

GOVERNOR'S BICYCLE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Wednesday, Sep 20, 2023
9:30 am - 12:00 pm
Microsoft Teams Conference Call

Council Members Present:

Chris Squires, Dept. of Transportation
Mike Schwendau, Dept. of Transportation
Craig Heywood, Citizen Member
Brigit Brown, Dept. of Natural Resources
Scott Peterson, Citizen Member
Rep. Kristina Shelton

John Bowser, Dept. of Health Services
Andrew Potts, Dept. of Administration
Jessica Wineberg, Citizen Member
Michael Morgen, DPI
David Spiegelberg, Dept. of Tourism
Brenda Maxwell, Citizen Member

Others in Attendance: Paige Anderson, from Rep. Shelton's Office, Sara Rigelman, Dept. of Natural Resources; Jake Newborn, WI Bike Fed; Kirsten Finn, WI Bike Fed; Matthew Sudac, WisDOT; David Dahms, WisDOT; Cody Garcia, WisDOT; Matthew Schreiber, WisDOT; Justin Sargent from Sen. Larson's Office.

Meeting called to order by Chris Squires at 9:32 am.

Minutes Approved

_ moved to approve the minutes and _ seconded the approval of the June 21st minutes. All were in favor. *Note: Due to technical issues, the names were not recorded.*

Legislative initiatives

Rep. Shelton Office:

- Bike Legislation: Stop State Bill, for requiring vehicles to come to a complete stop in regard to Bike/Ped Safety, and an eminent domain bill for allocation toward sidewalk expansion.
- Shelton's office is seeking bipartisan support and project initiative ideas on dealing with eminent domain cases related to expanding Bike/Ped infrastructure.
- Bill establishing refundable tax credits for bicycle purchases made by families under 200% of the federal poverty line has been pushed.

Sen. Larson's Office

- AB276 and SB272

Discussion:

- Citizen comment: Ebikes could be great for rural and suburban users, especially for longer distance to ride issues.

WisDOT Bureau of Planning and Economic Development, Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Updates

Matthew Schreiber, WisDOT

- Three completed ATP pop-up and outreach events for soliciting public input on Active Transportation across Wisconsin.
- Events are being held in each region.
- Superior, Racine, and Sun Prairie have all had events, and the last event will take place on October 7th in Rothschild, Wisconsin for the Indigenous People's Day event.
- Public input is coming to a close, and bike/ped road measures will be revisited.

Discussion:

- Jake Newborn, Bike Fed: Will there be focus groups in Milwaukee?
 - Matthew Schreiber: Yes, committees/focus groups will be composed of RPC partners, MPOs, league of Wisconsin Municipalities, Non-Drivers advisory council, and other entities.

WisDOT DTSD, Park and Ride Updates

Cody Garcia, WisDOT

- Wisconsin Commuting Program
 - Map of Wisconsin Partners that connects the RideShare, CommuteWise, and RoundTrip platforms/user bases.
 - Bike Buddy program connects users to other commuters searching for a bike buddy.
<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/travel/road/rideshare/bike-buddy-program.aspx>

WisDOT Bureau of Planning and Economic Development, Multimodal Design Guide Updates

Christopher Squires, WisDOT

- Multimodal Design Guidance (MDG) update will update and combine the current Wisconsin Bicycle Facility Design Handbook and the Wisconsin Guide to Pedestrian Best Practices, along with other relevant WisDOT guidance.
- The project is currently 1 month underway. The first phase of this process will develop recommendations for the format and location of the updated guidance.
- The 2nd phase of this project is anticipated to start later this fall. The overall project timeline is approximately 2 years.

Discussion:

- Brigit Brown, DNR: Can design standards be matched to AASHTO federal best practice as reference?
 - Christopher Squires: Some state standards are more strict than federal best practice, but this will be looked into.

- Jake Newborn, Bike Fed: Will the legislature be involved with the approval of this guide?
 - Christopher Squires: This would be approved by the Secretary's Office, not the legislature.
- Matthew Schwendau, WisDOT: In the design guide, will you plan in community input prior to or during design for input and an active voice?
 - Christopher Squires: The stakeholder committees include municipalities and agencies that implement projects as well. Other forms of stakeholder input are yet to be determined.

Council Business Items

- **Discussion of 2023 Initiatives**
 - Council currently does not have a website, and interest has been noted.
 - WisDOT may create a webpage on behalf of the GBC. This may need to wait until after a planned overhaul of the WisDOT website is completed later this year.
 - Underrepresented groups
 - Tribal representation to be investigated, as well as expanding council seats.
 - Groups specific to both underrepresented groups and bike/ped facilities to be sought.
 - Any Council members interested in onboarding new members should contact Christopher Squires and Andrew Potts.

Agency and partner reports and updates

- **Department of Natural Resources** (Brigit Brown):
 - N/A
- **Department of Tourism** (David Spiegelman):
 - Busiest season has commenced.
 - New fall specific event page has been updated on the Dept. of Tourism webpage.
 - Paid advertising has been made in over 12 key areas.
 - Biking opportunities are being advertised in key locations.
 - Several events have received grants for promoting bike/ped related events.
- **Department of Public Instruction** (Michael Morgen)
 - N/A
- **Department of Transportation** (Christopher Squires, David Dahm):
 - Christopher Squires:
 - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) application deadline is approaching (September 27, 2023).
 - Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment (VRUSA) is being finalized by the end of September.
 - TAP spring awarded amounts will be updated on the WisDOT page.

- David Dahm/Mike Schwendau
 - Reaching out to partners around the state that are interested in Bike/Ped safety as FY approaches to an end, and 2024 plans are being planned.
 - Annual grant application on the highway safety plan has been accepted and awarded amounts will be posted. Contracting process and PO IDs are being generated.
 - Tribal outreach is being incorporated in safety related to bike/ped, due to insufficient facilities in tribal lands and high non-driver populations.
- **Bike Fed** (Kristin Finn, Jake Newborn):
 - Slow Ride in Madison will be held on Oct 1
 - BOTS partnership to help expand Milwaukee Bike/Ped safety education.
 - Updated bike safety videos will be recorded

Public Member Updates

- N/A

Meeting wrap-up and adjourn

- _ motioned to adjourn. _ seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting is adjourned at 11:27PM.

Next Meeting: In Person & Virtual on December 20th, 2023, from 9:30AM to 12:00PM