

DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, December 14, 2017 | 4:30 pm

City Hall, Staff Conference Room
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Jodi Norris
Jack Welch
Amy Young
Zach Schwartz

Members absent:

Brandon Cruickshank
Denise Wynne

One vacancy

The following City and agency staff were present:

Martin Ince, multimodal planner

Public present:

None

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

2. Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the November 9, 2017 meeting were not available.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Active Transportation Master Plan

Mr. Ince presented results from the walking-biking-FUTS summits in November, and from the public survey regarding goals and strategies. The Committee discussed a number of topics:

- There was a discussion about whether the results of the summits and survey are representative of the community. The missing voice in our public outreach is typically low-income residents who are not reached through our engagement efforts, but who use the facilities and are reliant on walking and biking for transportation. Commuting versus recreation may produce different results.
- There is little space for a grade-separated crossing at Ponderosa Parkway and Route 66; is it possible to improve the at-grade crossing? There is more traffic at this intersection, and because of the turn movements it is coming from several directions. The survey results may indicate a desire for grade-separated crossings of both Route 66 and Ponderosa Parkway.
- Results for the draft strategies seem to align with expectations, and generally align with the results of previous surveys.
- The Committee wondered what percentage of the reasons for not walking or biking are related to a lack of facilities, and what percentage are due to other considerations like discomfort or perception of safety.
- The Committee discussed the role of the Active Transportation Master Plan in promoting more dense, mixed-use, infill land use patterns to support walking and biking. To a significant extent, these principles are already expressed in the regional plan and zoning ordinance. A more productive approach may be to focus on those issues that are more in our direct control. For example, we should be making sure that the community is improving walkability as the town develops, and that pedestrian facilities keep pace with new development. Development should be required to pay for its fair share to promote walking and biking, and the City should work to improve walkability and bike-friendliness so there are good options for existing residents and new development.
- Sidewalk, bike lane, and FUTS closures may be a top-of-the-mind issue and may not always show up in surveys. Short detours may be a better approach than long closures.

- Safety perceptions on FUTS trails may be related to comfort and pleasantness. It may be better to be proactive in addressing issues and providing solutions. Better lighting may be one solution, but it should respect the City's dark skies values.
- Do we have research from other places on underserved communities? Are there other types of facilities that would be more appropriate for other age groups and demographics? For example, some facilities may be more family-oriented than others.
- Ebikes are a growing concern and opportunity that should be addressed.
- Complete streets in rural areas will look different than in urban areas.
- The City's development review process needs better representation of walking and biking issues.
- There is an opportunity to work with large employers on Travel Demand Management strategies. The City can take the lead with some of these strategies.
- NAU is the biggest generator and attractor of traffic. We may be missing an opportunity to work with them to better manage their traffic. There was a brief discussion about how to pursue a better relationship with NAU.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting schedule for 2018

Mr. Ince distributed the meeting schedule for 2018.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

There were no Reports.

2. Announcements

There were no Announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 pm