal Marion Rides after the summer farmers markets are not well attended. Not sure if it is a time of day conflict or if it is a time of week conflict.

Billings also noted potentially teaming up with local bike clubs to have a joint (family friendly pace) ride during Bike Month or Bike to Work Week. Although the City of Cedar Rapids has a budget for Bike to Work Week promotions, the City of Marion does not have any budget, but rather depends on local donations for prizes. Carolan suggested making a request of the Friends of Marion Parks. They are a local, non-profit group that could potentially support efforts. Thayer suggested a park to park ride to help them promote the parks.

Neilly suggested having the 'after party' on Thursday night instead of Friday night in case people are already on their way out of town on Friday Night. Whyte also suggested that this eliminates any conflict with Cedar Rapids' wrap up party.

#### 6. MASTER TRAIL PLAN MAP UPDATE:

Billings informed the Committee that the MTP Map was updated last fall to include more on-street accommodations, but she had more additions that she felt would be a benefit for the community, they include:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue: bike lanes and/or sidepath(s)
- S. 22<sup>nd</sup> S (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Ave): Bike Blvd (stop sign at 5<sup>th</sup> Ave?)
- N/S collector between Alburnett and N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street: Bike Lanes and Sidepath
- SRTS Trail: Sidepath
- 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue (15<sup>th</sup> Street to 31<sup>st</sup> Street): Sidepath

Billings noted that the Map had just been updated in February of 2017, but felt these changes were warranted to help with the central corridor design and grant getting for the Safe Routes to School Trail. Brandt said he would rather have a plan that is amended rather than sitting on a shelf not being used. The Committee generally agreed.

#### 7. OTHER BUSINESS:

Barkalow mentioned that the rectangular rapid flashing beacons that were installed on S. 15<sup>th</sup> Street and on Alburnett Road are no longer allowed by the Federal government because there is a patent on the design. Because it is not allowed at the Federal level, it is not allowed in the MUTCD guidelines of which the City of Marion has adopted as its regulatory guide for traffic sign installation. If Marion were to continue with installing the rectangular rapid flashing beacons, the City would be going against its own guidelines. Ones that have been installed are

grandfathered in, but going forward, we will be installing the standard (non-lit) pedestrian crossing signs until further guidance can be given.

Whyte noted that he would like to talk about wayfinding (along the trails) at the next BPAC meeting.

8. ADJOURN:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Scott, Secretary