



# MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 10, 2016 | 4:30 pm

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City Hall, Council Chambers  
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Kim Austin, chair  
Brandon Cruickshank (arrived late)  
Zach Schwartz  
Jack Welch  
Denise Wynne

Members absent:

Stephanie Stearns  
Amy Young

The following City and agency staff were present:

Jeff Bonar, Flagstaff Police Department  
Martin Ince, multimodal planner

Public present:

Keith Becker

### **I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **1. Announcements**

Mr. Welch said that he was present at a number of community markets last summer. He frequently observed attendees crossing Aspen Avenue without looking for traffic first. He wondered if something could be done to slow traffic along this section of Aspen Avenue. The idea of using in-street pedestrian crossing signs was brought up.

## **2. Public Comment**

Mr. Becker said that sidewalks are useless if they are not walkable. He said there are frequent instances of sidewalks that are blocked by parked vehicles, trash, and soon to be snow with winter coming. The problem seems to be especially bad in the Sunnyside neighborhood. He suggested a better system for reporting violations to the City, which would include having police trash truck drivers reporting violations during their regular routes. He said that many driveways in Sunnyside are too short to fit a vehicle, which leads to parked cars blocking sidewalks. He suggested a change to the ordinance which implements a progressive ticketing and fine structure. Members of the public who report violations could receive half of the fine amount as a reward.

The Committee asked if this item could be discussed at the next meeting. They are interested in not just enforcement, but in education and outreach as well.

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Wynne made, and Mr. Welch seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 13, 2016. The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Pedestrian and bicycle master plan**

Mr. Ince presented the results of the Milton Road walking and biking survey. The Committee had a number of comments and questions:

- Do we have information regarding how many bicyclists use Milton Road, and why they choose to use it?
- Are there legitimate alternate routes for bicyclists? Some of the streets that could serve as potential alternate routes need to be enhanced to be functional for bicyclists.
- There was a question about whether it would be more valuable to put resources into accommodating pedestrians on Milton Road versus other locations.
- The Committee expressed surprise that the survey did not show a higher level of difficulty for pedestrians walking along Milton Road.
- There was a discussion about medians and how they can reduce pedestrian crossing crashes, especially in areas where there are not well-defined crossing locations.

- The Committee wondered about the width of the right-of-way for Milton Road. Mr. Ince said that it varied, but was generally a few feet or more behind the existing sidewalks.
- The Committee asked about the width of sidewalks along Milton Road. Mr. Ince replied that they are generally 4 feet in width. The Committee expressed surprise that there was not more support for wider sidewalks.
- There was a question about the changing a sidewalk to a FUTS trail. Mr. Ince said that the width must be at least 10 feet, to comfortably accommodate both pedestrians and bicyclists. He also said that a FUTS does not work well along streets with a lot of driveway and street crossings, as it introduces a potential for conflicts between bicyclists and turning vehicles.
- The Committee expressed support for bike lanes along Milton Road, which help to make the community's bicycle infrastructure more visible. There was a brief discussion about how restriping projects are done.
- There was a discussion about requiring U-turns in place of left turns for access control (Michigan jug handle). The Committee reviewed an example at the intersection of Grant and Oracle Roads in Tucson via Google Maps. Questions were raised about whether this would encourage traffic to speed and lead to more driver frustration.
- There was a brief discussion about how businesses would react to access control proposals along Milton Road.
- The Committee requested more information about differences in cost and security for pedestrian bridges versus tunnels.
- The Committee recommended parkways, wider sidewalks, and a landscape median for pedestrian treatments along Milton.

## **2. Flagstaff Walks!**

This item was not discussed

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business

**IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

**1. Reports**

There were no Reports

**2. Announcements**

The Committee asked if gridlock at intersections could be discussed at the next meeting. When vehicles block crosswalks at busy intersections, pedestrians are forced to weave their way around cars.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.