

# DRAFT MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE



**Thursday, May 9, 2019 | 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:

Brandon Cruickshank, chair  
Megan Hosterman  
Zach Schwartz  
Jack Welch

Members absent:

Jodi Norris

Two vacancies

The following City and agency staff were present:

Jeffrey Bauman, traffic engineering manager  
Martin Ince, multimodal planner  
Christina Parry, senior assistant city attorney  
Marianne Sullivan, senior assistant city attorney

Public present:

None

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

#### **1. Announcements**

There were no Announcements.

#### **2. Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Welch made, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 14, 2019. The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. E-bike and e-scooter amendments to City Code**

Ms. Sullivan provided information to the Committee on the truthful name and operating under the influence provisions. She explained that the police need to have a person's name and date-of-birth in order to verify their identity, which is needed to enforce the ordinance.

The Committee had a number of questions and comments:

- How do the fines for operating under the influence compare to a vehicular DUI? Ms. Sullivan said that the penalties were less severe than for vehicular DUI.
- The Committee asked if it were possible to get a DUI on a regular bicycle. Ms. Sullivan explained that the City does not issue tickets for DUI on a bicycle.
- In response to a question about whether we should differentiate between regular bikes and electric bikes in regard to the operating under the influence provision, Ms. Sullivan said that electric bikes can be powered on their own, and as a result there is a concern that they present an additional danger when riders are impaired.
- The Committee commented that the penalties for operating under the influence seem harsh. A fine seems more reasonable; jail time seems harsh. Ms. Sullivan said that the ordinance language is just a proposal, and that penalties will ultimately be decided by the Council. She said that the Committee can recommend something less.
- A question was asked about penalties for providing the wrong name. Ms. Sullivan said that providing someone else's name can be identify theft, which is a felony.
- In response to a question about age limits, Ms. Sullivan explained that there are none in the ordinance, but bikeshare or scooter providers may have one.
- The Committee expressed a concern about novice riders who don't know the rules of the road.

At this point, the Committee took straw polls for each provision:

- The Committee voted 4-0 in favor of a provision to require truthful name and date-of-birth.
- The Committee voted 4-0 against the provision for operating under the influence. However, the Committee voted 4-0 in favor of the provision if the penalties were reduced.

Mr. Ince then provided a table showing where each device would be allowed or prohibited on various walking and biking facilities. The Committee discussed as follows:

- The Committee asked if electric skateboards should be on the list.
- Electric bikes, especially Class 1, should be treated like regular bikes.
- Sidewalks should be reserved for pedestrians. Bicycles and other devices should share the road.
- There is a difference in sidewalks based on context. Devices should not be allowed on downtown sidewalks.
- There are already numerous obstacles on sidewalks, like trash cans, cinders, and overgrown vegetation.
- There are times when bicyclists find it preferable to ride on the sidewalk.
- One answer might be divided multi-use paths, which have pedestrians on one side and bikes and other devices on the other.

Flagstaff needs to be made more walkable, and to fund improvements to enhance connectivity. The Committee speculated that more people would commute by walking and biking if connectivity were better.

## **2. Active transportation master plan/FUTS master plan**

Mr. Ince provided an update on the status of the master planning effort. The Committee asked how the plans connect to the Flagstaff Trails Initiative. Mr. Ince explained the concept of forest access points to connect the community to trails and the surrounding forest.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Flagstaff Walks!**

Mr. Ince provided a schedule of last year's events. The Committee discussed how the events could be used to raise awareness for walking and pedestrian issues.

Several potential events were discussed:

- Closing a street for a cyclovia event. Albuquerque was used as an example. It might be possible to partner with the Downtown Business Alliance to close some streets downtown. Southside and eastside are also possibilities. The event could span several days, and include multiple locations. Street performers, bands and other activities are needed to create energy for the event.
- Meet Me Downtown in an on-going event.
- The progressive breakfast is fun, but there is concern that it is too self-serving and not in the public interest.
- Reducing the number of events should be considered.

#### **2. PAC-adopted segment of FUTS**

Mr. Ince reminded the Committee that it has responsibility for cleaning a section of the FUTS along Route 66. He asked the Committee to determine the best way to schedule and organize regular clean-ups.

Mr. Welch indicated that he is willing to organize the clean-ups. It is probably best to set a regular schedule.

The Committee wondered how the trail clean-ups serve the mission of the PAC, and discussed other means to provide information and education to the public.

The Litterati program supported by the Sustainability Section was referenced. This program encourages citizens to pick up one piece of trash per day through the month of May, and to tag it in a photo.

### **IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **1. Reports**

Mr. Ince reported that there are several applications for the vacant positions, but he has had difficulty in contacting the applicants.

**2. Announcements**

The Committee requested continued discussion of Flagstaff Walks on the next agenda.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm.