



Park & Recreation Bike Trails Advisory Committee
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 612 N. Main Street
February 13, 2024

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Kevin Nelson at 4:02 PM

Present: Clayton Deuter, Owen Anderson, Dwight Scott, Joe Krall, Stephanie Ellwein, Terry Johnson, Kevin Nelson, Angel DeWaard, Steve Roth, JoElle Dammann

2. Minutes

3. Discussion - Current Bike Trail System

Johnson reviewed with the Committee the current Bike Trail Map for all bike trails and the shared roadways with pavement markers. In town, not much has changed with the current bike trails. However, this past summer we finished the trail on the north side of Norway from Burr Street all the way to Duff Street which ties in the Wesleyan Trail. Also, we finished the trail on Rowley down to Cabela Drive which ties into the Cabela Loop.

4. Discussion - Status of Share the Road Project

Johnson noted the committee in the last few meetings of 2021 picked a couple areas to introduce shared roadways with pavement markings. We painted logos on 7th Street from Foster to Edgerton last summer, and we also painted Minnesota Street from 23rd Avenue down to Havens Street. It was noted that there was some confusion by citizens on these logos as they are in the middle of the lane, but due to parked cars along these routes, it is necessary to have them placed in the lanes for visibility. Johnson stated they will be placing shared roadway signage along both of these routes approximately every three to five blocks at major intersections to help bring awareness to these shared roadways. Ellwein questioned if DOT or someone had any informational materials that could be utilized for a press release.

Johnson noted he does not believe DOT has anything but will check into what other cities may have available. The blue lines on the map going around the lake the committee approved as shared roadways. We're going to work on those this summer, as we get them painted, then we'll get them signed also. Deuter inquired if there is a plan yet to connect the MTI trail to the trail by the corner of the bank and is there any timeline to do that road going across the railroad track this year. Johnson noted the state has funding to redo the crossing and redo the signals. To ensure funding was not lost, the railroad completed the modifications to the crossing. The bid was awarded to Rex Winkel Concrete. The plan is to start in May once school is out and to have it back open before school starts up again.

5. Discussion - Highway 37 Bike Trail Project - Bypass to National Guard Road

Johnson noted this summer will see a two-phase project on Highway 37 from the bypass up to National Guard Road. DOT will be constructing a new bike trail on the west side of the highway from the bypass to National Guard Road. We will be constructing a separate Spillway Bridge over the spillway. The lakeside bike trail will follow the top of the earthen dam, cross the new Spillway Bridge to the parking lot and come up into Kibbee Park area and continue up by the rodeo grounds. Basically, it will follow old Highway 37. The spillway bridge to the north will be built this year and, from the spillway bridge south, will be built next year. Some future projects we are looking at would be to build a bike trail from Main Street going over to Minnesota Street on the north side of the road, and we are also looking at going around the curve by Mitchell Christian. These would be DOT projects. They are working on ways to improve ADA facilities throughout the city and I asked DOT if they would be willing to build a bike trail along there, and it sounds like they are working on plans right now, but it will be at least three years for both of those.

6. Discussion - Proposed Trail from Franks Bay to West End Bridge

We are working on the Eda jetty project, which will go between the west end boat ramp and the tip of that shoreline and will probably be bid out in a month or so. We are building a bike trail from Frank's Bay basically all around the lake to the west end bridge. It will be a concrete trail 8' wide, basically staying lake side and following existing cable. Ellwein noted this will be funded through a 50/50 grant for the jetty and bike trail as a two-year project. Nelson informed the committee there is grant funding available from the state and last time it was applied for the lighting put in along the dry run creek bike trail, are there any thoughts from the group on lighting that trail from Frank's Bay to the west end bridge. Johnson stated we could look at lighting in other areas, or turning some of our gravel trails into paved trails. Several committee members expressed they would lean more toward turning gravel trails into paved trails.

7. Discussion - Natural Surface Trails

Dwight informed the committee 5-6 years ago we were looking at building a skills park, but now with the jetty project, we would like to bring this back and look at placing it in the area where we made jumps and rock garden at Windy Point. Basically, it's a mini-skills park. If we could get an area designated, we could put together ideas and bring them back to a future meeting. Krall expressed concerns about bikers shooting out from the Catholic section of the cemetery into the road without looking. A brief discussion followed. Dwight stated he would like to look at extending the trail at Sandy Beach down through the trees to connect to the upper parking lot at Camp Arroya. Johnson suggested they hike the trail and flag for locates. Once mapped could bring back for discussion

8. Other Business

Discussion was held on where to place a trail head for the Highway 37 project. Krall suggested Kibbee parking lot. The committee agreed and felt adding a bike workstation there as well would be greatly appreciated, as the ones that have been placed so far see a great deal of use. Johnson informed the committee that, as we continue the Mitchell Main Street Street scheme, we will be working on 3rd and Main this spring, then after that we're going to be moving down by Railroad Avenue and Main Street, then 2nd and 4th will be next year. We have stored the bike loops that MTI built and will add those as completed.

9. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting will be held in April, date to yet be determined.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 5:03 PM