

DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Thursday, April 8, 2021 | 5:00 pm

Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Brandon Cruickshank, chair
Whitney Holeva-Eklund
Tahany Huerta
Matt McGrath
Jodi Norris
Ron Norton

Members absent:

Zach Schwartz

The following City and agency staff were present:

Jeff Bauman, transportation section manager
Charles Hernandez, Police Department
Martin Ince, multimodal planner
Jenny Nieman, climate and energy specialist

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

Mr. McGrath made, and Mr. Norton seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 11, 2021, the regular meeting of February 11, 2021, and the joint PAC/BAC meeting of January 14, 2021. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Active transportation master plan

Mr. Ince asked the Committee to review the draft policies and strategies of the Active Transportation Master Plan. The Committee had a number of comments:

- 1.2 not everyone may understand the term “warrants.”
- 1.3 better to remove on-street parking for bike parking than to block sidewalks.
- 1.5 should mention ADOT and the County.
- 2.2 snow removal is important, the PAC has discussed it frequently.
- 2.2 providing information to the public on snow removal is also important.
- 2.3 can cinder removal from sidewalks be enforced like snow removal? Lt. Hernandez says that it can be as part of the sidewalk ordinance. It will however, have the same enforcement challenges as snow removal. Additional separation in the form of a parkway helps keep cinders off the sidewalk. The problem may be worse on busier streets, since cars push the cinders to the side.
- 3.5 There was a question about bike share stations.
- 4.3 incorporate comfort level in safe routes; our design standard should be facilities that are usable by kids.
- 5.3 include retrofits for existing streets.
- 6.2 community feedback is important; people who are involved and engaged in pedestrian and bicycle issues are more likely to walk and bike.

The Committee also offered comments about the proposed first 10 priorities:

- Nos 3 and 4 are important.
- Mapping, signing, and information are beneficial.

- Providing detours and good information is critical during closures.
- Suggestion for QR codes on trails; we should use technology as best we can.
- It is important to provide transparency and information to the community.

III. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Flagstaff Climate Neutrality Plan**

Ms. Niemann with the Sustainability Section made a presentation about the City's draft Climate Neutrality Plan (CNP). She gave some background on climate change, including the anticipated impacts to people and populations. She said that vulnerability will vary for different populations. She described the history of climate planning in Flagstaff, beginning with the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan in 2018, through the climate emergency declaration in 2020 and the goal of carbon neutrality by 2030.

She reported that one of the areas of action in the CNP is "decrease dependence on cars" which includes seven strategies but relies on a community-wide commitment to the "big shift" in land use and transportation. Electric mobility is an evolving technology and offers an opportunity, but we have to make space for it. She said the plan was in its review period, and described an on-going public survey and upcoming community open houses.

There was a brief discussion about solar versus wind power. At the moment solar may be more cost effective for the City. Home-based wind turbines are an option. The Committee asked about solar panel covers for sidewalks and parking.

2. **Buffalo Park/Nate Avery Trail accessibility grant**

Mr. Ince asked the Committee for an expression of support for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant for Buffalo Park accessibility enhancements. The Committee is willing to provide a letter if support, but said it should acknowledge the importance of Buffalo Park as a community centerpiece.

Ms. Norris made, and Mr. McGrath seconded, a motion to provide a letter of support for the grant. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0).

IV. **CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. **Reports**

The Committee asked Mr. Ince to share the schedule for Bike Month.

2. Announcements

There were no concluding Announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.