

**102nd Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Meeting
July 11th, 2018 – 3:00pm
Metro COG Conference Room**

Members Present

Dan Farnsworth, Chair, Metro COG
Patrick Hollister, PartnerSHIP 4 Health
Barrett Voigt (proxy for Maegin Elshaug), City of Fargo Planning
Erik Hove, Clay County Highway
Dylan Ramstad Skoyles, Great Rides
Kim Citrowske, City of Moorhead Planning
Jonathan Atkins, City of Moorhead Engineering
Joe Anderson, Fargo Police Department
Bob Walton, NDDOT Fargo District
Jason Gates, Citizen representative
Jane Butzer, MnDOT
Tyler Kirchner, Fargo Park District
Cheryl Stetz (proxy for Kim Lipetzky), Fargo Cass Public Health

Others Present:

Cindy Gray, Metro COG
Spencer McCombs, City of Moorhead GIS
Luke Morman, City of Fargo Planning
Angela Shen, KVRR
Max Mueller, KVRR

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 3:03 pm. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approve minutes from April 18th, 2018 meeting

A motion to approve the April 18th minutes was made by J. Atkins and seconded by T. Kirchner. The minutes were passed unanimously with no edits.

3. 2018 BIKE FM efforts

D. Farnsworth discussed efforts made by the BIKE FM group thus far in 2018. These efforts included the following:

- Developed a logo (January)
- Updated website (www.bikefm.org)
- Education / rules of the road booth at NDSU (April 11th)
- Education / rules of the road booth at MSUM (April 20th)
- Designed & installed billboard (June 15 – present) (funded by FM Rotary)

- Education / rules of the road booth at Streets Alive (June 24th)
- TV / radio interviews

It was asked if BIKE FM would have a presence at the August Streets Alive event. D. Farnsworth state that they hope to be there and noted that 50 helmets have been funded by FM Rotary so they hope to fit and distribute those helmets to both adults and kids.

4. Bicycle tune-up stations & Artistic bike racks

D. Farnsworth discussed the implementation of new bicycle tune-up stations around the community and the recent installation of an artistic bike rack in downtown Fargo.

Funded by the FM Rotary Club and installed by Moorhead Park & Public Works and Fargo Parks, a total of five bicycle tune-up stations were purchased. Three have been installed, one will be installed this summer/fall, and the other will be a mobile station for community events and rides. The stations have been installed at the following locations:

- MB Johnson Park, Moorhead (installed June)
- Gooseberry Park, Moorhead (installed June)
- Red River Trail just south of Main Ave, Fargo (installed June)
- Milwaukee Trail, Fargo (to be installed this summer or fall)
- Mobile station

Artistic bike racks were installed in June at the southeast corner of Broadway & 2nd Ave N in downtown Fargo. The racks, which spell 'FARGO' in sign language, provide an iconic piece of art to the community, provide a fun location to park bicycles, and are a tribute to the local deaf community. A ceremony for the new racks was held during the June 24th Streets Alive event. The ceremony featured those involved with the project, the public at large, and many individuals from the deaf community.

5. Bicycle Friendly Community Application

The committee continued by discussing the Bicycle Friendly Communities application. In August of 2014 Metro COG applied for Bicycle Friendly Communities designation for the FM Metro area. In November of 2014 the League of American Bicyclists announced the designation of the FM Metro area as a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community. With the designation being good for only four years, it is in the best interest for a community to reapply to keep or improve-upon their designation. This is why Metro COG is reapplying for a Bicycle Friendly Community designation with a hope of possibly obtaining Silver status.

The Committee reviewed the application and specifically reviewed the unanswered questions (B4, E1, E2, E4, E7, E8, and G1). It was asked if Metro COG plans to include any attachments with the application. D. Farnsworth stated that they hope to include their bicycle & pedestrian count data and plan to include a PDF photo album that they put together. The PDF photo album was shown to the Committee.

Upon review and discussion of the application and questions, a motion was made to advance the application the Metro COG's Policy Board pending the answering of the final questions. Motion was made by P. Hollister and seconded by D. Ramstad Skoyles. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. ND Moves – Active Transportation & Transit Plan

D. Farnsworth handed out a flyer for the upcoming ND Moves public input opportunities. ND Moves is a bicycle, pedestrian and transit plan coordinated by NDDOT. This is the first such plan in decades so Farnsworth encouraged attendees to attend the upcoming meeting and invite the public. The meeting will be held on Tuesday July 24th from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm at the Fargo City Hall. This will be the final public meeting for this study.

7. Annual North Dakota Trails Conference

Attached was a flyer for the annual North Dakota Trails Conference to be held in Fargo August 7-8. This event is open to all and has topics of trails ranging from paved to hiking trails. The deadline for registration is July 27th. The conference is free of charge.

8. Other business and citizen comments

J. Gates brought up some questions/concerns about the construction project currently on 10th Ave N in Fargo where roughly a dozen trees have been removed as part of the project. There have been concerns by the public and neighborhood about the need for the removal of existing mature trees. It was noted that trees can help calm traffic and keep speeds lower and drivers more cautious.

B. Walton provided the background behind these decisions. Walton stated that since this is a NDDOT roadway and is receiving federal funds, they needed to adhere to all federal design standards, which included sight distant standards for safety. In order to meet the sight distance standards (where the road curves), numerous trees needed to be removed. Walton noted that there were other trees that were slated for removal but they worked with the City of Fargo in finding a way to save up to six trees.

D. Farnsworth mentioned that Metro COG will be seeking a consultant this fall to conduct a study called the 'Fargo-Moorhead Metro Bikeways Gap Analysis.' The purpose of this study will be to take the 119 gaps identified in the 2016 Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan and select ones which are of highest importance to the jurisdictions and public. Once this list has been created, the consultant will determine costs, alternatives, and implementation strategies so that the jurisdictions can implement the projects in a well-vetted and timely manner.

P. Hollister passed around a flyer regarding a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new US Hwy 75 trail in Breckenridge, MN. The ceremony will be held on July 11th at the Family Community Center at 5:45 pm.

There was also some discussion about future and current construction projects. J. Atkins noted that the Oak Grove / Memorial Park lift bridge construction is ahead of schedule. The bridge has been delivered and they hope to have the bridge open by the time school start in late August.

It was also asked what the outcome of the Center Ave Study was. J. Atkins described that Alternative B was chosen by the Moorhead City Council. Alternative B will include a 3-lane road section with parking on the sides of the corridor. The lanes will be wide enough to comfortably fit both motorists and bicyclists.

K. Citrowske mentioned to the Committee that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new improvements made recently at MB Johnson Park in north Moorhead. The ceremony will be Thursday July 12th.

Meeting adjourned 4:35pm.